

**ORDER No. R1-2023-0013  
WDID No. 1B80154OMEN**

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
for  
HOPLAND PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT  
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY  
  
MENDOCINO COUNTY**

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 1. Discharger Information**

<b>Discharger</b>	Hopland Public Utility District (PUD)
<b>Name of Facility</b>	Hopland PUD Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF)
<b>Facility Address</b>	13881 US Highway 101
	Hopland, CA 95449

The discharge by the Hopland PUD WWTF from the discharge point identified below is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 2. Discharge Location**

<b>Discharge Point</b>	<b>Effluent Description</b>	<b>Discharge Point Latitude</b>	<b>Discharge Point Longitude</b>	<b>Discharge Location</b>
001	Secondary Treated Municipal Wastewater	N 38° 58' 01"	W 123° 06' 41"	Evaporation/ Percolation Ponds

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Order No. R1-2008-0003 is rescinded, except for enforcement purposes, and, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the California Water Code (commencing with section 13000) and regulations adopted thereunder, the Discharger shall comply with the requirements in this Order.

I, Valerie Quinto, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on June 15-16, 2023.

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Valerie Quinto  
Executive Officer

## I. FACILITY INFORMATION

The following Discharger is subject to waste discharge requirements as set forth in this Order:

**Table 3. Facility Information**

<b>Discharger</b>	Hopland PUD
<b>Name of Facility</b>	Hopland PUD WWTF
<b>Facility Address</b>	13881 US Highway 101
	Hopland, CA 95449
	Mendocino County
<b>Facility Contact, Title, and Phone</b>	Willow County Water District, Jared Walker, General Manager, 707-462-2666
<b>Mailing Address</b>	151 Laws Ave, Ukiah, CA 95482
<b>Type of Facility</b>	Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW)
<b>Facility Design Flow</b>	Average Dry Weather Flow (ADWF): 90,000 gallons per day (gpd); Average Wet Weather Flow (AWWF): 100,000 gpd

## II. FINDINGS

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (Regional Water Board) finds:

**A. Basis and Rationale for Requirements.** The Regional Water Board developed the requirements in this Order based on information submitted as part of the Discharger's previous application for permit renewal, monitoring data submitted during the term of the Discharger's previous order, and other available information.

**B. Background and Facility Description.** The Hopland PUD (hereinafter Discharger) is currently discharging pursuant to Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2008-0003. The renewal of these waste discharge requirements is for the Hopland PUD WWTF (Facility). The Facility has a design ADWF of 90,000 gpd and AWWF of 100,000 gpd.

The Discharger owns wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal facilities serving approximately 290 domestic and commercial connections within Hopland in Mendocino County. The Discharger has a service contract with Willow County Water District for operations and maintenance.

The wastewater collection system was originally constructed in 1975 and consists of approximately 19,000 feet of 8-inch vitrified clay sewer pipe, 3,000

feet of 4-inch cast iron force main, and two lift stations. The Facility consists of three aerated lagoons, a facultative treatment pond, chlorine disinfection unit, and two percolation ponds. Disposal in the ponds is accomplished by a combination of evaporation and percolation. The percolation ponds are located approximately 250 feet to the southwest of Feliz Creek and 600 feet to the west of the Russian River on the east side of Highway 101 in an agricultural and rural setting within the town of Hopland.

Attachment A provides a map of the area around the Facility.

**C. Legal Authorities.** This Order serves as Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for discharges to land issued pursuant to section 13263 of the California Water Code (Water Code). All monitoring and reporting requirements specified in Attachment B “Monitoring and Reporting Program” are issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267.

**D. Basin Plan.** As required by Water Code section 13263(a), these WDRs implement the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan), and in so doing, the Regional Water Board has taken into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected, the water quality objectives (both numeric and narrative) reasonably required for that purpose, other (including previous) waste discharges, the need to prevent nuisance, and the provisions of Water Code section 13241. The Basin Plan contains implementation plans and policies for protecting waters of the basin. The Basin Plan implements State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply.

Thus, beneficial uses applicable to area groundwater within the Ukiah Hydrologic Subarea of the Upper Russian River Hydrologic Area to be protected are as follows: municipal and domestic supply (MUN), agricultural water supply (AGR), industrial service supply (IND), industrial process supply (PRO), aquaculture (AQUA), and Native American culture (CUL).

The beneficial uses applicable to surface waters in the Ukiah Hydrologic Subarea within the Upper Russian River are as follows: municipal and domestic supply (MUN), agricultural water supply (AGR), industrial service supply (IND), industrial process supply (PRO), groundwater recharge (GWR), freshwater replenishment (FRSH), navigation (NAV), hydropower generation (POW), water contact recreation (REC-1), non-contact water recreation (REC-2), commercial and sport fishing (COMM), warm freshwater habitat (WARM) cold freshwater habitat (COLD), wildlife habitat (WILD), rare, threatened, or endangered species (RARE), migration of aquatic organisms (MIGR), spawning, reproduction, and/or early development (SPWN), shellfish harvesting (SHELL), and aquaculture (AQUA).

**E. Water Code.** Water Code establishes the authority for the Regional Water

Board to establish water quality objectives, impose discharge prohibitions, and prescribe waste discharge and reclamation requirements. Water Code section 13241 requires each regional board to “establish such water quality objectives in water quality control plans as in its judgment will ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses and the prevention of nuisance [...]” The control of waste is established through effluent limitations and other requirements in Waste Discharge Requirement permits. Water Code section 13243 provides that “A regional board, in a water quality control plan or in waste discharge requirements, may specify certain conditions or areas where the discharge of waste, or certain types of waste, will not be permitted.”

It is the Regional Water Board’s intent that this Order shall ensure attainment of water quality standards, applicable water quality objectives, and protection of beneficial uses of receiving waters. This Order therefore requires the Discharger to comply with all prohibitions, discharge specifications, receiving water limitations, standard provisions, and monitoring and reporting requirements. The Order further prohibits discharges from causing violations of water quality objectives or causing conditions to occur that create a condition of nuisance or water quality impairment in receiving waters as a result of the discharge.

**F. Title 27 Exemption.** The wastewater treatment, storage, and disposal activities described in this Order are exempt from the requirements of Consolidated Regulations for Treatment, Storage, Processing, or Disposal of Solid Waste in California Code of Regulations, title 27, division 2, Subdivision 1, section 20005, et seq. The activities are exempt from the requirements of title 27 so long as the activity meets, and continues to meet, all preconditions listed below. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 20090.)

1. Sewage—Discharges of domestic sewage or treated effluent which are regulated by WDRs issued pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 9, or for which WDRs have been waived, and which are consistent with applicable water quality objectives, and treatment or storage facilities associated with municipal wastewater treatment plants, provided that residual sludge or solid waste from wastewater treatment facilities shall be discharged only in accordance with the applicable State Water Board promulgated provisions of this division. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 20090(a).)
2. Wastewater—Discharges of wastewater to land, including but not limited to evaporation ponds, percolation ponds, or subsurface leach fields if the following conditions are met:
  - a. the applicable Regional Water Board has issued WDRs, reclamation requirements, or waived such issuance;
  - b. the discharge is in compliance with the applicable water quality control plan; and

- c. the wastewater does not need to be managed according to, California Code of Regulations, title 22, division 4.5, chapter 11, as a hazardous waste. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 20090(b).)
  3. Underground Injection—Discharges of waste to wells by injection pursuant to the Underground Injection Control Program established by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) under the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 US Code section 300(h), see Code of Federal Regulations title 40, Parts 144 to 146. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 20090(c).)
  4. Fully Enclosed Units—Waste treatment in fully enclosed facilities, such as tanks, or in concrete lined facilities of limited areal extent, such as oil water separators designed, constructed, and operated according to American Petroleum Institute specifications. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 20090(i).)

**G. Antidegradation Policy.** State Water Board Resolution 68-16, the Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters of California (hereinafter the Antidegradation Policy), requires the disposal of waste be regulated to achieve the highest water quality consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state. The Regional Water Board's Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, the Antidegradation Policy. The Antidegradation Policy (Policy) applies when a discharge may degrade high quality waters<sup>1</sup> and requires the following:

1. High quality water will be maintained until it has been demonstrated to the state that any change will be consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state, will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of the water, and will not result in water quality less than prescribed in the policies.
2. Any activity that produces a waste and discharges to existing high quality waters will be required to meet WDRs that will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure pollution or nuisance will not occur, and the highest water quality consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state will be maintained.

This Order allows discharge to groundwater considered high quality groundwater for nitrogen, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), and coliform organisms and designated for domestic and municipal supply (MUN) in the Basin Plan. This Order is consistent with Resolution No. 68-16 because implementation of

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<sup>1</sup> The Board interprets “high quality waters” as the best water quality that has existed since the Policy was adopted in 1968 after considering any subsequently authorized degradation that has been allowed in compliance with the Policy.

the Order will result in Best Practicable Treatment or Control<sup>2</sup> of the discharge and lead to a net benefit to water quality by providing a higher level of treatment and control than individual septic systems, some of which are failing due to age and poor site conditions.

Best Practicable Treatment and Control at this facility consists of a wastewater collection system, treatment plant, and percolation ponds. Treatment will consist of screening, biological oxidation and solids settling in aerated and facultative ponds, and chlorine disinfection. Secondary treated effluent will be conveyed alternately to two percolation ponds. The manner of waste treatment and disposal are consistent with the manner of treatment and disposal at similarly situated facilities. This Order contains discharge prohibitions, effluent limitations, receiving water limitations, monitoring requirements, and a provision to assess potential impacts to groundwater and surface waters and bring the discharge into compliance with groundwater limitations. These requirements will ensure that the discharge does not result in exceedances of water quality standards and is protective of beneficial uses of groundwater and surface waters within the Upper Russian River Hydrologic Unit.

Limited degradation of groundwater by some waste constituents associated with municipal wastewater effluent, after effective source control, treatment, and control measures are implemented, is consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state. The technology, energy and waste management advantages of centralized wastewater treatment systems far exceed any benefits derived from reliance on numerous, concentrated individual wastewater systems, and the cumulative impact on water quality will be substantially less. The economic prosperity of a small, disadvantaged community and associated industry is of maximum benefit to the people of the state and provides sufficient justification for allowing the limited groundwater degradation that may occur pursuant to this Order provided the terms of the Basin Plan, and other applicable State Water Board and Regional Water Board policies are consistently met.

Constituents of concern that have the potential to degrade groundwater include salinity, nutrients, and pathogens (represented by coliform organisms). In addition, excessive Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) loading may result in nuisance odors or anaerobic conditions, which are not favorable biological treatment conditions. This Order includes effluent limits for nitrogen and BOD, a requirement for the Discharger to assess concentrations of nitrogen, TDS, and coliform organisms in groundwater, and a requirement to comply with groundwater receiving limitations to ensure that the best practicable treatment

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<sup>2</sup> [Learn about Effluent Guidelines | US EPA](https://www.epa.gov/eg/learn-about-effluent-guidelines) (https://www.epa.gov/eg/learn-about-effluent-guidelines)

and control measures are effective and protective of beneficial uses of groundwater. This Order also includes requirements to develop and implement a source control program to prevent toxic pollutants from passing through or interfering with the operation of the wastewater treatment system.

**H. Groundwater Protection.** Resolution No. R1-2022-0040 acknowledges the Regional Water Board is committed to the protection of high-quality groundwater and the restoration of degraded groundwater to support all beneficial uses now and in the future especially given increasing reliance on groundwater in the North Coast Region. Groundwater supplies in the North Coast Region are currently beneficially used for: 1) drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene consistent with the Human Right to Water described in Regional Water Board Resolution No. R1-2019-0024; 2) agriculture and industry which are major economic drivers in the region; 3) Native American ceremonies and traditions; 4) aquaculture operations; and 5) replenishment of flows to streams (e.g., contribution to instream flows) to maintain beneficial uses of surface water, especially cold freshwater habitat, migration of aquatic specifics, wildlife habitat, and spawning, reproduction, and early development of fish.

**I. Surface Water Protection.** Percolation ponds are often sited in permeable gravels and are operated and maintained in order to facilitate wastewater percolation. These discharges are typically regulated as discharges to land and subject to different standards than discharges directly to surface waters. Some percolation ponds may be in proximity to surface water bodies and there is the potential for some discharges to percolation ponds or land to impact surface waters. On December 2, 2021, the Regional Water Board adopted Resolution R1-2021-0055 to amend the Basin Plan to include the [Revised] Action Plan for the Russian River Watershed Pathogen Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Prohibition Against the Discharge of Fecal Waste Materials.<sup>3</sup> The TMDL reiterates that municipal wastewater discharged to percolation ponds that are proximate to surface waters have the potential to contribute to pathogenic loading in surface waters via shallow groundwater connection to surface water as do unpermitted releases, depending on site specific conditions. The TDML also identifies that publicly-owned sanitary sewer systems in the Russian River Watershed that collect and convey domestic wastewater to wastewater treatment facilities for treatment and disposal or recycling are a source of fecal indicator bacteria.

The Action Plan for the Russian River Pathogen TMDL requires that each municipality and district maintain compliance with applicable waste discharge requirements for its wastewater treatment facility, including effluent disinfection

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<sup>3</sup> The Basin Plan amendment is currently pending State Water Board and Office of Administrative Law approval.

and ambient fecal indicator bacteria concentration requirements, and compliance with the State Water Board's Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order and all amendments and subsequent updates to the Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order.

Consistent with the Action Plan for the Russian River Pathogen TMDL that will be incorporated into the Basin Plan pending State Water Board and Office of Administrative Law approval, this Order prohibits the discharge of fecal waste to the Russian River and its tributaries and requires the Discharger to identify and implement an alternative disposal method, if necessary, to achieve compliance with the Basin Plan discharge prohibition requirements. This Order also requires the Discharger to comply with effluent limitations for disinfection and total coliform to ensure compliance with the Russian River Pathogen TMDL Action Plan. Additionally, this Order requires the Discharger to complete a study (Attachment B – Monitoring and Reporting Program, section IV.B.8) to determine the fate and transport of pollutants discharged by seepage or percolation from the Facility and assess potential impacts to surface waters as well as groundwater to ensure that disposal methods would not result in detectable wastewater constituents in the Russian River or Feliz Creek.

- J. Human Right to Water.** It is the policy of the State of California that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes (Water Code §106.3, subd. (a)). The Safe Drinking Water Act provides that all Californians have a right to pure and safe drinking water (Health & Safety Code § 116270, subd. (a)). This Order promotes that policy by requiring the Discharger to handle and dispose of waste in a manner that will protect water quality objectives, including those that protect drinking water supplies.
- K. Endangered Species Act.** This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code sections 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C.A sections 1531 to 1544). The Discharger is responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.
- L. Monitoring and Reporting.** Water Code section 13267 authorizes the Regional Water Board to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement state requirements. The Monitoring and Reporting Program is necessary to determine compliance with the conditions of this Order and to determine the discharge's impacts, if any, on groundwater and/ or surface waters. As such, the burden, including costs, of this monitoring bears a



reasonable relationship to the need for that information and the benefits to be obtained from that information. This Monitoring and Reporting Program is provided in Attachment B. The Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board is delegated the authority to modify the Monitoring and Reporting Program, as appropriate to protect water quality.

- M. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).** The discharges covered under this permit are exempt pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301 (ongoing or existing projects). The Facility is an existing wastewater treatment facility with no expansion of use or wastewater flow beyond existing use or design capacity.
- N. Notification of Interested Parties.** The Regional Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe Waste Discharge Requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations.
- O. AB 2108 Requirements.** The Regional Water Board publicly noticed the Order and provided opportunities for public comment. Public notice was provided to interested persons and public agencies in the region with jurisdiction over natural resources in the affected area, including the Mendocino County Health Department. The Regional Water Board conducted outreach in potentially affected disadvantaged communities and tribal communities. The Order does not include a time schedule in accordance with section 13263, subdivision (c) of the Water Code for achieving an applicable water quality objective, an alternative compliance path that allows time to come into compliance with water quality objectives, or a water quality variance (Water Code § 13149.2, subd.(d)). The discharge regulated by this Order is not expected to result in a disproportionate impact to tribal or disadvantaged communities. The Regional Water Board has satisfied the outreach requirements set forth in Water Code section 189.7.
- P. Consideration of Public Comment.** The Regional Water Board provided a 30-day written comment period prior to adoption of the Order, and in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.
- Q. Petition of Action.** Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this Order, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this Order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the [law and regulations applicable to filing petitions](#) may be found on the Internet at: ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/)) or will be

provided upon request.

### **III. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS**

- A.** The discharge of waste to the Russian River and its tributaries is prohibited.
- B.** The discharge of any waste not disclosed by the Discharger or not within the reasonable contemplation of the Regional Water Board is prohibited.
- C.** Creation of pollution, contamination, or nuisance as defined by section 13050 of the Water Code is prohibited.
- D.** The discharge of untreated or partially treated waste (i.e., receiving a lower level of treatment than described in Finding II.B) from anywhere within the collection, treatment, or disposal system is prohibited.
- E.** The discharge of waste to land that is not owned by or under agreement to use by the Discharger is prohibited.
- F.** The discharge of waste at any point not described in Table 2 or authorized by a permit issued by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board is prohibited.
- G.** The average daily dry weather flow (ADWF) of waste through the Facility in excess of 90,000 gpd, as determined from the calendar month with the lowest average daily flow, is prohibited. Compliance with this prohibition shall be determined as defined in section IX.B of this Order.
- H.** The average daily wet weather flow (AWWF) of waste through the Facility in excess of 100,000 gpd, as determined from the calendar month with the highest average daily flow is prohibited. Compliance with this prohibition shall be determined as defined in section IX.C of this Order.
- I.** Discharges of waste that violate any narrative or numerical water quality objective that are not authorized by waste discharge requirements or other order or action by the Regional or State Water Board are prohibited.
- J.** Discharge of waste classified as "hazardous," as defined in title 23, section 2521 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), or classified as "designated," as defined in Water Code section 13173, is prohibited.
- K.** The discharge of septage or other bulk, high-strength wastes into the Facility or the sanitary sewer system is prohibited.

### **IV. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

The Discharger shall maintain compliance with the following effluent limitations for the discharge of treated wastewater to the percolation ponds, with compliance measured at Monitoring Location EFF-001 as described in the Monitoring and

Reporting Program.

**Table 4. Effluent Limitations**

Parameter	Units	Effluent Limitations			
		Average Monthly <sup>4</sup>	Maximum Daily	Instantaneous Minimum	Instantaneous Maximum
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	50	80	--	--
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	50	80	--	--
pH	Standard Units	--	--	6.5	8.5
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 ml	23 <sup>5</sup>	230	--	--
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	10	20		
Total Chlorine Residual	mg/L	--	--	1.5	--

**V. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

- A. Winter Months.** The Facility shall have sufficient treatment, storage, and disposal to accommodate allowable wastewater flow, design seasonal precipitation, and ancillary infiltration and inflow during the winter months.
- B. Pond Freeboard.** The Discharger shall maintain at least 2 feet of freeboard at all times in all treatment and disposal ponds.
- C. Discharge.** No waste constituent shall be released, discharged, or placed where it will be released or discharged in a concentration or in a mass that causes violation of the Basin Plan’s water quality objectives for groundwater.
- D. Objectionable Odor.** The Discharger shall prevent objectionable odors originating at the Facility from being perceivable beyond the limits of the wastewater treatment and disposal areas. As a means of discerning compliance, the dissolved oxygen content in the upper zone (one foot) of the aerated ponds and settling pond shall not be less

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<sup>4</sup> The arithmetic mean of the values for effluent samples collected in a calendar month.

<sup>5</sup> median

than 1.0 mg/l.

- E. Public Contact.** The Discharger shall preclude or control public contact with wastewater through such means as fences and signs, or other applicable alternatives.
- F. Vector Control.** The Discharger shall manage the Facility and effluent disposal area to prevent the breeding of mosquitos
- G. Technical Reports.** All technical reports required herein that involve planning, investigation, evaluation, or design, or other work requiring interpretation and proper application of engineering or geologic sciences, shall be prepared by or under the direction of person registered to practice in California pursuant to California Business and Professions Code (sections 6735, 7835, and 7835.1). To demonstrate compliance with sections 415 and 3065 of title 16, CCR, all technical reports shall contain a statement of the qualifications of the responsible registered professional(s). As required by these laws, completed technical reports shall bear the signature(s) and seal(s) of the registered professional(s) in a manner that demonstrates that all work can be clearly attributed to the professional responsible for the work.

## **VI. SOLIDS HANDLING REQUIREMENTS**

- A.** Sludge, as used in this Order, means the solid, semisolid, and liquid residues removed during primary and secondary wastewater treatment processes. Solid waste refers to grit and screenings generated during preliminary treatment. Biosolids refers to sludge that has been treated, tested, and demonstrated to be capable of being beneficially and legally used pursuant to federal and state regulations as a soil amendment for agriculture, silviculture, horticulture, and land reclamation activities.
- B.** All collected sludges and other solid waste removed from liquid wastes shall be removed from screens, sumps, ponds, tanks, and lift stations as needed to ensure optimal plant operation and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations.
- C.** All biosolids generated by the Discharger shall be used or disposed of in compliance with the applicable portions of 40 C.F.R. 257, 258, and 503. The Discharger is responsible for assuring that all biosolids produced at the Facility are used or disposed of in accordance with these rules, whether the Discharger uses or disposes of the biosolids itself or transfers them to another party for further treatment and use or disposal. The Discharger is responsible for informing subsequent preparers, applicers, and disposers of the requirements that they shall meet under these rules, and any monitoring requirements, including required frequencies of monitoring and maximum hold times for pathogen and indicator organism samples.
- D.** Sludge or biosolids that are disposed of in a municipal solid waste landfill or used as daily landfill cover shall meet the applicable requirements of 40 C.F.R

Part 258. In the annual self-monitoring report (Annual Report), the Discharger shall report the amount of sludge placed in a landfill and the landfill(s) which received the sludge or biosolids.

- E.** The Discharger shall take all reasonable steps to prevent and minimize any sludge use or disposal in violation of this Order that may adversely affect human health or the environment.
- F.** The treatment, storage, transport, disposal and/or application of sludge or biosolids shall not cause or threaten to cause pollution or nuisance, such as objectionable odors or flies, and shall not adversely affect beneficial uses of groundwater or cause an exceedance of any applicable Basin Plan water quality objectives for groundwater or surface water.
- G.** Solids and sludge treatment and storage sites shall have facilities adequate to divert surface water runoff from adjacent areas, to protect the boundaries of the site from erosion, and to prevent drainage from the storage site. Adequate protection is defined as protection from at least a 100-year storm with a 100-year recurrence interval and 24-hour duration.
- H.** The treatment and storage of sludge and solids shall not cause waste material to be in a position where it is, or can be, conveyed from the treatment or storage site and deposited in waters of the state.
- I.** Residual sludge and solid waste shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Regional Water Board Executive Officer and consistent with requirements in title 27, division 2 of the CCR (Consolidated Requirements for Treatment, Storage, Processing, or Disposal of Solid Waste).
- J.** For the land application of biosolids as soil amendment, the Discharger shall submit a report of waste discharge or the Discharger may dispose of biosolids at another appropriately permitted facility.
- K.** If biosolids are stored for over two years from the time they are generated by the Discharger or their contractor, the Discharger shall submit a written notification to US EPA with the information in 40 C.F.R part 503.20 (b), demonstrating the need for longer temporary storage.

## **VII. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS**

- A.** The collection, treatment, storage, and disposal of wastewater shall not cause or contribute to degradation of groundwater quality unless a technical evaluation is performed that demonstrates that any degradation that could reasonably be expected to occur, after implementation of all regulatory requirements (e.g., Basin Plan) and reasonable best management practices, will not violate groundwater quality objectives or cause impacts to beneficial uses of

groundwater.

- B.** The collection, treatment, storage and disposal of the treated wastewater shall not cause or contribute to levels of chemical constituents in groundwater that exceed the primary and secondary maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) specified in California Code of Regulations, title 22, Table 64431-A, Table 64444-A, Table 64449-A, and Table 64449-B. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, § 64444 and § 64449.)
- C.** The collection, treatment, storage and disposal of the treated wastewater shall not cause or contribute to levels of radionuclides in groundwater in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses, or in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, title 22, Table 64442 and Table 64443. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 22, § 64442, and § 64443.)
- D.** The collection, treatment, storage, and disposal of wastewater shall not cause groundwater to contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.
- E.** The collection, treatment, storage and disposal of the treated wastewater shall not cause the median concentration of coliform organisms over any 7-day period to exceed 1.1 MPN per 100 milliliters or 1 colony per 100 milliliters in groundwater used or potentially used for domestic and municipal supply (MUN).
- F.** The collection, treatment, storage and disposal of wastewater shall not cause groundwater to contain toxic substances in concentrations that are toxic to, or that produce detrimental physiological responses in humans, or that adversely affect beneficial uses. This objective applies regardless of whether the toxicity is caused by a single substance or the synergistic effect of multiple substances.

## **VIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Failure to comply with provisions or requirements of this Order, may subject the Discharger to administrative or civil liabilities, criminal penalties, and/or other enforcement remedies. Additionally, certain violations may subject the Discharger to civil or criminal enforcement from appropriate local, state, or federal law enforcement entities. The Discharger shall comply with the following provisions:

- A. Availability.** A copy of this Order and the associated Monitoring and Reporting Program shall be maintained at the Facility and be available at all times to operating personnel.
- B. Enforcement.** The Discharger shall operate and maintain the Facility as described in this Order. Violation of any requirements contained in this Order subject the Discharger to enforcement action, including administrative civil liability, or civil liability under the Water Code.

**C. Severability.** Provisions of these waste discharge requirements are severable. If any provision of these requirements is found invalid, the remainder of these requirements shall not be affected.

**D. Sanitary Sewer Overflows.** On May 2, 2006, the State Water Board adopted State Water Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ, Statewide General WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems. Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ requires that all public agencies that currently own or operate sanitary sewer systems apply for coverage under the General WDRs by November 2, 2006. On September 9, 2013, the State Water Board adopted Order No. WQ-2013-0058-EXEC amending Monitoring and Reporting Program for Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems. The Discharger is separately subject to the requirements of Order Nos. 2006-0003-DWQ and WQ-2013-0058-EXEC and any future revisions thereto for operation of its wastewater collection system.

On December 6, 2022, the State Water Board adopted State Water Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ, Statewide Waste Discharge Requirements General Order For Sanitary Sewer Systems. Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ requires that all public agencies that currently own or operate sanitary sewer systems certify and continue coverage under Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ within 60 days prior to the effective date of the Order.

**E. Operation and Maintenance.** The Discharger shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) that are installed or used by the Discharger to achieve compliance with this Order. Proper operation and maintenance include adequate laboratory control and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Discharger only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order.

The Discharger shall maintain an updated Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual for the operational components of the Facility. The Discharger shall update the O&M Manual, as necessary, to conform to changes in operation and maintenance of the Facility. The Discharger shall operate and maintain the Facility in accordance with the most recently updated O&M Manual. The O&M Manual shall be readily available to operating personnel on-site and for review by state inspectors.

**F. Source Control Provisions.** The Discharger shall perform source control functions and provide a summary of source control activities conducted in the Discharger's Annual Report (due March 1 of each year). Source control functions and requirements shall include the following:

1. Implement the necessary legal authorities to monitor and enforce source

control standards, restrict discharges of toxic materials to the collection system and inspect facilities connected to the system;

2. Perform public outreach to educate industrial, commercial, and residential users about the importance of preventing discharges of industrial and toxic wastes to the collection system or Facility;
3. Perform ongoing inspections and monitoring, as necessary, to ensure adequate source control.

**G. Change in Discharge.** The Discharger shall promptly report to the Regional Water Board any material change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.

**H. Change in Control or Ownership.** Prior to any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the Discharger, the Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board of such changes in writing, and shall also notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this Order and current compliance status in writing. The succeeding owner or operator, in order to obtain authorization for discharges regulated by this Order, must apply in writing to the Regional Water Board Executive Officer, requesting transfer of the Order. This request must include complete identification of the new owner or operator, the reasons for the change, and effective date of the change. Discharges conducted without submittal of this request will be considered discharges without waste discharge requirements, which are violations of the Water Code.

**I. Vested Rights.** This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. The requirements prescribed herein do not authorize the commission of any act causing injury to persons or property, nor protect the Discharger from liability under federal, state, or local laws, nor create a vested right for the Discharger to continue the waste discharge.

**J. Monitoring and Reporting.** The Discharger shall comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) and any modifications to these documents as specified by the Regional Water Board Executive Officer. Chemical, bacteriological, and bioassay analyses shall be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State of California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program. The Discharger shall comply with the MRP in Attachment B of this Order and any future revisions thereto.

**K. Records Retention.** The Discharger shall maintain records of all operating and monitoring information required by this Order, including calibration and maintenance records and all strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, analyses specified in the MRP in Attachment B of this Order, records of operational problems, plant and equipment breakdowns, diversions to



emergency storage or disposal, and all corrective or preventive action(s) taken, copies of all reports required by this Order, and records of all data used to complete the application for this Order, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report, or application. This period may be extended upon notification of extension by the Regional Water Board Executive Officer.

**L. Signatory Requirements.** All reports shall be signed by persons identified below:

1. For a corporation: by a principal executive officer of at least the level of senior vice-president.
2. For a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or the proprietor.
3. For a municipality, state, federal or other public agency: by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected or appointed official.
4. A duly authorized representative of a person designated in L1, L2, or L3 of this requirement if;
  - a. the authorization is made in writing by a person described in L1, L2, or L3 of this provision;
  - b. the authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a waste management unit, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position);
  - c. the authorization is submitted to the Regional Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications signed by the authorized representative.
5. Any person signing a document under paragraph (a) or (b) of this provision shall make the following certification:

*I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted, is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.*

**M. Inspections.** The Discharger shall permit authorized staff of the Regional Water Board the following:

1. Entrance to the premises in which treatment, collection or management of waste occurs, where an effluent source is located or in which any records required by this Order are kept;
2. Access to inspect and copy any monitoring equipment or records required for compliance with terms and conditions of this Order; and
3. Access to sample any discharge or monitoring location associated with the Facility.

**N. Noncompliance.** In the event the Discharger is unable to comply with any of the conditions of this Order due to breakdown of waste treatment equipment, accidents caused by human error or negligence, or other causes such as acts of nature, the Discharger shall notify Regional Water Board staff by telephone as soon as it or its agents have knowledge of the incident and confirm this notification in writing within five (5) business days of the telephone notification. The written notification shall include pertinent information explaining reasons for the noncompliance and shall indicate the steps taken to correct the problem and the dates thereof, and the steps being taken to prevent the problem from reoccurring.

**O. Revision of Requirements.** The Regional Water Board will review this Order periodically and may revise requirements when necessary.

**P. Operator Certification.** Supervisors and operators of wastewater treatment plants shall possess a certificate of appropriate grade in accordance with Title 23, California Code of Regulations, section 3680. The State Water Board may accept experience in lieu of qualification training. In lieu of a properly certified wastewater treatment plant operator, the State Water Board may approve use of a water treatment plant operator of appropriate grade certified by the State Water Board Division of Drinking Water where water reclamation is involved.

The Discharger must always provide a sufficient number of qualified personnel to operate the Facility effectively to achieve the required level of treatment. Qualified personnel must be those meeting requirements of Division 7, Chapter 9 (commencing with section 13625) of the Water Code.

**Q. Adequate Capacity.** If the Discharger's wastewater treatment plant will reach capacity within 4 years, the Discharger shall notify the Regional Water Board. A copy of such notification shall be sent to appropriate local elected officials, local permitting agencies, and the press. Factors to be evaluated in assessing reserve capacity shall include, at a minimum, (1) comparison of the wet weather design flow with the highest daily flow, and (2) comparison of the average dry weather design flow with the lowest 30-day flow. The Discharger shall

demonstrate that adequate steps are being taken to address the capacity problem. The Discharger shall submit a technical report to the Regional Water Board showing how flow volumes will be prevented from exceeding capacity, or how capacity will be increased, within 120 days after providing notification to the Regional Water Board, or within 120 days after receipt of Regional Water Board notification, that the Facility will reach capacity within 4 years. The time for filing the required technical report may be extended by the Regional Water Board. An extension of 30 days may be granted by the Regional Water Board Executive Officer, and longer extensions may be granted by the Regional Water Board itself (title 23, Cal. Code of Regs., section 2232).

## **IX. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

Compliance with this Order will be determined as specified below.

### **A. Multiple Sample Data**

When determining compliance with an average effluent limitation, and more than one sample result is available, the Discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of “Detected, but Not Quantified” (DNQ) or “Not Detected” (ND). In those cases, the Discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

1. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the ND concentrations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND and DNQ determinations is not important.
2. The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, the median is the average of the two middle values, unless one or both of the points are ND or DNQ, in which case a value of zero shall be used for the ND or DNQ value in the median calculation for compliance purposes only. Using a value of zero for DNQ or ND samples does not apply when performing reasonable potential or antidegradation analyses.

### **B. Average Dry Weather Flow**

Compliance with the average dry weather flow prohibition in section III.H of this Order will be determined each calendar year by evaluating all flow data from Monitoring Locations collected in a calendar year. The flow through the Facility, measured daily and averaged monthly, must be 90,000 gpd or less for the month with the lowest average monthly flow. Compliance with this prohibition shall be measured continuously at Monitoring Location INF-001 and calculated daily.

### **C. Average Wet Weather Flow**

Compliance with the average wet weather flow prohibition in section III.H of this Order will be determined each calendar year by evaluating all flow data from Monitoring Locations collected in a calendar year. The flow through the Facility, measured daily and averaged monthly, must be 100,000 gpd or less for the month with the highest average monthly flow. Compliance with this prohibition shall be measured continuously at Monitoring Location INF-001 and calculated daily.

### **D. Average Monthly Effluent Limitation (AMEL)**

The arithmetic mean of all samples collected in a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all samples in a calendar month divided by the number of samples. If only one sample is collected in a calendar month, that sample result will constitute the monthly average and daily maximum results for the purpose of determining compliance with effluent limitations.

If the average of daily discharges over a calendar month exceeds the AMEL for a given parameter, this will represent a single violation, though the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for each day of that month for that parameter (e.g., resulting in 31 days of non-compliance in a 31-day month). If only a single sample is taken during the calendar month and the analytical results for that sample exceeds the AMEL, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that calendar month. The Discharger will only be considered out of compliance for days when the discharge occurs. For any one calendar month during which no sample (daily discharge) is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that calendar month.

### **E. Maximum Daily Effluent Limitation (MDEL)**

If a discharge (or when applicable, the median determined by subsection A, above, for multiple sample data of a daily discharge) exceeds the MDEL for a given parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that one day only within the reporting period. For any one day during which no sample is taken, no compliance determination can be made for that day.

### **F. Instantaneous Minimum Effluent Limitations**

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation for a parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both are lower than the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous minimum effluent limitation).

### **G. Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitations**

If the analytical result of a single grab sample is higher than the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation for a parameter, the Discharger will be considered out of compliance for that parameter for that single sample. Non-compliance for each sample will be considered separately (e.g., the results of two grab samples taken within a calendar day that both exceed the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation would result in two instances of non-compliance with the instantaneous maximum effluent limitation).

### **H. Bacteriological Limitations**

The median is the central tendency concentration of the pollutant. The data set shall be ranked from low to high, ranking the ND concentrations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values. The order of the individual ND and DNQ determinations is not important. The median value is determined based on the number of data points in the data set. If the data set has an odd number of data points, then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, the median is the average of the two middle values, unless one or both points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two middle data points. DNQ is lower than a detected value, and ND is lower than DNQ.

**ATTACHMENT A – FACILITY MAP**



## **ATTACHMENT B– MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) is issued pursuant to California Water Code (Water Code) section 13267 which authorizes the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) to require technical and monitoring reports. The technical and monitoring reports required by this Order are necessary to ensure compliance with the Order No. R1-2023-0013 and to protect human health and waters of the state. The costs of the technical or monitoring reports required by this Order bear a reasonable relationship to the need for these reports and the benefit to be gained by these reports.

This MRP establishes monitoring and reporting requirements, which are necessary to assure the discharges of waste that could impact water quality comply with waste discharge requirements and water quality objectives. This MRP may be modified, as necessary, by the Regional Water Board Executive Officer. Pursuant to Water Code section 13268, failure to submit the report(s) as described by this Order is a misdemeanor and may subject the Discharger to an administrative civil liability if the reports are not received by the deadline.

### **I. GENERAL MONITORING PROVISIONS**

- A. Wastewater Monitoring Provision.** Composite samples may be taken by a proportional sampling or by grab samples composited in proportion to flow. In compositing grab samples, the sampling interval shall not exceed 1 hour.
- B. Supplemental Monitoring Provision.** If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the quarterly and annual self-monitoring reports.
- C. Laboratory Certification.** Laboratories analyzing monitoring samples shall be certified by the State of California Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) and must include quality assurance/quality control data with their reports. The Discharger may analyze pollutants with short hold times (e.g., pH, chlorine residual, etc.) with field equipment or its on-site laboratory provided that the Discharger has written standard operating procedures (SOPs) that identify quality assurance/quality control procedures to be followed to ensure accurate results. The Discharger shall keep a manual onsite containing the steps followed in this program and must demonstrate sufficient capability to adequately perform these field tests (i.e., qualified and trained employees, properly calibrated and maintained field instruments). The program shall conform to approved guidelines or procedures (e.g., US EPA, Standard Methods, etc.).

- D. Minimum Levels.** Compliance and reasonable potential monitoring analyses shall be conducted using commercially available and reasonably achievable detection limits that are lower than the applicable effluent limitation. If no minimum level (ML) value is below the effluent limitation, the lowest ML shall be selected as the reporting level (RL).
- E. Monitoring Equipment Provision.** All monitoring and analysis instruments and devices used by the Discharger to fulfill this MRP shall be properly maintained and calibrated as recommended by the manufacturer to ensure their continued accuracy. All flow measurement devices shall be calibrated no less than the manufacturer's recommended intervals or one-year intervals (whichever comes first), to ensure continued accuracy of the devices.
- F. Sample Documentation.** All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The name of the sampler, sample type (grab or composite), time, date, location, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. The chain of custody form must also contain all custody information including date, time, and to whom samples were relinquished. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Regional Water Board staff.
- G. Field Test Instruments.** Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that they are used by an ELAP certified laboratory or:
1. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
  2. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
  3. Instruments are serviced by the manufacturer or authorized representative at the recommended frequency; and
  4. Field calibration reports are maintained and available for at least three years.
- H. Duplicative Monitoring Requirements.** If monitoring requirements listed below duplicate existing monitoring requirements under other orders including WDRs or waivers of WDRs, then duplication of sampling and monitoring activities are not required if the monitoring activity satisfies the requirements of this MRP. In addition to submitting the results under another order, the results shall be submitted in the reports required by this MRP.
- I. Approved Test Methods.** All monitoring must be conducted using approved test methods or other test methods specified in this MRP.



**J. Sampling Method.** Collecting composite samples is acceptable in most cases. Due to short holding times, bacteriological samples must be grab samples.

**II. MONITORING LOCATIONS**

The Discharger shall establish the following monitoring locations identified in Table C-1 to demonstrate compliance with the discharge prohibitions, discharge specifications, and other requirements in this Order:

**Table C-1 Monitoring Station Locations**

Discharge Point	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
--	INF-001	Influent monitoring location
001	EFF-001	Effluent monitoring location following treatment prior to discharge to evaporation/percolation ponds
--	PND-1A, PND-2A, PND-3A, PND-4F	Aeration and facultative pond monitoring locations

**III. MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Influent.** The Discharger shall measure and record the volume of influent wastewater at Monitoring Location INF-001 as follows:

**Table C-2. Influent – Monitoring Location INF-001**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency
Flow	mgd <sup>6</sup>	Meter	Continuous

**B. Effluent.** The Discharger shall measure and record the volume of effluent wastewater and monitor treated effluent at Monitoring Location EFF-001 as follows:

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<sup>6</sup> The Discharger shall report the daily average and monthly average flows.

**Table C-3. Effluent – Monitoring Location EFF-001**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency
Flow	mgd <sup>7</sup>	Meter	Continuous
pH	Standard Units	Grab	Weekly
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5-day @ 20°C)	mg/L	Grab	Weekly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	Weekly
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 ml	Grab	Weekly
Total Chlorine Residual	mg/L	Grab	Weekly
Nitrogen, Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Nitrogen, Total (as N)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Phosphorus, Total (as P)	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Monthly
Title 22 Pollutants <sup>8</sup>	ug/L	Grab	Annually <sup>9</sup>

**C. Ponds.** The Discharger shall monitor the treatment and settling ponds as follows:

**Table C-4. Ponds - Monitoring Locations (PND-1A, 2A, 3A, and 4F)**

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Minimum Sampling Frequency
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	grab	Weekly
Freeboard	0.1 feet	Measurement	Weekly
Odors	-	Observation	Weekly

<sup>7</sup> The Discharger shall report the daily average and monthly average flows.

<sup>8</sup> Table 64431-A, MCLs – Inorganic Chemicals (§ 64431) and Table 64444-A, MCLs – Organic Chemicals (§ 64444).

<sup>9</sup> The first sampling event must take place in May 2024. After the third annual sample, the frequency and requirements for subsequent monitoring events may be modified by the Executive Officer based on the results of the special study required by MRP section IV.B.8.

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Sample Type</b>	<b>Minimum Sampling Frequency</b>
Sludge Levels	0.5 feet	Measurement	Bi-annually

**IV. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs)**

1. The Discharger shall submit quarterly SMRs including the results for all monitoring specified in this MRP. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculations and reporting of the data submitted in the SMR.
2. Quarterly SMRs shall be submitted by the first day of the second calendar month, following the end of each quarter. All monitoring results shall include complete laboratory data sheets for each analysis and be submitted in conjunction with the quarterly SMR. Annual summary reports shall be submitted by March 1 each year.
3. Monitoring periods for all required monitoring shall be completed according to the following schedule:

**Table C-5 Monitoring Periods and Reporting Schedule**

<b>Sampling Frequency</b>	<b>Monitoring Period Begins On</b>	<b>Monitoring Period</b>
Daily	Order Effective Date	(Midnight through 11:59 PM) or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling.
Weekly	Sunday following permit effective date or on Order effective date if on a Sunday	Sunday through Saturday
Monthly	First day of calendar month following Order effective date or on Order effective date if that date is first day of the month	1 <sup>st</sup> day of calendar month through last day of calendar month
Quarterly	Closest of January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 following (or on) Order effective date	January through March April through June July through September October through December
Annually	January 1 following (or on) Order effective date	January 1 through December 31

4. The Discharger shall report with each sample result the applicable ML, the RL and the current MDL, as determined by the procedure in Standard Methods.
5. The Discharger shall report the results of analytical determinations for the presence of chemical constituents in a sample using the following reporting protocols:

- a. Sample results greater than or equal to the reported ML shall be reported as measured by the laboratory (i.e., the measured chemical concentration in the sample).
- b. Sample results less than the RL, but greater than or equal to the laboratory's MDL, shall be reported as "Detected, but Not Quantified," or DNQ. The estimated chemical concentration of the sample shall also be reported.

For the purposes of data collection, the laboratory shall write the estimated chemical concentration next to DNQ as well as the words "Estimated Concentration" (may be shortened to "Est. Conc."). The laboratory may, if such information is available, include numerical estimates of the data quality for the reported result. Numerical estimates of data quality may be percent accuracy (+ a percentage of the reported value), numerical ranges (low to high), or any other means considered appropriate by the laboratory.

- c. Sample results less than the laboratory's MDL shall be reported as "Not Detected," or ND.
  - d. Dischargers are to instruct laboratories to establish calibration standards so that the ML value (or its equivalent if there is differential treatment of samples relative to calibration standards) is the lowest calibration standard. At no time is the Discharger to use analytical data derived from extrapolation beyond the lowest point of the calibration curve.
6. The Discharger shall submit quarterly SMRs in accordance with the following requirements:
    - a. The Discharger shall arrange all reported data in a tabular format. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate whether the Facility is operating in compliance with effluent limitations and other WDR requirements.
    - b. The Discharger shall provide copies of the underlying laboratory reports and chains of custody documentation.
    - c. The Discharger shall attach a cover letter to the SMR. The information contained in the cover letter shall clearly identify:
      - i. Facility name and address;

- ii. WDID number;
  - iii. Applicable period of monitoring and reporting;
  - iv. Violations of the WDRs (identified violations must include a description of the requirement that was violated and a description of the violation);
  - v. Corrective actions taken or planned; and
  - vi. The proposed time schedule for corrective actions.
- d. The quarterly SMRs, Annual Report, and Source Control Activity Report must be submitted to the Regional Water Board, signed and certified as required by the General Provisions of this Order, to:  
[NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov) or on disk (CD or DVD) in a Portable Document Format (PDF) file in lieu of paper-sourced documents. The [guidelines for electronic submittal of documents](#) can be found on the Regional Water Board website at:  
  
([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/publications\\_and\\_forms/available\\_documents/pdf/2014/ECM\\_Letter-Guidelines.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/publications_and_forms/available_documents/pdf/2014/ECM_Letter-Guidelines.pdf))

At any time during the term of this permit, the Regional Water Board may notify the Discharger to electronically submit both technical and Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) to the State Water Board's GeoTracker database in searchable Portable Document Format (pdf). In addition, analytical data will be required to be uploaded to the GeoTracker database under a site-specific global identification number that will be assigned to the Discharger. Information on the [GeoTracker database](#) is provided on the State Water Board website at:

([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/data\\_databases/groundwaters.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/data_databases/groundwaters.html))

## B. Other Reports

1. **Annual Report.** The Discharger shall submit an annual report to the Regional Water Board for each calendar year. The report shall be submitted by March 1 of the following year. The report shall, at a minimum, include the following:
  - a. **Monitoring Data Summaries.** Both tabular and, where appropriate, graphical summaries of the monitoring data and disposal records from the previous year. If the Discharger monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this Order, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and report of the data submitted in the SMR.
  - b. **Compliance Reporting.** A comprehensive discussion of the Facility's compliance (or lack thereof) with all effluent limitations and other

WDRs, and the corrective actions taken or planned, which may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the Order.

**c. Staffing and Emergency Contacts**

- i. The names and general responsibilities of all persons employed at the Facility.
- ii. The names and telephone numbers of persons to contact regarding the Facility for emergency and routine situations.

**d. Instrumentation Calibration Reporting.** A statement certifying when the flow meter(s) and other monitoring instruments and devices were last calibrated, including identification of who performed the calibration.

**e. Solids Reporting.** A summary report of solids pumping, handling and disposal. If the Discharger is required to monitor sludge prior to final disposal, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the summary report.

**2. Source Control Activity Report.** The Discharger shall submit a Source Control Activity Report as part of the annual report to the Regional Water Board for each calendar year. The report shall describe source control activities performed by the Discharger during the calendar year, as required by General Provision VIII.F of this Order, including:

- a. A copy of any source control standards;
- b. A summary of compliance and enforcement activities during the past year. The summary shall include the names and addresses of any industrial or commercial users under surveillance by the Discharger, an explanation of whether they were inspected, sampled, or both, the frequency of these activities at each user, and the conclusions or results from the inspection or sampling of each user;
- c. A summary of public outreach activities to educate industrial, commercial, and residential users about the importance of preventing discharges of industrial and toxic wastes to the Facility.

**3. Sanitary Sewer System Reporting.** The Discharger shall submit a description of Discharger's activities to assess the collection system and to correct deficiencies and reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I) into the collection system. The report shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- a. A description of any assessment work to characterize the collection system and identify deficiencies;
- b. A description of replacement and rehabilitation of the collection system, including details about replaced/rehabilitated infrastructure, including pipeline, manholes, lift stations, etc.;

- c. A description of any changes in the Discharger's ordinances and programs to address I&I;
    - d. The financial resources spent on the Discharger's collection system assessment, rehabilitation, and repair work during the calendar year, and the amount of financial resources budgeted for the upcoming calendar year.
- 4. **Annual Volumetric Reporting.** The Discharger shall electronically certify and submit an annual volumetric report, containing monthly data in electronic format, to State Water Board's GeoTracker system by April 30 of the following year. Required data shall be submitted to the GeoTracker database under a site-specific global identification number. The Discharger shall report each of the items described below:
  - a. **Influent.** Monthly volume of wastewater collected and treated by the Facility.
  - b. **Production.** Monthly volume of wastewater treated, specifying level of treatment.
  - c. **Discharge.** Monthly volume of treated wastewater discharged to land, specifying level of treatment, where beneficial use is not taking place, including evaporation or percolation ponds, overland flow, or spray irrigation disposal, excluding pasture or fields with harvested crops.
- 5. **Biosolids Handling and Disposal Activity Reporting.** The Discharger shall submit a description of the solids handling, disposal, and reuse activities during the calendar year. At a minimum, the report should include:
  - a. A schematic showing sludge handling facilities (e.g., digesters, thickeners, drying beds, storage, land application areas, etc.), if any, and solids flow diagram;
  - b. The amount of biosolids generated and disposed that year, in dry metric tons and percent solids, and the amount used or disposed by each use site and/or disposal practice;

If the Discharger is required to monitor sludge prior to final disposal, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the summary report.
- 6. **Spill Notification**
  - a. **Spills and Unauthorized Discharges.** Information regarding all spills and unauthorized discharges (except sanitary sewer overflows) that may endanger health or the environment shall be provided verbally to

the Regional Water Board<sup>10</sup> within 24 hours from the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances and a written report shall also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Discharger becomes aware of the circumstances of the spill or unauthorized discharge.

Information to be provided verbally and in the written report to the Regional Water Board includes:

- i. Name and contact information of caller;
  - ii. Date, time and location of spill occurrence;
  - iii. Estimates of spill volume, rate of flow, and spill duration, if available and reasonably accurate;
  - iv. Surface water bodies impacted, if any;
  - v. Cause of spill, if known at the time of the notification;
  - vi. Cleanup actions taken or repairs made at the time of the notification;
  - vii. Actions taken to prevent the spill or unauthorized discharge from reoccurring; and
  - viii. Responding agencies.
- 7. Sanitary Sewer Overflows.** Notification and reporting of sanitary sewer overflows is conducted in accordance with the requirements of State Water Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ (Statewide General WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems), as amended by State Water Board Order No. WQ-2013-0058-EXEC, and any revisions thereto, including Order State Water Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ.
- 8. Special Study to Evaluate Potential Impacts to Groundwater and Surface Water.** The Discharger shall conduct an evaluation to confirm that the discharge of treated municipal wastewater from the evaporation/percolation ponds to groundwater complies with the prohibition and groundwater limitations set forth in section III.A Discharge Prohibitions, and section VII Receiving Water Limitations, respectively, of the Order. At a minimum, the evaluation must include preparation and submission of a preliminary scope of work that describes the proposed

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<sup>10</sup> The contact number of the Regional Water Board during normal business hours is (707) 576-2220. After normal business hours, spill reporting to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Warning Center. (CalOES) will satisfy the 24 hour spill reporting requirement for the Regional Water Board. The contact number for spill reporting for the CalOES is (800) 852-7550.



investigative work to be undertaken, a final work plan that includes work tasks and milestones to complete the evaluation, and a final report that presents the results and conclusions of the evaluation. In the event that the final report concludes that the discharge from the evaporation/percolation ponds is causing or contributing to exceedances of groundwater limitations, the final report shall include a work plan with a proposed compliance schedule to bring the discharge into compliance with the groundwater limitations as soon as practicable.

The preliminary scope of work shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board Executive Officer for approval **within 18 months after Order adoption**. The final work plan shall be submitted for approval by the Regional Water Board Executive Officer **within 6 months after approval of the preliminary scope of work**. The Discharger shall implement the approved final work plan per the schedule of implementation and if applicable per the compliance schedule set forth to bring the discharge into compliance with groundwater limitations.

- 9. Disaster Preparedness Assessment Report and Action Plan.** Natural disasters, extreme weather events, sea level rise, and shifting precipitation patterns, some of which are projected to intensify due to climate change, have significant implications for wastewater treatment and operations. Some natural disasters are expected to become more frequent and extreme according to the current science on climate change. In order to ensure that Facility operations are not disrupted, compliance with conditions of this Order are achieved, and receiving waters are not adversely impacted by permitted and unpermitted discharges, the Discharger shall submit a Disaster Preparedness Assessment Report and Action Plan to the Regional Water Board by **October 1, 2025**.

The Discharger shall: (1) conduct an assessment of the wastewater treatment facility, operations, collection, and discharge systems to determine areas of short and long-term vulnerabilities related to natural disasters and extreme weather, including sea level rise and other conditions projected by climate change science, if applicable; the assessment shall consider, as applicable, impacts to plant operations due to changing influent and receiving water quality, rising sea level, storm surges, fires, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, back-to-back severe storms, and other extreme conditions that pose a risk to plant operations and water quality; (2) identify control measures needed to protect, improve, and maintain wastewater infrastructure, waste discharge compliance, and receiving water quality in the event of a natural disaster or, if applicable, under conditions resulting from climate change; (3) develop a schedule to implement necessary control measures. Control measures shall include, but are not limited

to, emergency procedures, contingency plans, alarm/notification systems, training, backup power and equipment, and the need for planned mitigations to ameliorate potential risks associated with extreme weather events and changing conditions resulting from climate change; and (4) implement the necessary control measures per the approved schedule of implementation.

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