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## North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

July 2, 2024

Mr. Rodrigo de Oliveira  
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*via email only*

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*via email only*

Dear Mr. Rodrigo de Oliveira, Mr. Wallace, Ms. Johnston, Ms. Quinto, Ms. Toft-Dupuy and Mr. Jacobsen:

**Subject: Draft Cease and Desist Order R1-2024-0035**

**File:** Ray's Station Winery, Vintage Wine Estates, Inc., 13300 Buckman Drive, Hopland, Process Wastewater WDID No. 1B180163RMEN; CIWQS Place ID. 852905

This letter transmits Draft Cease and Desist Order R1-2024-0035 (Draft CDO) proposed by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) Prosecution Team.

The Draft CDO alleges that Vintage Wine Estates, Inc. (Discharger), owner and operator of Ray's Station Winery (Facility), is discharging and/or threatening to discharge waste in violation of the Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Wine, Beverage and Food Processor Waste to Land in the North Coast Region (WBFP WDR), Order No. R1-2016-0002. The Draft CDO includes proposed requirements under California Water Code sections 13301 and 13267 for the Discharger to immediately cease and desist discharging waste to any location other than the approved rapid infiltration basins; submit, implement, and complete a Corrective Action Work Plan; submit quarterly progress reports; update the Facility's Operation and Maintenance Manual; and submit a Final Corrective Actions Summary Report.

With transmittal of the Draft CDO, the Prosecution Team formally requests the Advisory Team (Ms. Quinto and Mr. Jacobsen) consult with the Board Chair to schedule a hearing and issue a Hearing Procedure for this matter. The Prosecution Team recommends the hearing be scheduled for the Regional Water Board's October 2-4, 2024 regularly scheduled board meeting.

The Hearing Procedure will outline deadlines for submission of evidence and argument prior to the hearing date, as well as address other procedural issues, including but not limited to a deadline for Interested Persons to submit written comments on the Draft CDO.

Should you have any questions, or would like to discuss the proposed requirements contained in the Draft CDO, please contact Rachel Prat of my staff at [Rachel.Pratt@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Rachel.Pratt@waterboards.ca.gov) or the Prosecution Team's attorney, Kailyn Ellison, at [Kailyn.Ellison@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Kailyn.Ellison@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Claudia E. Villacorta, P.E.  
Assistant Executive Officer

240035\_Draft\_CDO\_Transmittal\_Cover\_Letter

Enclosure: Draft Cease and Desist Order R1-2024-0035

Certified – Return Receipt requested

**Cc:**

**North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Prosecution Team**

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