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## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

March 14, 2024

**WDID 6A020009000**

Interested Persons

### **Public Comment Period – Notice of Proposed Transfer of Ownership of Waste Discharge Requirements for Desolation Hotel Hope Valley, Alpine County – Comments Due No Later than 5:00 PM, April 15, 2024.**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Water Board) proposes an amendment to Board Order No. R6T-2004-0028A1 (Amendment) for the Transfer of Ownership of Waste Discharge Requirements for the site formerly known as Sorensen’s Resort located at 14255 CA-88 in Hope Valley, California. The resort was sold to Tahoe Stateline Enterprises, LLC (“Discharger”) in 2019 and has since been renamed to the Desolation Hotel Hope Valley.

The proposed Amendment updates the existing Waste Discharge Requirements to reflect the new facility name and Discharger. No other changes are proposed at this time. Wastewater treatment and disposal will continue to be provided onsite via an existing treatment plant and leach field with the option to discharge to the South Tahoe Public Utility District’s export pipeline when treated effluent quality meets the specified permit limits.

The Water Board is requesting review and comment from interested persons of the proposed Amendment (enclosed), which can also be viewed at the Water Board’s webpage: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). All comments regarding the proposed Amendment must be received by the Water Board no later than **5:00 p.m. on April 15, 2024**. Written comments may be submitted electronically via email with the subject line “Comments on Transfer of Ownership for Desolation Hotel Hope Valley” to: [lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov).

Written comments may also be submitted via mail to the following address:

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board  
2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150  
Attn: Kristin Tokheim

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact me at (530) 542-5480 or [kristin.tokheim@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:kristin.tokheim@waterboards.ca.gov).

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DR. AMY HORNE, ACTING CHAIR | MICHAEL R. PLAZIAK, PG, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Sincerely,



Kristin Tokheim, P.E.  
Water Resource Control Engineer  
Regulatory and Enforcement Unit

Enclosure: Proposed Transfer of Ownership Amendment

cc: Sorensen's Mailing List

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION**

**DRAFT BOARD ORDER NO. R6T-2024-TENTATIVE  
WDID NO. 6A020009000**

**AMENDMENT OF BOARD ORDER NO. R6T-2004-0028A1 WASTE DISCHARGE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

**FOR**

**DESOLATION HOTEL HOPE VALLEY**

**Alpine County**

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

1. Facility Description

The site formerly known as Sorensen's Resort is located at 14255 CA-88, approximately one mile east of the junction of Highway 88 and Highway 89 in Hope Valley, California. The resort consists of 26 cabins, laundry facilities, and a café producing exclusively domestic wastewater. The wastewater treatment and disposal system serving the resort consists of an extended aeration package treatment plant with onsite disposal of treated effluent via a subsurface leach field.

2. Discharger

John and Patricia Brissenden were the previous owners and operators of Sorensen's Resort under Sorensen's Resort LLC. The resort was sold to Tahoe Stateline Enterprises, LLC (hereinafter "Discharger") in 2019.

3. Permit History

The Regional Board adopted Board Order No. 6-72-105 on December 19, 1972 to regulate the discharge of domestic wastewater from the Sorenson's Resort to an onsite wastewater treatment and disposal system. Board Order No. 6-95-25, adopted on February 9, 1995, updated waste discharge requirements for the system. Board Order No. R6T-2004-0028, was adopted on July 27, 2004 to reflect changes to the system design (addition of a package treatment plant) and to incorporate effluent limitations for future discharge to South Tahoe Public Utility District's (STPUD's) export pipeline (known as the 'C-Line') under specific conditions. Board Order No. R6T-2004-0028 was subsequently amended in 2014 as R6T-2004-0028A1 to include revised effluent limits for the STPUD's C-Line. To date, no discharge to the C-Line has occurred due to effluent quality not meeting the effluent limits.

4. Reason for Action

- a. The facility has had a change of name and ownership since adoption of the Order and the discharge permit needs to be revised to show the current name and ownership. Board Order No. R6T-2004-0028A1 will be amended by updating the information as follows:

i. Existing Order

Previous Facility Name: Sorensen's Resort  
Previous Owner/Operator: Sorensen's Resort LLC  
Previous Owner Contact: John and Patricia Brissenden

ii. Amended Order

New Facility Name: Desolation Hotel Hope Valley  
New Owner (Discharger): Tahoe Stateline Enterprises, LLC  
New Owner Contact: Chet Pipkin, Owner/Principal  
New Certified Operator: Steven Boren (Grade V)

- b. A Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) was submitted by the Discharger in December 2020 for proposed treatment system modifications to improve effluent quality and begin discharge to STPUD's C-line. The proposed project is in the design and permitting process, but the ROWD remains incomplete pending additional information. Revised waste discharge requirements will need to be prepared to reflect treatment system modifications and other updated permit requirements but will be processed at a later date following completion of the remaining ROWD items.

5. California Environmental Quality Act

Amendment of the Waste Discharge Requirements is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with the California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301, Existing Facilities.

6. Notification of Interested Parties

The Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested parties and agencies of its intent to amend Board Order No. R6T-2004-0028A1.

7. Public Meeting

The Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the amendment of Board Order No. R6T-2004-0028A1.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT** pursuant to Water Code sections 13260 and 13263, Board Order No. R6T-2004-0028 and R6T-2004-0028A1 is hereby amended as shown below.

1. The title for the Order is changed from “Revised Waste Discharge Requirements for Sorensen’s Resort” to “Revised Waste Discharge Requirements for Desolation Hotel Hope Valley” and in all locations in the Order the facility name “Desolation Hotel Hope Valley” will replace “Sorensen’s Resort.”
2. The Discharger finding on page 1 is deleted and replaced with the following:

Desolation Hotel Hope Valley is owned by Tahoe Stateline Enterprises, LLC and is operated by Desolation Hotel Hope Valley. For the purposes of this Order, Tahoe Stateline Enterprises, LLC is referred to as the "Discharger".

I, Michael R. Plaziak, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region, on June 26, 2024.

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MICHAEL R. PLAZIAK, PG  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER