

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION**

ORDER NO. R9-2021-0037

**AN ORDER RESCINDING ORDER NO. R9-2006-0049,
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PAUMA VALLEY COMMUNITY
SERVICES DISTRICT, PAUMA VALLEY TREATMENT PLANT, SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board), finds that:

1. Order No. R9-2006-0049, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the Pauma Valley Community Services District, Pauma Valley Treatment Plant, San Diego County* (Order No. R9-2006-0049), established requirements for the discharge of domestic wastewater from an onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS). The OWTS consists of an Aero-Mod package treatment plant configured to operate as two parallel domestic wastewater treatment trains, each consisting of multiple stage aeration basins, aerobic digesters, and clarifiers, with the effluent from both treatment trains discharged to four onsite percolation ponds. The Pauma Valley Treatment Plant is located at 33129 Cole Grade Road, Pauma Valley, California. The San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2006-0049 on June 14, 2006.
2. Order No. R9-2006-0049 must be replaced to ensure that the discharges are regulated consistent with current state policy and requirements. Discharges from small package treatment plants and OWTS such as these have certain common characteristics, such as similar constituents, concentrations of constituents, disposal techniques, and flow ranges, and they require the same or similar treatment standards. The State Water Resources Control Board issued Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order), to regulate these types of discharges consistently throughout the state. Enrollment of the Pauma Valley Treatment Plant in the General Order will provide a level of water quality protection equal to that provided in Order No. R9-2006-0049.
3. The discharge from the Pauma Valley Treatment Plant is eligible for enrollment in the General Order based on information submitted in monitoring reports and obtained during a compliance inspection conducted by San Diego Water Board staff on January 24, 2020. As such, the discharge from the Pauma Valley Treatment Plant is more appropriately regulated under the General Order than individual WDRs.
4. The San Diego Water Board will issue a Notice of Applicability (NOA) to the Pauma Valley Community Service District for enrollment of the Pauma Valley Treatment Plant in the General Order prior to the June 9, 2021, board meeting.

The NOA's effective date of enrollment in the General Order coincides with the adoption date of this rescission Order.

5. Adoption of Order No. R9-2021-0037 is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.). Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15060(c)(2) and 15061(b)(3), the action to rescind Order No. R9-2006-0049 will not have potentially significant adverse effects on the environment because the discharges that were regulated by Order No. R9-2006-0049 are now regulated under the General Order. In addition, adoption of Order No. R9-2021-0037 is exempt from CEQA pursuant to categorical exemptions listed in title 14, section 15301 (ongoing or existing projects).

The State Water Resources Control Board considered the environmental impacts associated with the adoption of the General Order, and prepared an Initial Study in accordance with title 14, section 15063. Analysis in the Initial Study and early consultation with responsible and trustee agencies did not identify any significant impacts on the environment. Therefore, a Negative Declaration was prepared. The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Negative Declaration on September 23, 2014, through Resolution No. 2014-0054, California Environmental Quality Act, Negative Declaration, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems. The General Order will provide a level of water quality protection equal to that provided in Order No. R9-2006-0049.

6. The San Diego Water Board heard and considered all comments pertaining to the adoption of Order No. R9-2021-0037 in a June 9, 2021, public meeting.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. R9-2006-0049 is rescinded.

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on June 9, 2021.

David W. Gibson, Executive Officer