



Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

February 17, 2022

WDID No. 6B140102001

TO: ATTACHED MAILING LIST as bcc

Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements, Board Order No. 6-96-155 for Amargosa Opera House Inc., Amargosa Opera House, Death Valley, Inyo County

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) staff are proposing to rescind waste discharge requirements for Amargosa Opera House (Board Order No. 6-96-155). If you are interested in reviewing and providing written comments regarding this proposed rescission order, then please complete the following steps.

1. Add project specific details to your communication:
 - Include the subject line “Amargosa Opera House WDID No. 6B140102001 Comments.”
 - Address to Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board attention of Molina Hauv.
2. Submit comments via one of two ways with arrival by **April 12, 2022**:
 - Email to Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov.
 - Mail to 15095 Amargosa Rd., Bldg. 2 – Suite 210, Victorville, CA 92394.

In addition to or instead of written comments, you may provide verbal comments during the scheduled Water Board meeting. This item is tentatively scheduled for consideration during the regular board meeting on June 8 and 9, 2022. You can view the Water Board's meeting agenda 10 days before the meeting on our [web site](#) to ensure the item remains scheduled for that meeting.

If you need further information regarding the relevant meeting, please contact our office at (760) 241-6583. Additionally, if you need further information regarding this agenda item, please contact Molina Hauv at (760) 241-3408 or molina.hauv@waterboards.ca.gov or TJ Middlemis-Clark at (530) 542-5463 or timothy.middlemis-clark@waterboards.ca.gov.


Angelica Soto
Office Technician

cc: Molina Hauv, Engineering Geologist
Timothy Middlemis-Clark, Acting Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

Enc: Tentative Rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements, Amargosa Opera House, Inc.

PETER C. PUMPHREY, CHAIR | MICHAEL R. PLAZIAK, PG, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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

**BOARD ORDER NO. R6V-2022-TENTATIVE
WDID NO. 6B140102001**

**RESCISSION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
BOARD ORDER NO. 6-96-155**

FOR

AMARGOSA OPERA HOUSE, INC.

Inyo County

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

1. Facility Description

Amargosa Opera House (Facility) is located at 608 Highway 127, Death Valley Junction, approximately 19 miles east of Death Valley and 23 miles north of Shoshone, in Inyo County. The Facility collects, treats, and disposes of approximately 1,500 gallons per day (gpd) of domestic wastewater from a 15-unit motel. The Facility is designed for a maximum of 8,000 gpd.

Previously, wastewater was disposed to two unlined sewage ponds, which have since been decommissioned. The Facility has installed septic tanks and subsurface leach lines that will be overseen by Inyo County's Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) and Inyo County staff.

2. Discharger

Currently, operations are overseen by Fred Conboy, Director of the Amargosa Opera House, Incorporated (Inc.). For the purposes of this Board Order (Order), the Amargosa Opera House, Inc., is referred to as the "Discharger."

3. Permit History

The Water Board adopted Board Order No. 6-96-155 on November 8, 1996, which replaced previously established waste discharge requirements (WDRs). The prior WDRs for the Facility were Board Order No. 6-82-22, adopted on February 11, 1982.

4. Reason for Action

The Discharger has decommissioned the existing surface wastewater disposal ponds and installed conventional septic tank systems to increase capacity from 8,000 to 10,000 gpd. Onsite wastewater discharges under 10,000 gpd are eligible for a waiver of WDRs in accordance with the State Water Resource Control Board's Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Policy and the Inyo County LAMP. The approved septic treatment system consists of a total of five septic tanks

(one 3,000-gallon tank, three 2,000-gallon tanks, and one 1,000-gallon grease interceptor tank system) with discharge to one leach field.

The sewage ponds were allowed to evaporate and covered with a mounded soil cap in place. The wastewater discharges from the septic systems will be overseen by Inyo County staff under the Inyo County LAMP, thus no longer requiring individual WDRs.

5. California Environmental Quality Act

Rescission of the WDRs 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 15321 (a)(2), Enforcement Actions by Regulatory Agencies.

6. Notification of Interested Parties

The Water Board has notified the Discharger and interested parties and agencies of its intent to rescind Board Order No. 6-96-155.

7. Public Meeting

The Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the rescission of Board Order No. 6-96-155.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT pursuant to the California Water Code, sections 13260 and 13263, Board Order No. 6-96-155 is hereby rescinded except for enforcement purposes.

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 8, 2022.

MICHAEL R. PLAZIAK, PG
EXECUTIVE OFFICER