
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

11 April 2014

Mr. Robert Torres
Sutter Home Winery
P.O. Box 248
St. Helena, CA 94574

CERTIFIED MAIL
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NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA) FOR WATER QUALITY ORDER 97-10-DWQ-R5164, SUTTER HOME WINERY – WESTSIDE FACILITY DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff received a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) dated 17 March 2014, submitted by Summit Engineering, Inc., on behalf of Sutter Home Winery (Discharger) for a discharge of domestic wastewater to land at the Sutter Home Winery – Westside Facility. The Sutter Home Winery - Westside Facility Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is owned and operated by Sutter Home Winery. Current activities at the facility include grape crushing, wine production, storage, shipping, and distribution in bulk containers. The discharge of process wastewater from the facility is currently regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) R5-2009-0073, which was amended by Order R5-2012-0078 on 3 August 2012.

The Discharger plans to construct additional buildings to expand wine production, bottling, and distribution activities. To accommodate additional on-site operations, a second septic system is planned to augment an existing system to provide greater domestic wastewater treatment and discharge capacity. Based on the information provided in the RWD, the discharge of domestic wastewater will satisfy the general and specific conditions of State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 97-10-DWQ (*General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*, or "General Order"). Therefore, this letter serves as formal notice that Order 97-10-DWQ is applicable to the site and discharge described below. You are hereby assigned General Order 97-10-DWQ-R5164 for the combined domestic wastewater system at the facility.

A copy of the General Order is enclosed. The General Order is also posted on the Central Valley Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/wqo97.shtml

You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire General Order. The facility must be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order, Standard Provisions and Reporting Requirements for WDRs, and with the information submitted in the RWD.

FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Sutter Home Winery – Westside Facility is located at 18667 Jacob Brack Road, Lodi in San Joaquin County. The winery and associated vineyards comprise approximately 297 acres (Assessor's Parcel Nos. 011-150-012, 011-150-023, 011-090-003, and 011-090-014) in Sections 34 and 35; T4N, R5E, MDB&M. A facility site plan showing the existing and planned domestic wastewater system expansion is provided as Attachment A of this NOA.

Domestic wastewater disposal is currently provided by a 2,500 gallon per day (gpd) septic system that consists of a series of septic tanks, pump sumps, and an 8,800 square foot subsurface infiltration leachfield. The existing septic system was constructed in 2010 and is currently permitted through San Joaquin County Department of Environmental Health. Grab samples collected from the dosing tank and four pump sumps between June and September 2013 identified average BOD concentrations below 400 milligrams per liter (mg/L).

The RWD indicated that construction of a bottling plant and related winery activities will include the addition of up to 500 staff during peak flow (harvest season). An estimated average wastewater flow of 15 gpd per employee will generate an additional 7,500 gpd, which will result in a combined discharge flow of 10,000 gpd. The proposed septic system is designed to accommodate the discharge from both the existing and proposed wastewater systems and allow for a combined peak flow up of 12,000 gpd.

The expanded domestic wastewater system will include a gravity collection system to a series of 16 septic tanks (8 existing and 8 proposed) with a combined storage capacity of 42,200 gallons. Effluent will then be directed through 16 pump sumps (8 existing and 8 proposed) and then into a 12,000 gallon dual compartment anoxic/anaerobic tank before the wastewater is transferred to a 12,000 gallon recirculation equalization tank. Wastewater will recirculate through media filter pods and flow into a 12,000 gallon dosing tank before being discharged into a subsurface drip leachfield at the northeastern portion of the facility. The San Joaquin County Department of Environmental Health will issue a separate permit to construct the system.

Percolation testing conducted at six locations within the proposed subsurface drip leachfield in May 2013 ranged in percolation rates of 0.1 to 25 min/inch. Based on these testing results, a disposal leachfield of 24,000 square feet was estimated to accommodate a total daily flow of up to 12,000 gpd at 0.5 gpd per square foot. Given the variability of percolation rates and to provide a conservative design allowing a 50% safety factor, the leachfield will be 36,000 square feet in size and divided into six zones to evenly distribute daily discharge. Subsurface irrigation lines will be installed to a depth of 12 inches bgs in the proposed subsurface drip leachfield. A 100% reserve disposal area will be located adjacent to the leachfield and will be fitted with subsurface disposal lines as needed in case of primary disposal field failure.

A SCADA system will be used to monitor and control effluent flow rates to maintain uniform dosing across the zones of the leachfield. When the combined depth of scum and sludge within any tank is about 35 to 50 percent of the tank depth, the tank will be pumped and the septage will be hauled offsite to a septic receiving station. The wastewater system will be operated, maintained, and monitored by a certified wastewater treatment plant operator.

The Discharger currently maintains a network of 22 groundwater monitoring wells (GW-1 through GW-22) at the facility associated with WDRs R5-2009-0073 to monitor the discharge of process wastewater. Monitoring well GW-13 is located adjacent to the southeastern corner of the proposed subsurface drip leachfield. Monitoring well GW-13 has a screened interval from 9.3 to 19.3 feet below ground surface (bgs). Depth to groundwater measurements collected from GW-13 between July 2009 and November 2013 ranged from 4.84 to 9.45 feet bgs.¹ There is currently no groundwater monitoring well located near the existing or planned infiltration leachfields; however, the Discharger routinely monitors shallow groundwater under WDRs Order R5-2009-0073-01.

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

The Discharger shall comply with the requirements prescribed in Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) R5-2014-0816, which replaces MRP No. 97-10-DWQ for this NOA. MRP R5-2014-0816 is included as Attachment B, which is made part of this NOA by reference. The first monitoring report is to cover the second quarter of 2014 and is to be submitted by **1 August 2014**. Please use the enclosed Monitoring Report Transmittal Form to submit your reports.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger shall comply with the Prohibitions, Requirements, Groundwater and Surface Water Limitations, and Provisions of Water Quality Order 97-10-DWQ. However, Requirements B.3, B.4, and B.6 and Provision D.3 do not apply to this discharge.

Please review this Notice of Applicability carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the proposed facility and discharge. If the Discharger violates the terms or conditions of the General Order, the Central Valley Water Board may take enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liability. Failure to comply with the requirements in the Order could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of wastes other than those described in the RWD is prohibited.

Sutter Home Winery will generate the waste subject to the terms and conditions of the General Order and will maintain exclusive control over the discharge. As such, Sutter Home Winery is primarily responsible for compliance with the General Order.

The required annual fee specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by this Order ceases so that coverage under the General Order can be terminated and to avoid unnecessary billing.

Upon issuance of this Notice of Applicability, the Central Valley Water Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of this case. Brendan Kenny is your new point of contact for any questions about this Order. In addition, all monitoring and technical reports should be submitted to him. The enclosed transmittal sheet shall be included with each monitoring report.

¹ 2013 Annual Report for WDR R5-2012-0078; Condor Earth Technologies, Inc., 27 January 2014.

If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Brendan Kenny will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Brendan at (916) 464-4635 or at bkenny@waterboards.ca.gov.

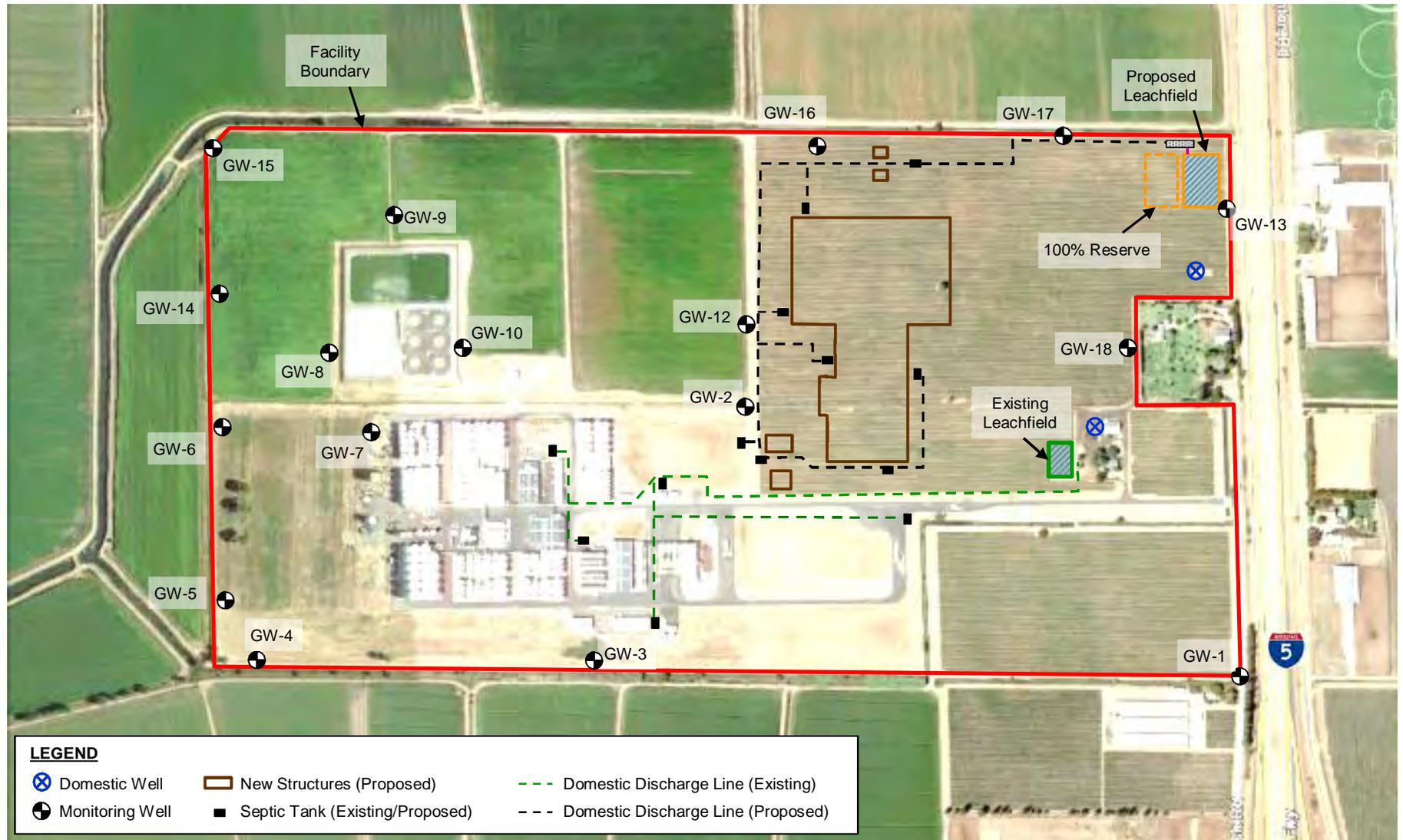
Original signed by Andrew Altevogt for:

PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

Attachments: A Site Plan
B Monitoring and Reporting Program R5-2014-0816
C Monitoring Report Transmittal Form

Enclosure: State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Order 97-10-DWQ

cc: WDR Program Manager, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento
Brendan Kenny, Compliance and Enforcement Section, Central Valley Water Board
Rodney Estrada, San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department, Stockton
Kendra Olmos, Summit Engineering, Santa Rosa

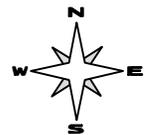


Drawing Reference:

Modified from Summit Engineering, March 2014 RWD
 Kennedy/Jenks, January 2014
 GoogleEarth, 08/28/2012

SITE PLAN

SUTTER HOME WINERY
 SUTTER HOME WINERY – WESTSIDE FACILITY WWTF
 SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY



approx. scale
 1 in. = 700 ft.