
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

18 April 2014

Kaj Ahlmann and Else Ahlmann
Six Sigma Winery, LLC
13372 Spruce Grove Road
Lower Lake, CA 95457

CERTIFIED MAIL
7012 2210 0002 1419 5731

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY, CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL FOOD PROCESSORS AND SMALL WINERIES WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION, ORDER NO. R5-2009-0097-0091, SIX SIGMA WINERY, LLC, LAKE COUNTY.

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff reviewed the 8 October 2013 Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) submitted by Six Sigma Winery, LLC to apply for regulatory coverage under the *Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors and Small Wineries within the Central Valley Region, Order R5-2009-0097* (Order). The Order, which was adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 8 October 2009, is a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements for small wineries and small food processors.

The RWD contains the information required and the discharge as described in the RWD qualifies for coverage under the Order. You are hereby assigned Order R5-2009-0097-0091. A copy of the Order is enclosed and it is also available on the internet at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/#waivers.

Please familiarize yourself with the contents of the Order including the discharge and monitoring requirements. The facility must be operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the Order and with the information submitted in the RWD.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Kaj Ahlmann and Else Ahlmann (Dischargers) own and operate the Six Sigma Winery, LLC which is located at 13372 Spruce Grove Road in Lower Lake, Lake County (APN 012-012-19). Six Sigma Winery is an existing winery that was previously regulated under Order R5-2003-0106, *Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Including Wineries, within the Central Valley Region*, which expired on 11 July 2008.

Process wastewater is generated from wine making activities, including grape crushing, tank cleaning, and barrel maintenance. All process wastewater is collected through trench drains located at the process facility into a 5,000 gallon settling tank. The liquid waste is then gravity fed to a 5,000 gallon recirculation tank, then treated in a textile media treatment system. The treated wastewater is then pumped to a 5,000 gallon storage tank, prior to land application.

The winery produces approximately 60,000 gallons of wastewater per year that is discharged to approximately 32 acres of land application area via a water truck. Grass for grazing cattle is typically grown on the land application area.

Approximately 21 tons of residual solids are generated per year and land applied to approximately 40 acres of vineyards as a soil amendment. The solids are composted, and then distributed to the vineyards with a dump truck, tractor, and compost spreader. Less than 1 ton per acre of solids is applied to the vineyards.

Domestic wastewater is discharged into a septic tank and leach field system permitted through the Lake County Environmental Health Department.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

The Order includes specific monitoring and reporting requirements that you must comply with, including routine monitoring and reporting to the Central Valley Water Board. Please review the Monitoring and Reporting Program closely and establish the appropriate record keeping system so that you are able to complete the required *Annual Monitoring Report* form, contained in the Order. The *Annual Monitoring Report* form must be submitted to our office by **1 February of each year**, even if there is no discharge during the reporting year.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Order includes specific and general conditions required for your operation. In addition, you must maintain control over the discharge and operate in accordance with the information provided in your application and this Notice of Applicability (NOA).

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the facility name, location, and discharge. Failure to comply with the requirements of the Order may result in enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code, which could include civil liability.

Discharge of wastes not described in the RWD is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in your application, you must submit an updated RWD to describe the new operation.

Please note that the Order will expire on 8 October 2014, at which time you must do one of the following:

1. Submit a new application with a filing fee to obtain coverage under a subsequently adopted waiver; or
2. Submit an application with a filing fee to apply for individual or general Waste Discharge Requirements, or
3. Cease the discharge.

Coverage under this Order applies to small food processors and small wineries whose discharge to land does not exceed 100,000 gallons of wastewater per year. Staff understands that the Discharger anticipates increased flows up to 120,000 gallons and construction of an aeration pond for future expansion. At least one year from that time the Discharger must apply for individual Waste Discharge Requirements.

If you have any questions regarding submitting a RWD to apply for individual WDRs, please contact Ms. Lani Andam at (916) 464-4723 or landam@waterboards.ca.gov.

All other questions should be directed to Mr. Guy Childs of the Compliance Section at (916) 464-4648 or gchilds@waterboards.ca.gov. All monitoring reports must be submitted to Mr. Childs by the compliance due date.

Original signed by Kenneth Landau for

PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

Enclosure: Conditional Waiver of WDRs, Order R5-2009-0097

cc w/o enc: Lake County Environmental Health Department, Lakeport
Rachel Ahlmann, Six Sigma Winery, LLC, Lower Lake