

## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

### Negative Declaration

1. **Project title:** Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Reuse of Oil Field Production Wastewater for Irrigation at the Concordia Ranch.

2. **Lead agency name and address:**

California Regional Water Quality Control Board,  
Central Valley Region – Fresno office  
1685 E Street  
Fresno, CA 93706

3. **Contact person and phone number:**

Ryan K. West  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Central Valley Region – Fresno office  
1685 E Street  
Fresno, CA 93706  
(559) 445-6188  
rwest@waterboards.ca.gov

4. **Project location:** Kern Front Oil Field, Kern County

5. **Project sponsor's name and address:**

Chad Hathaway  
Hathaway, LLC  
4205 Atlas Court  
Bakersfield, CA 93308

6. **General plan designation:** Intensive agriculture (minimum 20 acre parcel size)

7. **Zoning:** Exclusive agriculture

8. **Description of project:**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) will consider adoption of a Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for the reuse of oil field wastewater produced from the Davies Realty Co. Lease (Lease) in the Kern Front Oil Field for irrigation (Conditional Waiver). The wastewater is proposed to be piped from above ground storage tanks on the Lease to an existing irrigation reservoir on the Concordia Ranch (a distance of approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile), where it will be

blended with groundwater from an irrigation well (the blend will be 7% wastewater and 93% groundwater), and used to irrigate approximately 120 acres of citrus on the Concordia Ranch. California Water Code (CWC) section 13269 authorizes the Regional Board to waive WDRs for a specific discharge or specific type of discharge if: (1) the waiver is not against the public interest; (2) the waiver does not exceed five years in duration; (3) the waiver is conditional and may be terminated at any time, and (4) a public hearing has been held. CWC section 13269(e) states that the Regional Board shall require compliance with the conditions of the waiver.

Based on the information contained in the Environmental Checklist, the Regional Board finds that the waiver of WDRs for the reuse of oil field wastewater produced from the Lease in the Kern Front Oil Field for irrigation would not result in a significant adverse effect on the environment. Furthermore, the reuse of good quality wastewater is consistent with State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 77-1, "Policy with Respect to Water Reclamation in California," which includes the principle that the State Water Board and Regional Water Boards shall encourage reclamation, reuse, and water conservation.

**9. Surrounding land uses and setting:**

The proposed project applies to land located in the Kern Front Oil Field and the Poso Creek Oil Field. The two oil fields are on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley, about seven miles north of Bakersfield in Kern County. Most of the surrounding land is idle except for oil production, with the exception of a few irrigated parcels in the Poso Creek Oil Field.

**10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.):** None

## Environmental Factors List

### ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services               | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |   |

DETERMINATION:

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a “potentially significant impact” or “potentially significant unless mitigated” impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards. And (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Pamela C. Creedon, Executive Officer  
Printed Name