

Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

Executive Officer's Summary Report
Thursday, August 14, 2014
Regional Water Board Office
Santa Rosa, California

- ITEM: 8
- SUBJECT: Update on Draft Order No. R1-2014-0041 General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and Draft Order No. R1-2014-0046 Conditional Waiver of WDRs for Wine, Beverage, and Food Processor Waste to Land (*Rachel Prat & Rhonda Raymond*)
- BOARD ACTION: This item is an informational update. No action will be taken by the Regional Water Board.
- BACKGROUND: On March 28, 2002, the Regional Water Board adopted Order No. R1-2002-0012, General WDRs for Discharges of Winery Waste to Land (Winery Order). The Winery Order authorizes discharges to land from enrolled facilities' winery wastewater treatment and disposal systems.
- Discharges of process waste to land by wineries have typically been authorized through enrollment of the facility under the Winery Order. However, some wineries that have sought enrollment under the Winery Order have been deferred enrollment by Regional Water Board staff. Deferral of enrollment is based on the winery being a small winery, producing less than 1,500 gallons per day of process wastewater, and the discharge posing a minimal risk to groundwater quality. These smaller wineries were advised of the deferral of coverage under the Winery Order, and that a waiver of WDRs would be developed in the future.
- Discharges of process waste to land by beverage and food processing facilities, other than wineries, have historically been authorized under individual facility-specific WDRs. Many of these Orders are decades old and need updating. Other facilities have not been regulated by the Regional Water Board.
- DISCUSSION: Regional Water Board staff developed Draft *General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Discharges of Wine, Beverage, and Food Processor Waste to Land*, Order No. R1-2014-0041, and a *Conditional Waiver of WDRs for Discharges of Wine, Beverage, and Food Processor Waste to Land*, Order No. R1-2014-0046, to update the Winery Order. The Winery Order is being revised for the following reasons:

1. To incorporate laws, regulations, statewide policies, and Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan) policies enacted after the 2002 adoption of the Winery Order.
2. To develop a general Conditional Waiver of WDRs for eligible commercial wine, beverage, and food processing facilities that discharge less than 1,500 gallons per day of process wastewater to land.
3. To extend coverage of the Order to other types of eligible beverage and food processors, including but not limited to, breweries, distilleries, cheese processors, and olive oil manufacturers.

The draft Order, now known as the Wine, Beverage, and Food Processor WDRs (WBFP WDRs), and the draft Conditional Waiver of WDRs for Discharges of Wine, Beverage, and Food Processor Waiver (WBFP Waiver) were made available for public comment on July 7, 2014. Comments were to be accepted until August 7, 2014. Based on preliminary comments received, which requested additional time to submit comments, the comment period for the WBFP WDRs and WBFP Waiver was extended to August 22, 2014, for a total comment period of 47 days.

A workshop was held at the Regional Water Board office on July 15, 2014, to provide an opportunity for interested parties to discuss, ask questions, and provide oral comment on the draft WBFP WDRs and WBFP Waiver. In this informational item, Regional Water Board staff will provide an update on the draft WBFP WDRs and the WBFP Waiver and on significant issues raised at the workshop.

The WBFP WDRs and WBFP Waiver are scheduled to be considered for adoption at the upcoming November 20, 2014, Regional Water Board meeting in Santa Rosa.

**SIGNIFICANT
CHANGES:**

The draft WBFP WDRs and WBFP Waiver propose the following requirements beyond what was required in the previous General Winery Order:

1. A new Waiver of WDRs for wine beverage and food processing facilities discharging less than 1,500 gallons per day (gpd) of wastewater to land.
2. New water quality based effluent limits and monitoring requirements for BOD, Ammonia, Nitrate, Nitrite, TDS, Sodium, and Chloride for the aboveground reuse of process wastewater to protect ground water.
3. A facility specific Salt and Nutrient Management Plan that will explain how nutrients and salts being applied to land via process

wastewater or process solids will not result in an impact to water quality.

4. New requirements for groundwater monitoring for subsurface discharges.

RECOMMENDATION: This is an informational item. No action should be taken.

SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS:

1. Draft Orders available on the tentative Orders website:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/
2. The existing Winery Order on the General Winery Order website:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/publications_and_forms/available_documents/general_winery_wdr/