

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP
and Opportunity to Review and Comment on Draft Orders**

Update of Order R1-2002-0012
General Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) for Discharges of Winery Waste to Land
(Winery Order)

To now be known as:
General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Wine, Beverage and Food
Processor Waste to Land

And

New Proposed General
Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Wine, Beverage
and Food Processor Waste to Land

Notice is hereby given that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (Regional Water Board) will hold a public workshop to discuss proposed revisions to the Winery Order which will now be known as the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Wine, Beverage and Food Processor Waste to Land (WBFP WDRs) and the new proposed General Conditional Waiver of WDRs for Discharges of Wine, Beverage and Food Processor Waste to Land (WBFP Waiver).

When: July 15, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm.

Where: Regional Water Board Office
David C. Joseph Meeting Room
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Who Should Attend: Owners and operators of commercial wine, beverage, or food processing facilities; local county planning and permitting staff; industry representatives; and other interested and concerned groups or individuals.

During the public workshop, Regional Water Board staff will present proposed changes to the Winery Order, to be known as the WBFP WDR, present the new conditional WBFP Waiver, and take comments regarding the content of the two proposed Orders. Information presented at the workshop will be considered public comment. The proposed WBFP WDRs and WBFP Waiver will be heard before the Regional Water Board for possible

adoption at the November 20, 2014, Regional Water Board meeting to be held at the Regional Water Board Office.

Draft Orders Available for Review and Comment

A draft of the revised WBFP WDR and the proposed WBFP Waiver will be available at the beginning of the public comment period on July 7, 2014. Comments will be accepted until August 7, 2014.

Background

On March 28, 2002, the Regional Water Board adopted Order No. R1-2002-0012, General Waste Discharge Requirements 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 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 in need of updating.

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 told of the future development of a general conditional Waiver of WDRs which would authorize discharges from their facility.

This Order is a revision, or update, of the Winery Order that was adopted by the Regional Water Board on March 28, 2002. The Winery Order is being revised for the following reasons:

1. To incorporate laws, regulations and Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan) policies enacted after the 2002 adoption of the Winery Order.
2. To recognize the concurrent development of a general Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for those 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.

Document Availability

Information on the Regional Water Board's Wine, Beverage & Food Processors Program, including the proposed revised WBFP WDRs and new WBFP Waiver, can be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/

Persons wishing to receive notices related to the WBFP WDRs and WBFP Waiver should subscribe to the Wine, Beverage & Food Processors email list, under Resources, Email Subscription on the left side of the Regional Water Board's main web page at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast>.

Ex parte communications are allowed in this matter subject to the disclosure requirements of Water Code section 13287. A form to assist in this process can be found on the Regional Water Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/public_notices/pdf/2013/130118_NorthCoast_disclosure.pdf.

The Regional Water Board is required to post the disclosure on its website and to distribute it via any electronic distribution list for the proposed order. Ex parte disclosures shall not constitute written comments or evidence on a proposed general order. You must provide the comments or evidence by following the procedure and timelines provided above. Ex parte communications are prohibited for a period beginning 14 days before the board meeting at which the proposed order is scheduled for board action. For communications concerning any issue in this proceeding, ex parte communications are prohibited starting on November 6, 2014. If the board does not take action on November 20, 2014, the ex parte prohibition will remain in place until the board, the Chair or the Executive Officer directs otherwise. Once lifted, the prohibition on ex parte communications may be reinstated for 14 days before the day of the board meeting to which the decision is continued. The board will provide notice via the Lyris and the interested parties email lists for this item if the prohibition is lifted or reinstated.

Accessibility

Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting should contact Patti Corsie at 707-576-2220 at least five days prior to the scheduled meeting. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 800-735-2929 or voice line at 800-735-2922.

Staff Contact

Questions regarding the workshop or the revised WBFP WDRs or WBFP Waiver should be directed to Rachel Prat, by phone at 707-576-2542 or email at Rachel.Prat@waterboards.ca.gov or Rhonda Raymond, by phone at 707-576-2708 or email at Rhonda.Raymond@waterboards.ca.gov.