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**Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

30 January 2018

Ziggy Robeson, Superintendent  
Ripon Unified School District  
304 N Acacia Avenue  
Ripon, CA 95366

**CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**91 7199 9991 7036 7006 7495**

**NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY**  
**GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR**  
**SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS**  
**ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ**  
**FOR**  
**RIPON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**COLONY OAK K-8 SCHOOL**  
**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

The Ripon Unified School District (hereafter "Discharger") submitted a Septic System Technical Report in September 2017 describing a proposed septic system at the Colony Oak K-8 School in San Joaquin County. Based on the provided information, the proposed domestic wastewater treatment system and discharge is consistent with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*, Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (General Order). This Notice of Applicability (NOA) provides notice that the General Order is applicable to the site as described below. You are hereby assigned Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251 for the discharge. A copy of the General Order is enclosed and also available at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/water\\_quality/2014/wqo2014\\_0153\\_dwq.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf)

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. The General Order contains operational and reporting requirements by wastewater system type. Sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements applicable to your treatment and disposal methods must be completed in accordance with the appropriate treatment system sections of the General Order and the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251. The Discharger is responsible for all the applicable requirements that exist in the General Order and this NOA.

## **REGULATORY BACKGROUND**

The Discharger proposed a new septic system to replace the existing septic system, which was built in 1993 and is currently regulated under the San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department. The new system has a design capacity of 14,100 gallons per day (gpd).

The Discharger is seeking coverage under the General Order for the new system.

The wastewater discharge at the school site will be continually regulated under the County until the Executive Officer approves the *Construction Completion Report* for the proposed septic system pursuant to Provision 1.a.

## **EXISTING FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION**

The Colony Oak K-8 School is located at 22241 Murphy Road, Ripon in San Joaquin County as shown on Attachment A, which is attached hereto and is made part of this NOA by reference.

The onsite septic system is owned and operated by the Discharger. The school is located in an area without a regional wastewater collection system; therefore, wastewater is collected and treated onsite. The site plan is shown on Attachment B, which is attached hereto and is made part of this NOA by reference.

The existing septic system consists of two 5,000-gallon tanks, one lift station, and eight 100-foot leach lines. There are no groundwater monitoring wells onsite. Based on a geotechnical investigation for the proposed project, groundwater was encountered at 38.5 feet below the ground surface. The soil onsite is silty sand. The source water for the school is provided by an onsite domestic well as showed on Attachment B.

## **PROPOSED CHANGES**

The Discharger proposed to remove all existing collection system except the sewer line servicing the existing Multi-Purpose Building. New sewer lines will be installed to serve the seven proposed buildings. The school has a cafeteria equipped with an existing grease trap, which will be inspected quarterly and pumped when necessary. The proposed new septic system will consist of three 4,000-gallon septic tanks in series, a lift station, and thirty-one 100-foot leach lines. The leach line trenches will be 24 inches wide and 42 inches deep. Eight observation wells will be installed. Based on two percolation tests, the soil percolation rates are 19.2 and 10.4 min/inch. Berms and diversion ditches around the proposed leach field will be installed to control storm water runoff. The locations of existing and proposed leachfields are shown on Attachment B. A Process Schematic is shown on Attachment C, which is attached hereto and is made part of this NOA by reference.

The proposed new septic system will have a design capacity of 14,100 gpd and will provide domestic wastewater treatment and disposal for 576 students and 41 staff. The total area of the leachfield including the proposed area and potential replacement area is 1.75 acres.

The Discharger also identifies the location for possible future 100 percent replacement of the subsurface disposal area, as shown on Attachment B. The Discharger plans to abandon the existing septic system after completion of the proposed project. A permit is required from the County to destroy the existing septic system.

In addition, the Discharger proposed to install a new supply well, which will be located on southern portion of the school property as shown on Attachment B. The existing supply well will be properly abandoned.

## SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND EFFLUENT LIMITS

Note that the General Order contains prohibitions and specifications that apply to all wastewater treatment systems as well as those that only apply to specific treatment and/or disposal systems. The specific requirements and effluent limits for your treatment system are summarized below.

The wastewater treatment operator must be certified and familiar with the requirements contained in the General Order, this NOA, and the MRP.

### Requirements by Wastewater System Type, Section B of General Order

#### B.1 All Wastewater Systems

This applies in its entirety to the Colony Oak K-8 School Septic System with the following site specific requirements.

##### B.1.a Flow Limit.

Treated wastewater discharged to the leachfields shall not exceed **14,100 gpd** as a monthly average.

##### B.1.1 Wastewater System Setbacks.

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage	Property Line	Lake or Reservoir
Septic Tank, Treatment System, & Collection System <sup>1</sup>	150 ft.	50 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.
Leach Field <sup>2</sup>	100 ft.	100 ft.	50 ft.	5 ft.	200 ft.

<sup>1</sup> Reference setbacks from "Septic Tank, Aerobic Treatment Unit, Treatment System, or Collection System" in Table 3 of General Order.

<sup>2</sup> Reference setbacks from "Leach Field" in Table 3 of General Order.

#### B.2 Septic Systems

The school utilizes a septic tank; therefore this section applies in its entirety.

#### B.6 Subsurface Disposal Systems

The school utilizes a subsurface disposal system; therefore this section applies in its entirety.

## PROVISIONS

### 1. TECHNICAL REPORT PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

- a. Within **60 days** of completion of the proposed project, the Discharger shall submit a *Construction Completion Report* that certifies completion of construction and start-up testing of the new wastewater treatment system and closure of the existing septic system. The report shall include as-built drawings of the new wastewater treatment system, the amount (lineal footage) of new leachlines that were installed, construction and installation details of the disposal trenches and leachlines (i.e., depth and width of trenches, trench sidewall depth below laterals, and square feet per lineal foot of wastewater application area), and wastewater design disposal calculations (in gallons per day). Effective on the date of Executive Officer approval of *Construction Completion Report*, the discharge shall be regulated pursuant to the

General Order. Prior to the Executive Officer's approval, the wastewater discharge shall be continually regulated under the County.

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

The Discharger shall comply with MRP 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251, which is attached hereto and made part of this NOA by reference.

**ENFORCEMENT**

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the discharge. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. Prior to allowing changes to the wastewater strength or generation rate, or to the method of waste disposal, you must contact the Central Valley Regional Water Board to determine if submittal of an RWD is required.

The Discharger will generate the waste subject to the terms and conditions of WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251 and will maintain exclusive control over the discharge. As such, Ripon Unified School District is primarily responsible for compliance with this NOA, MRP, and General Order, with all attachments. Failure to comply with the requirements in the General Order or this NOA could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

**ANNUAL FEES**

Staff has determined the discharge is a threat to water quality and complexity rating of 3-C. The annual fee corresponding to a threat to water quality and complexity of 3-C is currently \$2,088; however, because the permitted flow is less than 50,000 gpd, the discharge qualifies for the 50-percent fee discount. Therefore, the annual fee for this discharge is currently \$1,044. The fee is due and payable on an annual basis until coverage under the General Order is formally rescinded. Please note that the annual fees are reviewed each year and may change. If the wastewater discharge ceases, you must provide written notice so that we can terminate coverage under the General Order and no longer bill you.

**DOCUMENT SUBMITTAL**

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50 MB should be emailed to:  
*centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov*.

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email or any documentation submitted to the mailing address for this office:

Facility Name: Colony Oak K-8 School, San Joaquin County		
Program: Non-15 Compliance	Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251	CIWQS Place ID: 841495

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to:

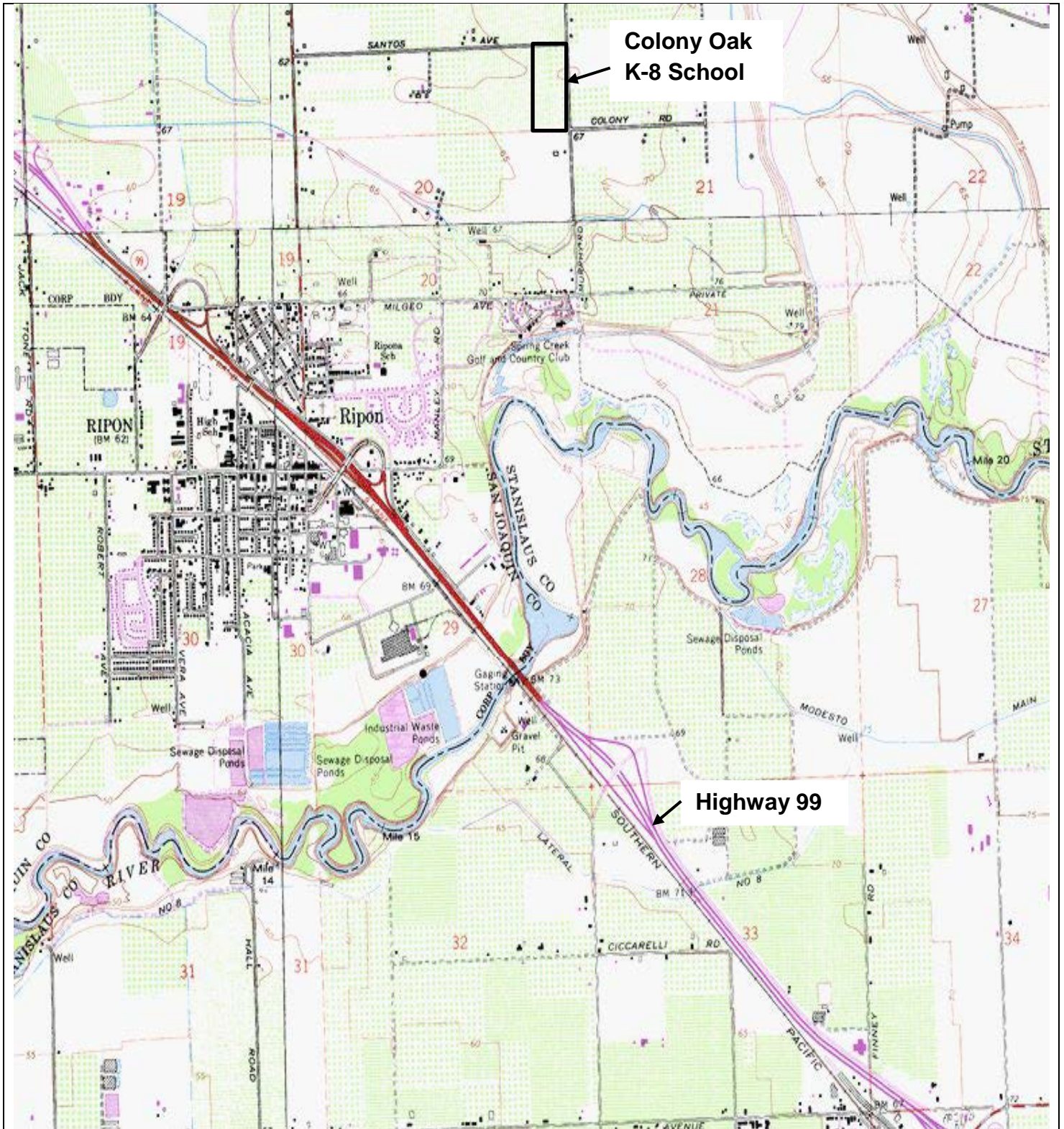
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
ECM Mailroom  
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Now that the Notice of Applicability has been issued, the Board's Compliance and Enforcement section will take over management of your case. Brendan Kenny is your new point of contact for any questions about the General Order. If you find it necessary to make a change to your permitted operations, Brendan will direct you to the appropriate Permitting staff. You may contact Brendan at (916) 464-4635 or at [bkenny@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:bkenny@waterboards.ca.gov).

  
Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer

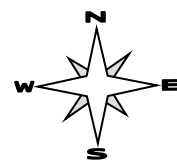
enc: Water Quality Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ  
Monitoring and Reporting Program 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251  
Attachment A, Site Location Map  
Attachment B, Site Plan  
Attachment C, Process Schematic

cc w/out enc: Timothy O'Brien, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento  
Rodney Estrada, San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department,  
Stockton

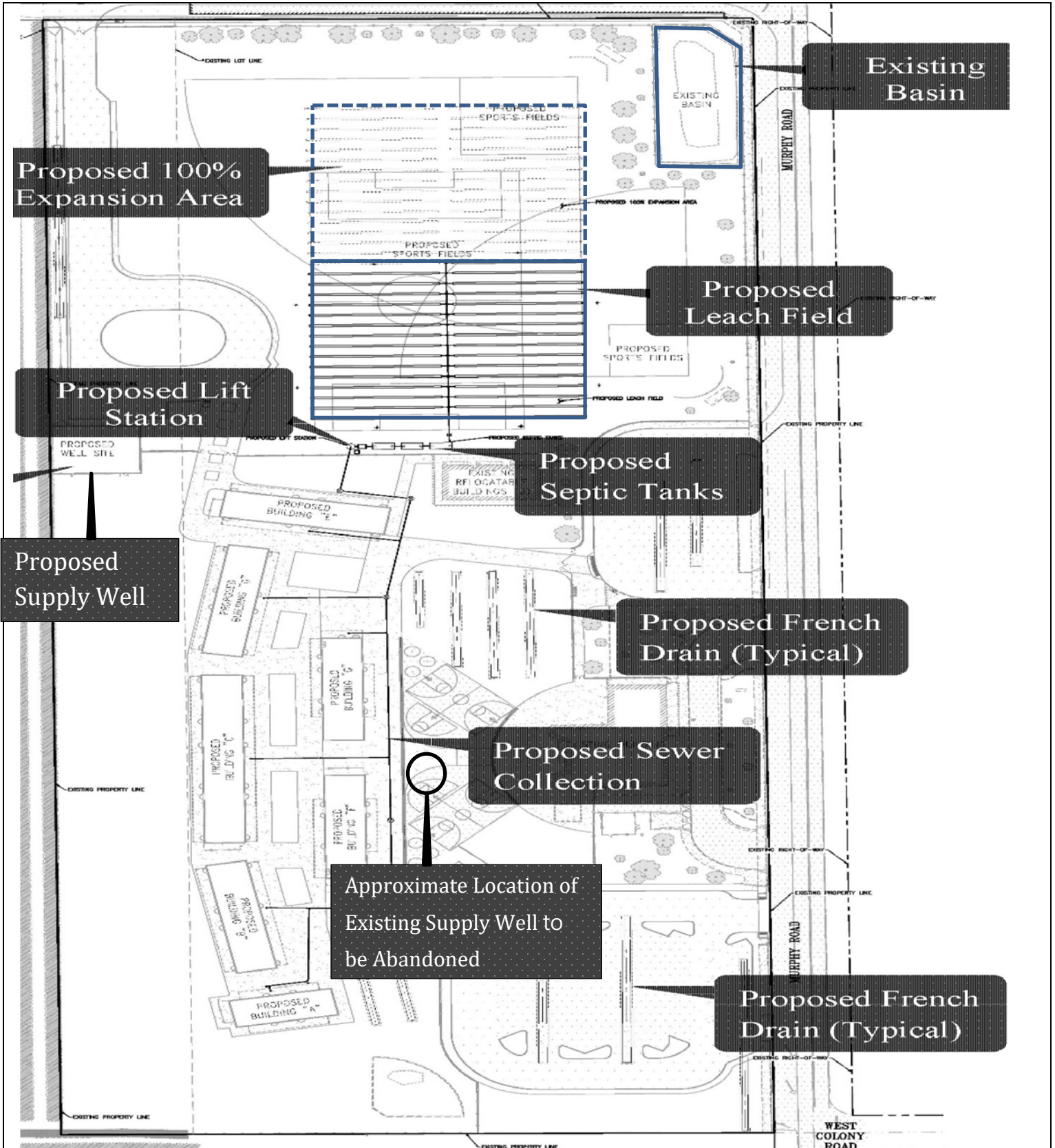


Drawing Reference:  
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle  
Ripon, CA

**SITE LOCATION MAP**  
RIPON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLONY OAK K-8 SCHOOL  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

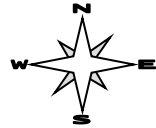


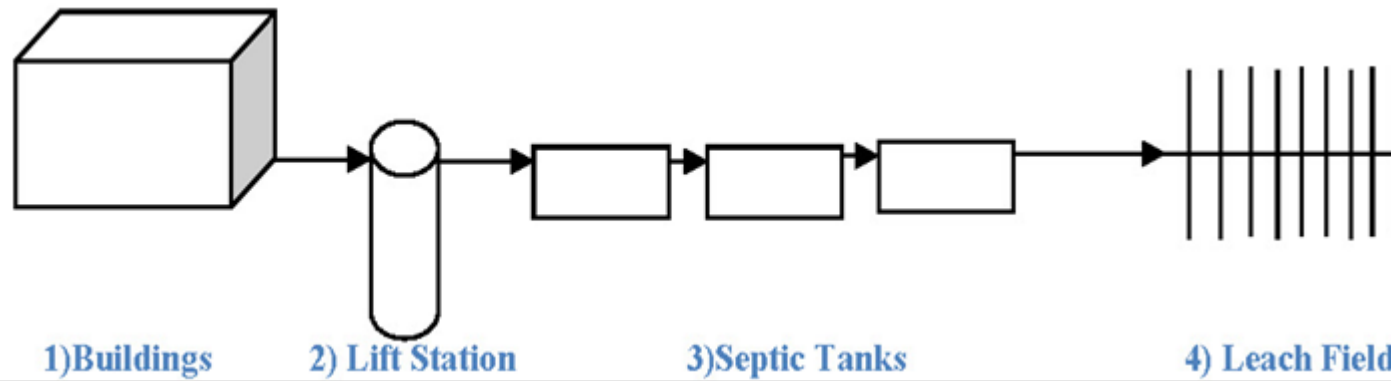
Approx. Scale:  
1" = 2,500'



Source  
 Septic System Technical Report  
 NorthStar Engineering Group, Inc.  
 September 2017

**SITE PLAN**  
 RIPON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 COLONY OAK K-8 SCHOOL  
 SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY


 not scaled



Drawing Reference:  
Septic System Technical Report  
NorthStar Engineering Group, Inc.  
September 2017

PROCESS SCHEMATIC FOR PROPOSED SEPTIC SYSTEM  
RIPON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLONY OAK K-8 SCHOOL  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY



CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251

FOR

RIPON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLONY OAK K-8 SCHOOL  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring a septic system at the Colony Oak K-8 School. This MRP is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. The Ripon Unified School District (hereafter "Discharger") shall not implement any changes to this MRP unless and until a revised MRP is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) or Executive Officer.

Water Code section 13267 states, in part:

"In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports."

Water Code section 13268 states, in part:

"(a) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of section 13399.2, or falsifying any information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(b)(1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with article 2.5 (commencing with section 13323) of chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs."

The Ripon Unified School District operates the wastewater system that is subject to the Notice of Applicability (NOA) of Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ-R5251. The reports are necessary to ensure that the Discharger complies with the NOA and General Order. Pursuant to Water Code section 13267, the Discharger shall implement this MRP and shall submit the monitoring reports described herein.

All samples shall be representative of the volume and nature of the discharge or matrix of material sampled. The name of the sampler, sample type (grab or composite), time, date, location, bottle type, and any preservative used for each sample shall be recorded on the sample chain of custody form. The chain of custody form must also contain all custody information including date, time, and to whom samples were relinquished. If composite samples are collected, the basis for sampling (time or flow weighted) shall be approved by Central Valley Water Board staff.

Field test instruments (such as those used to test pH, dissolved oxygen, and electrical conductivity) may be used provided that they are used by a State Water Resources Control Board, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program certified laboratory, or:

1. The user is trained in proper use and maintenance of the instruments;
2. The instruments are field calibrated prior to monitoring events at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer;
3. Instruments are serviced and/or calibrated by the manufacturer at the recommended frequency; and
4. Field calibration reports are maintained and available for at least three years.

If monitoring consistently shows no significant variation in magnitude of a constituent concentration or parameter after at least 12 months of monitoring, the Discharger may request this MRP be revised to reduce monitoring frequency. The proposal must include adequate technical justification for reduction in monitoring frequency.

### EFFLUENT MONITORING

Samples of effluent shall be taken at the point of discharge to the leachfields. At a minimum, effluent monitoring shall consist of the following:

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow <sup>1</sup>	gpd	Meter	Daily	Quarterly
BOD <sup>2</sup>	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen as N	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly
pH	pH units	Grab	Quarterly	Quarterly

<sup>1</sup> Daily flows may be calculated based on monthly flow monitoring data.

<sup>2</sup> 5-day Biochemical Oxygen Demand.

## LEACHFIELD MONITORING

Leachfield monitoring will consist of a visual inspection of the leachfield. When wastewater is discharged to these areas will be monitored on a weekly basis for the presence of surfacing effluent, seepage, objectionable odors, any areas of saturation, and signs of erosion. Leachfield monitoring results shall be included with all quarterly monitoring reports.

## REPORTING

All monitoring reports should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: [centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralvalleysacramento@waterboards.ca.gov).

To ensure that your submittal is routed to the appropriate staff person, the following information should be included in the body of the email:

Attention: Compliance/Enforcement Section  
Colony Oak K-8 School  
San Joaquin County  
Place ID: 841495

Documents that are 50 MB or larger should be transferred to a CD, DVD, or flash drive and mailed to the following address:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
ECM Mailroom  
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200  
Rancho Cordova, California 95670

Please include a transmittal sheet that includes the following:

Attention: Compliance/Enforcement Section  
Colony Oak K-8 School  
San Joaquin County  
Place ID: 841495

In reporting monitoring data, the Discharger shall arrange the data in tabular form so that the date, sample type (e.g., effluent, solids, etc.), and reported analytical or visual inspection results are readily discernible. The data shall be summarized to clearly illustrate compliance with the General Order and NOA as applicable. The results of any monitoring done more frequently than required at the locations specified in the MRP shall be reported in the next regularly scheduled monitoring report and shall be included in calculations as appropriate.

Monitoring information shall include the method detection limit (MDL) and the Reporting limit (RL) or practical quantitation limit (PQL). If the regulatory limit for a given constituent is less than the RL (or PQL), then any analytical results for that constituent that are below the RL (or PQL) but above the MDL shall be reported and flagged as estimated. For a Discharger conducting any of its own analyses, reports must be signed and certified by the chief of the laboratory.

#### **A. Quarterly Monitoring Reports**

Quarterly reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board on the first day of the second month after the quarter ends (e.g. the January-March Quarterly Report is due by May 1st). At a minimum, the reports shall include:

1. Results of all required quarterly monitoring;
2. A comparison of monitoring data to the discharge specifications and an explanation of any violation of those requirements. Data shall be presented in tabular format;
3. If requested by staff, copies of laboratory analytical report(s); and
4. A calibration log verifying calibration of all hand-held monitoring instruments and devices used to comply with the prescribed monitoring program.

#### **B. Annual Report**

Annual Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board by **February 1<sup>st</sup> following the monitoring year**. The Annual Report shall include the following:

1. Tabular and graphical summaries of all monitoring data collected during the year;
2. An evaluation of the performance of the wastewater treatment system, including discussion of capacity issues, nuisance conditions, system problems, and a forecast of the flows anticipated in the next year. A flow rate evaluation, as described in the General Order (Provision E.2.c), shall also be submitted;
3. A discussion of compliance and the corrective action taken, as well as any planned or proposed actions needed to bring the discharge into compliance with the NOA and/or General Order;
4. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program;
5. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring, and

A letter transmitting the monitoring reports shall accompany each report. The letter shall report violations found during the reporting period, and actions taken or planned to correct the violations and prevent future violations. The transmittal letter shall contain the following penalty of perjury statement and shall be signed by the Discharger or the Discharger's authorized agent:

