



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

6 November 2020

Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
PO Box 577
Yosemite National Park, CA 95389

CERTIFIED MAIL
7018 1830 0001 0015 4762

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA); STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK; GLACIER POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY; MARIPOSA COUNTY

On 17 April 2020, the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yosemite National Park (National Park Service or Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for the Glacier Point Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in Mariposa County. The Discharger is requesting coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). The RWD included a technical report prepared by Mr. Brian W. Fulce, a California registered civil engineer (RCE 57270) with Fulce Engineering, Inc. A Form 200 was signed by Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent with the National Park Service. Additional information was submitted on 18, 19, and 21 August 2020. Based on the information provided, the discharge from your WWTF is eligible for coverage under the General Order.

This letter serves a formal notice that the General Order is applicable to your system and the wastewater discharge described below, you are hereby assigned enrollee number **2014-0153-DWQ-R5349** upon rescission of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 96-215. After WDRs Order 96-215 has been rescinded, coverage under General Order 2014-0153-DWQ will become effective.

You should familiarize yourself with the entire General Order and its attachments enclosed with this letter, which describe mandatory discharge and monitoring requirements. 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) No. **2014-0153-DWQ-R5349**. This MRP was developed after

KARL E. LONGLEY ScD, P.E., CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

consideration of your waste characterization and site conditions described in the attached memorandum.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The WWTF is currently regulated by WDRs 96-215, which allows a daily maximum flow of up to 7,500 gallons per day (gpd) to leach fields. The WWTF is located at 5205 Glacier Point Road in Yosemite National Park. A site map is included in **Attachment A**, which is incorporated by reference and considered part of this Notice of Applicability (NOA). The WWTF consists of two lift stations, two septic tanks (existing 15,000-gallon tank and a new 2,000-gallon septic tank), a concrete dosing tank, and leach fields. The WWTF treats domestic wastewater generated from an existing visitor comfort station (Area 1), existing day use concessions building (Area 2), and existing seasonal National Park Service employee living quarters (Area 3) open from approximately May through October.

A new leach field was installed in 2019 and is located south of the employee quarters (Area 3) and consists of four zones (labeled Zone A through Zone D). Zones A through C have 7 laterals, Zone D has 9 laterals. Seasonal high groundwater made it difficult to use the former leach field system. Therefore, the Discharger decided to construct the new leach field in a new location. There are twelve piezometers (PZ-20 through PZ-31) within the new leach field. The piezometer site map and the WWTF flow schematic are shown on **Attachment B** and **Attachment C**, respectively, of the NOA.

FACILITY SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The Discharger will maintain exclusive control over the discharge and shall comply with the terms and conditions of this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments, and MRP No. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349.

In accordance with Section B.1 of the General Order, treated wastewater discharged from the treatment system to either the ponds and/or disposal field **shall not exceed a monthly average daily discharge of 15,000 gallons per day (gpd) to the leach field.** The Facility is closed during the winter and, therefore, will not discharge to the leach field during the winter months. Per the requirements of the General Order, discharges with flow rates less than 20,000 gpd are not required to meet a nitrogen effluent limit.

The General Order states in Section B.1. that the Discharger shall comply with the setbacks described in Table 3 of the General Order. This table summarizes different setback requirements for wastewater treatment system equipment, activities, land application areas, and storage and/or treatment ponds from sensitive receptors and property lines where applicable. The Discharger shall comply with the applicable setback requirements, as summarized in the following table:

Table 1 - Site-Specific Applicable Setback Requirements

Equipment or Activity	Domestic Well	Flowing Stream	Ephemeral Stream Drainage
Septic Tank, Aerobic Treatment Unit, Treatment System, and Collection System	150 ft	50 ft	50 ft
Leach Field	100 ft	100 ft	50 ft

The Discharger shall comply with all applicable sections of the General Order, including:

1. Septic Systems requirements specified in Section B.2 of the General Order;
2. Subsurface Disposal Systems requirements specified in Section B.6 of the General Order;
3. Sludge/Solids/Biosolids Disposal Requirements specified in Section B.8 of the General Order; and
4. Groundwater and Surface Water Limitations specified in Section C.1 of the General Order

Provision E.1 of the General Order requires discharges enrolled under the General Order to prepare and implement the following reports within **90 days** of the issuance of the NOA (**4 February 2021**):

- Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan (Provision E.1.a.).
- Sampling and Analysis Plan (Provision E.1.b).

A copy of the Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan, the Sampling and Analysis Plan, and Sludge Management Plan shall be maintained at the WWTF and shall be presented to the Regional Water Board staff upon request.

Failure to comply with the requirements in this NOA, General Order 2014-0153-DWQ, with all attachments, and MRP No. **2014-0153-DWQ-R5349** could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharge of wastes other than those described in this NOA is prohibited. If the method of waste disposal changes from that described in this NOA, you must submit a new Report of Waste Discharge describing the new operation.

As stated in Section E.2.w of the General Order, in the event any change in control or ownership of the WWTF or wastewater disposal areas, the Discharger must notify the succeeding owner or operator of the existence of this General Order by letter, a copy of which shall be immediately forwarded to the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer.

The required annual fee specified in the annual billing from the State Water Board shall be paid until this NOA is officially terminated. You must notify this office in writing if the discharge regulated by the General Order ceases, so that we may terminate coverage and avoid unnecessary billing.

On 31 May 2018, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments incorporating new strategies for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley as part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (**CV-SALTS**) initiative. Further details of these strategies are discussed in the enclosed memorandum. As these strategies are implemented, the Central Valley Water Board may find it necessary to modify the requirements of this NOA to ensure the goals of the Salt and Nitrate Control Program are met.

All monitoring reports and other correspondence should be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the Central Valley Water Board office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15,
Place ID: 227217,
Facility Name: Glacier Point WWTF,
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349

All document, including responses to inspection and written notification, submitted to comply with this General Order shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the Compliance and Enforcement Unit, attention to Russell Walls. Mr. Walls can be reached at (559) 488-4392 or russell.walls@waterboards.ca.gov. Questions regarding the permitting aspects of the General Order and notification for termination of coverage under the General Order, shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the WDR Permitting Unit, attention to Denise Soria. Ms. Soria can be reached at (559) 444-2488 or by email at denise.soria@waterboards.ca.gov.

Any person aggrieved by this action of the Central Valley Water Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with California Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2050 and following. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this NOA, except that if the thirtieth day following the date of this NOA falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. [Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions](#) may be found on the internet (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality/) or will be provided upon request.

In order to conserve paper and reduce mailing costs, a paper copy of the General Order has been sent only to the Discharger. Others are advised that the [General Order](#) is available on the State Water Board's website at: (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf).

WDRs Order 96-215 is proposed to be rescinded at the **18/19 February 2021 Board Meeting** of the Central Valley Water Board. Upon rescission of your individual WDRs, coverage for your Facility under the General Order shall become applicable under this Notice of Applicability.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Denise Soria by phone at (559) 444-2488, by email at dsoria@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Scott Hatton for:
Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments: Attachment A – Site Map

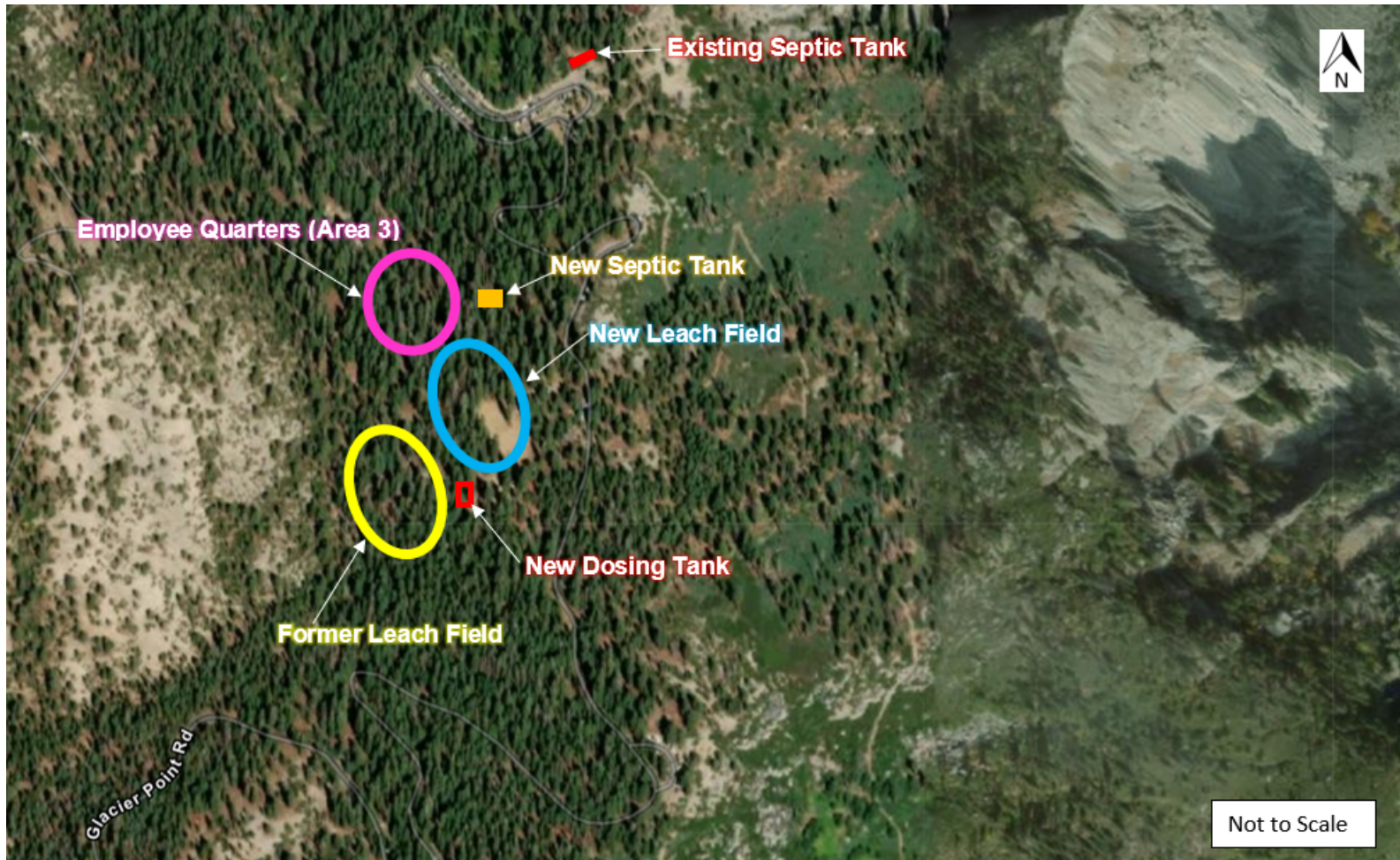
- Attachment B – Piezometer Site Map
- Attachment C – Flow Schematic

Enclosures: Monitoring and Reporting Program 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349

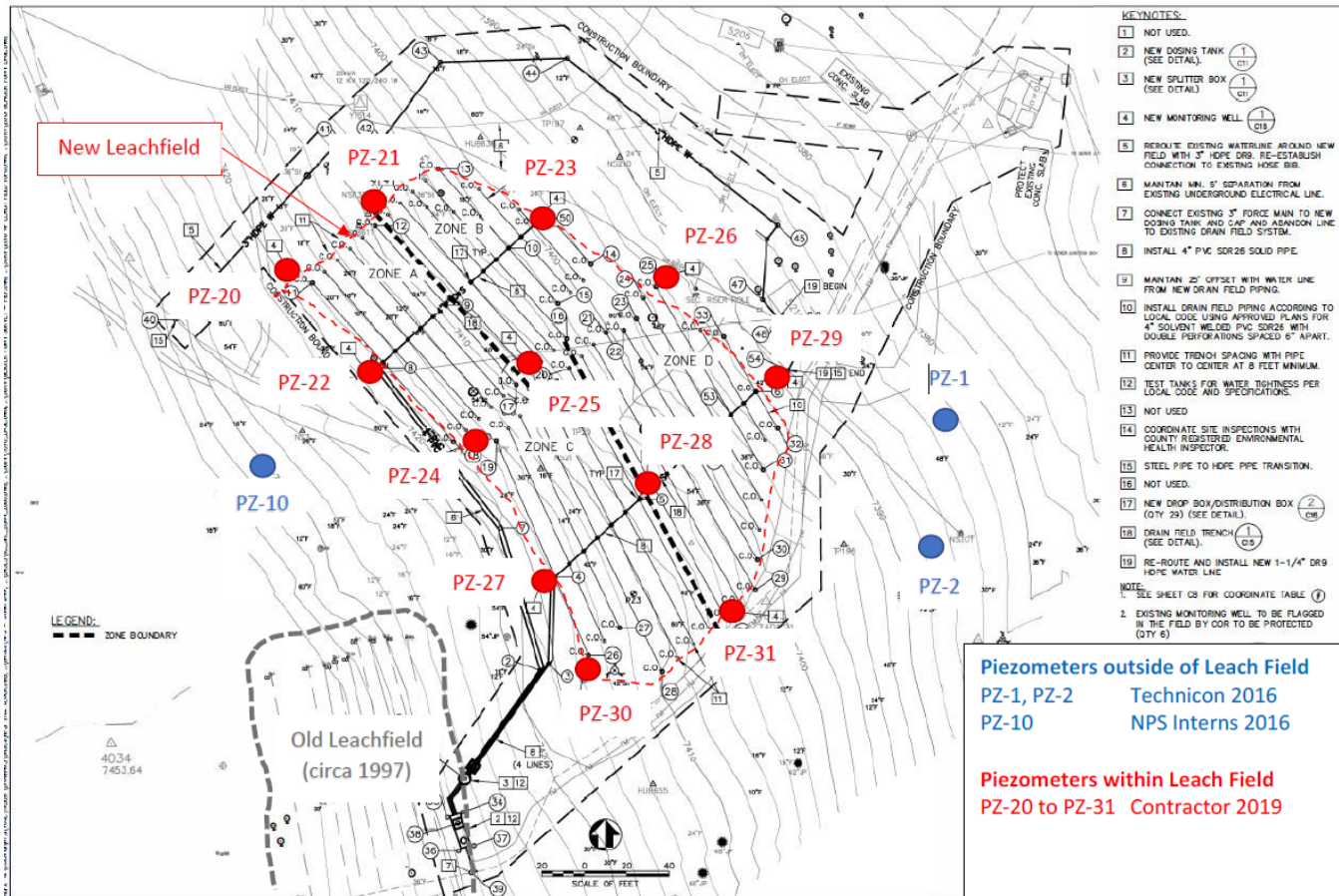
- 6 November 2020 Regional Water Board Staff Memorandum
- State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ (Discharger Only)

cc: Garrett Chun, National Park Service, El Portal (via email)

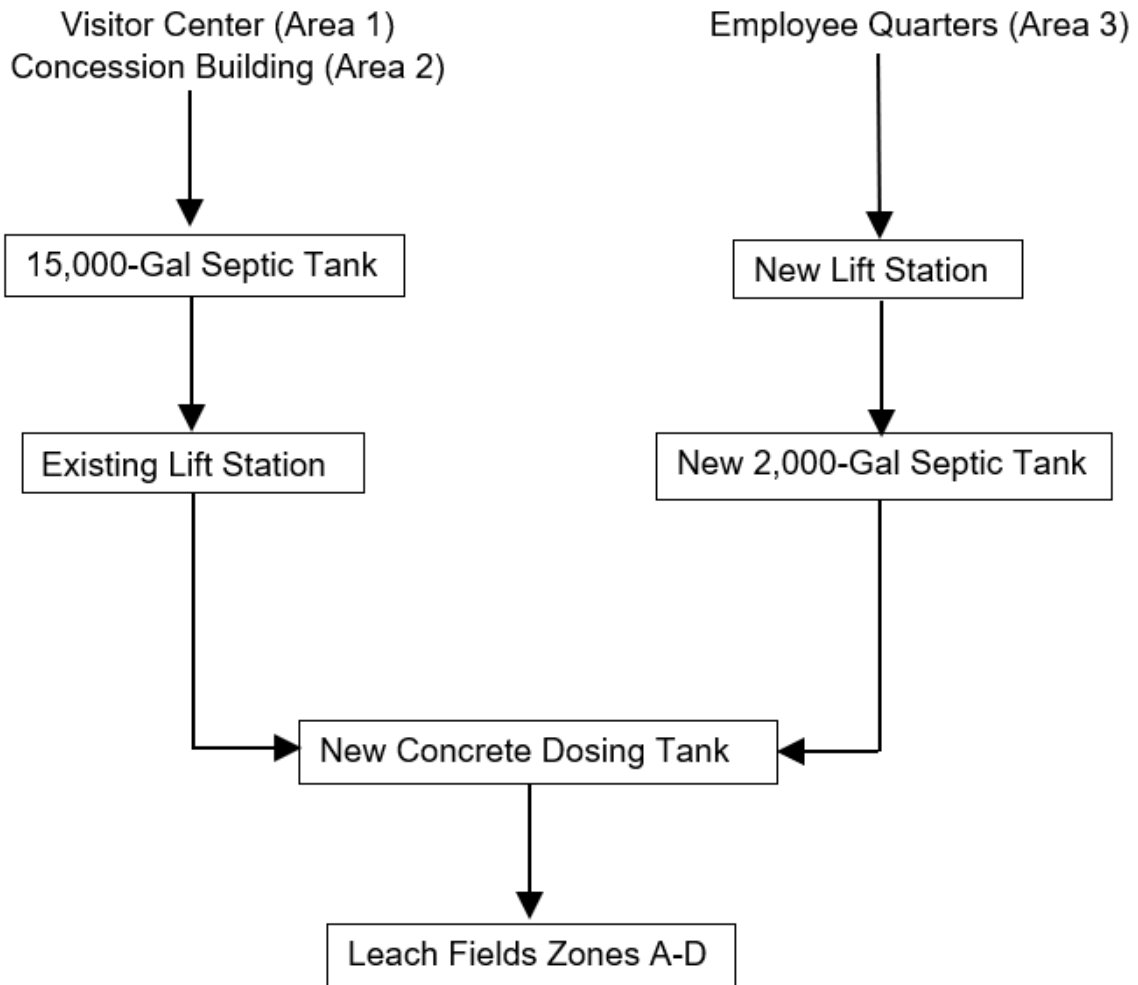
- Jim Allen, National Park Services, El Portal (via email)
- Laurel Warddrip, Senior Scientist, State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality, Sacramento (via email)
- Russell Walls, Senior Engineer, Central Valley Water Board, Fresno (via email)
- Mariposa County, Environmental Health Division, Mariposa



ATTACHMENT A – SITE MAP
NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349
FOR
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
GLACIER POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
MARIPOSA COUNTY



ATTACHMENT B – PIEZOMETER SITE MAP
NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349
FOR
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
GLACIER POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
MARIPOSA COUNTY



ATTACHMENT C – FLOW SCHEMATIC
NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349
FOR
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
GLACIER POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
MARIPOSA COUNTY

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

**MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349
FOR
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE,
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK
GLACIER POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
MARIPOSA COUNTY**

This Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) describes requirements for monitoring a wastewater treatment system. This MRP is issued pursuant to Water Code section 13267. The United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yosemite National Park (National Park Service or 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.

Section 13267 of the California Water Code 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.”

Section 13268 of the California Water Code 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 Discharger owns and operates the Glacier Point Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) that is subject to the Notice of Applicability (NOA) 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349. This NOA enrolls the WWTF under State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order) upon the rescission of WDRs Order 96-215. The reports required in this MRP 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 (ELAP) 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.

TREATMENT UNIT MONITORING

Septic Tank Monitoring

Septic tank effluent samples shall be taken from location that represents the effluent from the dosing tank to the leach field. Septic tank effluent monitoring is only required when wastewater is discharged to the leach field system. At a minimum, effluent monitoring shall include the following:

Table 1 – Septic Tank Effluent Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow	gpd	Metered (see 1 below)	Continuous	Semi-Annually
EC	µmhos/cm	Grab	Monthly	Semi-Annually
Total Nitrogen (as N)	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually

1 Flows can be metered or estimated based on pump run time or other approved method. The method of measurement shall be reported in the self-monitoring report.

All septic tanks shall be inspected and/or pumped at least as frequently as described in Table 2 below. Inspections of sludge and scum depth are not required if the tanks are pumped at least annually.

Table 2 – Septic Tank Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Measurement Type	Inspection/Reporting Frequency
Sludge depth and scum thickness in each compartment of each tank	Feet	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between bottom of scum layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Distance between top of sludge layer and bottom of outlet device	Inches	Staff Gauge	Annually
Effluent filter condition	N/A (See 1. below)	N/A (See 1. below)	Annually

1. N/A denotes not applicable

Septic tanks shall be pumped when any of the following conditions exists:

1. The combined thickness of sludge and scum exceeds one-third of the tank depth of the first compartment.
2. The scum layer is within 3 inches of the outlet device.
3. The sludge layer is within 8 inches of the outlet device.

If a septic tank is pumped during the year, the pumping report shall be submitted with the annual report. All pumping reports shall be submitted with the next regularly scheduled monitoring report. At a minimum, the record shall include the date, nature of service, service company name, and service company license number.

SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL AREA MONITORING

In general, subsurface disposal monitoring shall be sufficient to determine if wastewater is evenly applied, the disposal area is not saturated, burrowing animals and/or deep-

rooted plants are not present, and odors are not present. Inspection of dosing siphons controllers, automatic distribution valves, etc. is required to maintain optimum treatment in disposal area. Monitoring of the leach field system shall at a minimum, include the monitoring specified in Table 3. Monitoring in Table 3 is only required during the quarters when discharge of wastewater to the leach field system occurs

Table 3 – Subsurface Disposal Area Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Pump Controllers, Automatic Valves, etc. (see 1. below)	Quarterly	Semi-Annually
Nuisance Odor Condition	Quarterly	Semi-Annually
Saturated Soil Conditions (see 2. below)	Quarterly	Semi-Annually
Plant Growth (see 3. below)	Quarterly	Semi-Annually
Vectors or Animal Burrowing (see 4. below)	Quarterly	Semi-Annually

1. All pump controllers and automatic distribution valves shall be inspected for proper operation as recommended by the manufacturer.
2. Inspect disposal area for saturated conditions.
3. Shallow-rooted plants are generally desirable, deep-rooted plants such as trees shall be removed as necessary.
4. Evidence of animals burrowing shall be immediately investigated, and burrowing animal populations controlled as necessary.

GROUNDWATER MONITORING

Groundwater quality monitoring (for total coliform organisms, EC, and nitrate as nitrogen) shall be taken at upgradient piezometer (PZ-10) and down gradient piezometer (PZ-26) while groundwater elevation and depth shall be taken at all 12 piezometers (PZ-20 through PZ-31 shown in Attachment B of the NOA) and any other future piezometers/groundwater monitoring wells/piezometers added to the groundwater monitoring network.

Consistent with the Business and Professions Code, groundwater monitoring reports, well construction workplans, etc. shall be prepared under the supervision of a California licensed civil engineer or geologist. Prior to construction of any groundwater monitoring wells, the Discharger shall submit plans and specification to the Regional Water Board for review and approval. Once installed, all monitoring wells designated as part of the monitoring network shall be sampled and analyzed according to the schedule below.

Analysis of the data and groundwater flow directions shall be performed at least annually and shall be performed under the supervision of a California licensed

professional (as described above). The Discharger may request a reduced monitoring and reporting schedule once adequate data has been collected to characterize the site.

Prior to sampling, groundwater elevations shall be measured and the wells shall be purged of at least three well volumes and until pH and electrical conductivity have stabilized. No-purge, low-flow, or other sampling techniques are acceptable if they are described in an approved Sampling and Analysis Plan. Depth to groundwater shall be measured to the nearest 0.25 inches. Groundwater elevations shall be calculated. Samples shall be collected using approved USEPA methods. Groundwater monitoring shall include, at a minimum, the monitoring specified in Table 4 below. Monitoring shall only occur during the periods the WWTF discharges to the leach field system.

Table 4 – Groundwater Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Groundwater Elevation (See 1. below)	0.25 inches	Calculated	Monthly	Annually
Depth to Groundwater (See 2 below)	0.25 inches	Measurement	Monthly	Annually
Total Coliform Organisms	MPN/100 mL	Grab	Quarterly	Annually
EC	µmhos/cm	Grab	Quarterly	Annually
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	mg/L	Grab	Annually	Annually

1. Groundwater elevation shall be based on depth to water using a surveyed measuring point elevation on the well/piezometer and a surveyed reference elevation.
2. If groundwater depth is five feet or less and the Facility is currently receiving wastewater flow, the Discharger shall contact the Central Valley Water Board and Mariposa County and propose how it intends to comply with Mariposa County's minimum groundwater separation distance of five feet (e.g., tank and haul the effluent to a different wastewater treatment facility).

REPORTING

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 discernable. 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.

All regulatory documents, submissions, materials, data, monitoring reports, and correspondence shall be converted to a searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) and submitted electronically. Documents that are less than 50MB should be emailed to: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the appropriate Regional Water Board office, in this case 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706.

To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15,
Place ID: 227217,
Facility Name: Glacier Point WWTF,
Order: 2014-0153-DWQ-R5349

A. Semi-Annual Monitoring Reports

Semi-annual reports (January-June and July through December) shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board by **1st August and February 1st**. The reports shall bear the certification and signature of the Discharger's authorized representative. At the minimum, the semi-annual reports shall include:

1. Results of all required monitoring.
2. A comparison of monitoring data to the discharge specifications, applicable effluent limits, disclosure of any violations of the NOA and/or General Order, and an explanation of any violation of those requirements. (Data shall be presented in tabular format).
3. Copies of laboratory analytical report(s) and chain of custody form(s).

B. Annual Monitoring Reports

Annual Reports shall be submitted to the Regional Water Board by **March 1st 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. A groundwater monitoring report summarizing the groundwater data collected during the calendar year with an analysis of the data and groundwater flow directions performed under the supervision of a California licensed professional.
3. An evaluation of the performance of the WWTF, including discussion of the 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.
4. Copies of laboratory analytical report(s) and chain of custody form(s).
5. 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.
6. A discussion of any data gaps and potential deficiencies/redundancies in the monitoring system or reporting program.
7. The name and contact information for the wastewater operator responsible for operation, maintenance, and system monitoring.

C. State Water Board Volumetric Annual Reporting

Per [State Water Resources Control Board's Water Quality Control Policy](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_recycling_policy/) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_recycling_policy/), amended in December 2018, dischargers of treated wastewater and recycled water are required to report annually monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. The Discharger shall submit an annual report to the State Water Board by **April 30 of each calendar year** furnished with the information detailed below. The Discharger must submit this annual report containing monthly data in electronic format via the State Water Board's Internet GeoTracker system (<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>). Required data shall be submitted to the GeoTracker database under a site-specific global identification number. Any data will be made publicly accessible as machine readable datasets. The Discharger must report all applicable items listed below:

1. **Influent.** Monthly volume of wastewater collected and treated by the wastewater treatment plant.
2. **Production.** Monthly volume of wastewater treated, specifying level of treatment.
3. **Discharge.** Monthly volume of treated wastewater discharged to land, where beneficial use is not taking place, including evaporation or percolation ponds, overland flow, or spray irrigation disposal, excluding pasture of fields with harvested grounds.
4. **Reuse.** Monthly volume of recycled water distributed.
5. **Reuse Categories.** Annual volume of treated wastewater distributed for beneficial use in compliance with California Code of Regulations, title 22 in each of the use categories listed below:
 - a. Agricultural irrigation: pasture or crop irrigation.
 - b. Landscape irrigation: irrigation of parks, greenbelts, and playgrounds; school yards; athletic fields; cemeteries; residential landscaping, common areas; commercial landscaping; industrial landscaping; and freeway, highway, and street landscaping.
 - c. Golf course irrigation: irrigation of golf courses, including water used to maintain aesthetic impoundments within golf courses.
 - d. Commercial application: commercial facilities, business use (such as laundries and office buildings), car washes, retail nurseries, and appurtenant landscaping that is not separately metered.
 - e. Industrial application: manufacturing facilities, cooling towers, process water, and appurtenant landscaping that is not separately metered.
 - f. Geothermal energy production: augmentation of geothermal fields.

- g. Other non-potable uses: including but not limited to dust control, flushing sewers, fire protection, fill stations, snow making, and recreational impoundments.
- h. Groundwater recharge: the planned use of recycled water for replenishment of a groundwater basin or an aquifer that has been designated as a source of water supply for a public water system. Includes surface or subsurface application, except for seawater intrusion barrier use.
- i. Reservoir water augmentation: the planned placement of recycled water into a raw surface water reservoir used as a source of domestic drinking water supply for a public water system, as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code, or into a constructed system conveying water to such a reservoir (Water Code § 13561).
- j. Raw water augmentation: the planned placement of recycled water into a system of pipelines or aqueducts that deliver raw water to a drinking water treatment plant that provides water to a public water system as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code (Water Code § 13561).
- k. Other potable uses: both indirect and direct potable reuse other than for groundwater recharge, seawater intrusion barrier, reservoir water augmentation, or raw water augmentation.

A letter transmitting the monitoring reports, excluding the State Water Board Volumetric Report, 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:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

The Discharger shall begin implementing the above monitoring program upon the rescission of WDRs Order 96-215.

Ordered by:

Original Signed by Scott Hatton for:
PATRICK PALUPA, Executive Officer

11/6/20
(Date)

GLOSSARY

BOD ₅	Five-day biochemical oxygen demand
CaCO ₃	Calcium carbonate
DO	Dissolved oxygen
EC	Electrical conductivity at 25° C
FDS	Fixed dissolved solids
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TKN	Total Kjeldahl nitrogen
TSS	Total suspended solids
Continuous	The specified parameter shall be measured by a meter continuously.
24-hr Composite	Samples shall be a flow-proportioned composite consisting of at least eight aliquots over a 24-hour period.
Daily	Every day except weekends or holidays.
Twice Weekly	Twice per week on non-consecutive days.
Weekly	Once per week.
Twice Monthly	Twice per month during non-consecutive weeks.
Monthly	Once per calendar month.
Quarterly	Once per calendar quarter.
Semiannually	Once every six calendar months (i.e., two times per year) during non-consecutive quarters.
Annually	Once per year.
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
mg/kg	Milligrams per kilogram
mL/L	Milliliters [of solids] per liter
µg/L	Micrograms per liter
µmhos/cm	Micromhos per centimeter
gpd	Gallons per day
MPN/100 mL	Most probable number [of organisms] per 100 milliliter

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO: Scott J. Hatton
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer

FROM: Alexander S. Mushegan
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
RCE 84208

Denise Soria
Water Resource Control Engineer

DATE: 6 November 2020



APPLICABILITY OF COVERAGE UNDER STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD ORDER WQ 2014-0153-DWQ; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE; YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK; GLACIER POINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY; MARIPOSA COUNTY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 96-215 regulates the discharge of treated domestic wastewater for the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Yosemite National Park (National Park Service or Discharger) Glacier Point Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) in Mariposa County. WDRs 96-215 allows a maximum daily flow of 7,500 gallons per day (gpd) to leach fields. WDRs Order 96-215 needs to be updated to ensure the discharge is consistent with Central Valley Water Board plans and policies.

On 17 April 2020, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff received a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) from the Discharger applying for coverage under State Water Resources Control Board's Water Quality Order 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). The RWD includes a Form 200 signed by Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent with the Yosemite National Park Service and a technical report signed and stamped by Mr. Brian W. Fulce, a California registered civil engineer (RCE 57270) with Fulce Engineering Inc. Additional information was submitted on 18, 19, and 21 August 2020.

This memorandum provides a summary of Central Valley Water Board staff's review of the RWD and the applicability of the discharge to be covered under the General Order.

DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGE

The WWTF is about 16 miles east of Highway 41 in Mariposa County (Township 2 South, Range 22 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian [MDB&M]). A site map is shown on **Attachment A** of the Notice of Applicability (NOA). According to the RWD, wastewater is generated from an existing visitor comfort station (Area 1), existing day use concessions building (Area 2), and existing seasonal National Park Service employee living quarters (Area 3) open from approximately May through October.

The WWTF flow schematic is show on **Attachment B** of the NOA. The WWTF consists an existing 15,000-gallon septic tank (collects wastewater from Areas 1 and 2), two lift stations (one existing and one new), a new 2,000-gallon septic tank (collects wastewater from Area 3), a new 483-gallon concrete dosing tank (where all wastewater is commingled), and a new leach field system constructed in 2019 with a disposal capacity of 15,000 gpd. The new leach field installed in 2019 is located south of the employee quarters (Area 3) and consists of four zones (labeled Zone A through Zone D). Zones A through C have 7 laterals each, and Zone D has 9 laterals. Seasonal high groundwater made it difficult to use the former leach field system. Therefore, the Discharger decided to construct the new leach field in a new location. There are twelve piezometers (PZ-20 through PZ-31) within the new leach field

The new leach field area slopes to the northeast at about 19 percent. The former leach field experienced seasonal high ground water and, therefore, in 2019 the Discharger added the new leach field area. The existing leach field system will no longer be used and be abandoned. According to the RWD, the septic tanks are pumped at the end of the visitor season (around October) and solids are hauled to the EI Portal WWTF about 18 miles from Glacier Point, which is regulated by WDRs R5-2019-0069/NPDES No. CA0081759.

Waste Discharge Requirements 96-215 includes the following conditions and effluent limits:

- a) Wastewater shall remain underground at all times.
- b) The daily maximum discharge flow shall not exceed 7,500 gpd.
- c) Septic tanks shall be pumped each fall, at the close of seasonal operations, whenever it appears that sludge or grease will begin to carry-over into the leach field before the next inspection, or when solids accumulation in any of the tanks is 75 percent of the usable solids storage volume of the tank, whichever is more restrictive. If the tanks are found to be subjective to seasonal inflow/infiltrations, they shall also be pumped.
- d) Objectionable odors originating at the facility shall not be perceivable beyond the limits of the wastewater treatment and disposal areas.

- e) Treatment and disposal facilities shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to prevent inundation or washout due to floods with a 100-year return frequency.

Based on Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) from January 2016 through December 2018, the monthly average flows generated at the WWTF range from 185 to 3,377 gpd. Table 1 below shows the monthly average flow discharged to the leach fields. The Glacier Point WWTF was closed for the 2019 season due to a major rockslide that occurred in the winter of 2018 that severed the power line supplying power to Glacier Point area. Therefore, the National Park decided to close the restrooms for the 2019 season.

Table 1 – Monthly Average Wastewater Flows (in gallons per day)

Month	2016	2017	2018
January	---	---	---
February	---	---	---
March	---	---	---
April	---	---	---
May	---	---	185
June	188	---	429
July	191	367	221
August	---	2,409	195
September	1,364	185	3,377
October	---	---	259
November	---	---	---
December	---	---	---

POTENTIAL THREAT TO WATER QUALITY

The disposal area consists of a piezometer monitoring network of a total of 15 piezometers. Three piezometers (PZ-1, PZ-2, and PZ-10) were constructed in 2016 and are outside of the new leach field boundaries. Twelve piezometers (PZ-20 through PZ-31) were constructed in 2019 and are within the new leach field. According to the 18 February 2020 as-built drawings, the piezometers were constructed at a total depth of 12 feet below ground surface (bgs). The piezometers have 10 feet of screen with a 0.02-inch slot size and a filter pack of sand from 1.5 to 12 feet bgs with a bentonite seal from the surface to a depth of 1.5 feet.

In October 2015, TECHNICON Engineering Services, Inc. was contracted to access subsurface soil conditions of the proposed leach field location. The Infiltration Feasibility Report completed by TECHNICON Engineering Services, Inc., was signed and stamped by Mr. Stephen P. Plauson, a California registered geotechnical engineer (RGE 2731). Percolation tests P-1 through P-4 showed percolation rates ranging from 0.8 to 2 minutes per inch (MPI) and percolation tests P-5 through P-8 showed percolation rates ranging from 0.5 to 1.0 MPI at the old leach field. Shallow soils in the area (one to

four feet) consists of silty sand followed by sandy silt, silty sands with gravel until weathered granite occurs. Granite is encountered at about 10 to 12 feet bgs.

Table 5: *Minimum Depth to Groundwater and Minimum Soil Depth from the Bottom of Dispersal System*, of the General Order, the minimum depth to groundwater required for soils with percolation rates between 1 MPI and 5 MPI is 20 feet bgs. The disposal area experiences seasonal high groundwater during the spring and early summer. According to the RWD, Mariposa County requires a minimum separation between the bottom of the leach field and groundwater to be five feet. With the highest seasonal groundwater at about 10 feet bgs, the discharge area does not meet this requirement. To address the issue of potentially high groundwater the Discharger installed piezometers within the new leach field to monitor for high groundwater.

NITROGEN LIMIT EVALUATION

Attachment 1 of the General Order includes five site-specific considerations (Step A) that shall be considered when evaluating a discharge and the need for nitrogen effluent limits. These five site-specific considerations include: flow, groundwater depth, percolation rate, wastewater strength, and if nitrogen is of concern in the area. The proposed flow rate is less than 20,000 gpd. In accordance with the requirements in the General Order, discharges with a flow rate less than 20,000 gpd are not required to meet a nitrogen effluent limitation.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Monitoring requirements included in the following sections from Attachment C of the General Order are appropriate for this discharge:

- Septic Tank Monitoring
- Subsurface Disposal Area Monitoring
- Groundwater Monitoring
- Solids Disposal Monitoring

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

As part of the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Basin Plan amendments (Resolution R5-2018-0034) incorporating new programs for addressing ongoing salt and nitrate accumulation in the Central Valley at its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting. On 16 October 2019, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Resolution 2019-0057 approving the Central Valley Water Board Basin Plan amendments and also directed the Central Valley Water Board to make targeted revisions to the Basin Plan amendments within one year from the approval of the Basin Plan amendments by the Office of Administrative Law. The Office of Administrative Law approved the Basin Plan amendments on 15 January 2020 (OAL Matter No. 2019-1203-03).

Pursuant to the Basin Plan amendments, discharges will receive a Notice to Comply with instructions and obligations for the Salt Control Program within one year of the effective date of the amendments. The Salt Notice to Comply letters should be issued in the next couple of months. Upon receipt of the Notice to Comply, the Discharger will have no more than six months to submit their Notice of Intent informing the Central Valley Water Board of their choice between Option 1 (Conservative Salinity Permitting Approach) or Option 2 (Alternative Salinity Permitting Approach).

For the Nitrate Control Program, the WWTF and disposal areas are approximately 92 miles northeast of Groundwater Basin 5-022.04 (San Joaquin Valley – Merced) in a non-prioritized basin/sub-basin. Implementation within a non-prioritized basin/sub-basin will occur as directed by the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer.

[More information on the Salt and Nitrate Control Program](https://www.cvsalinity.org/public-info) may be found on the internet (<https://www.cvsalinity.org/public-info>).