



RM 393298



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

17 January 2014

Charles Lackey, Director
County of Kern
Engineering, Surveying & Permit Service Department
2700 "M" Street, Suite 570
Bakersfield, CA 93301-2370

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

WATER QUALITY ORDER 97-10-DWQ, GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES TO LAND BY SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS, COUNTY OF KERN, COUNTY SERVICE AREA 56, TRACT 3848, WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS, KERN COUNTY

The County of Kern (County), County Service Area (CSA) 56, Tract 3848, Wastewater Treatment Systems (WWTS) provides sewage service for individual residential septic tanks to leachfield systems. Discharges from the WWTS are regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. 78-038. The WDRs are obsolete, inconsistent with current plans and policies of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board), and need to be updated.

On 16 September 2013, the Central Valley Water Board staff received an application and letter from the County accepting coverage of the discharge under *Water Quality Order 97-10-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (hereafter General Order).

Based on the findings of the original WDRs, information from self-monitoring reports and facility file, and information provided in the recent application, the discharge meets the conditions of the General Order. The discharge is hereby covered under *Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land by Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems*. The WWTS is assigned Notice of Applicability (NOA) No. 97-10-DWQ-R5137.

The following requirements contained within the General Order apply to the subject discharge:

1. All Section A Prohibitions;
2. Section B Requirement Nos. 1.a-1.d, 2.a-2.b, and 5;
3. All Section C Ground Water and Surface Water Limitations;
4. Section D Provision Nos. 1.a-1.v, 2.a-2.b, and 4; and
5. All Attachment B Standard Provisions and Reporting for Waste Discharge Requirements.

KARL E. LONGLEY ScD, P.E., CHAIR | PAMELA C. CREEDON P.E., BCCE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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The following sections of Attachment A, Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) 97-10-DWQ, apply to the discharge:

1. Septic Tank Monitoring, and
2. Reporting.

LOCATION

The County manages the WWTS discharges for CSA 56, Tract 3848, in the Rosedale area. The WWTS are approximately seven miles west of Bakersfield in Section 20, Township 29 South, Range 26 East, MDB&M. The site lies within the Kern Delta Hydrologic Sub Area of the South Valley Hydrologic Unit (557.10) of the Tulare Lake Basin.

The WWTS are in the Tulare Lake Basin. The *Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin, Second Edition* (hereafter Basin Plan), designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve water quality objectives for all waters of the Basin.

DESCRIPTION

The WWTS facilities consist of individual on-site septic tanks, and the effluent is primarily conveyed to a leachfield on each lot. Each septic tank and leachfield is owned by the individual lot owner. Domestic wastewater is generated from 51 different lots, located in Tract 3848. The design capacity for the WWTS is 17,000 gallons per day. Domestic wastewater is generated solely from the single-family homes and flow fluctuations are dependent on the number of residents.

The natural surface water near the WWTS is the Kern River. The existing and potential beneficial uses of the Kern River are municipal and domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial service supply, industrial process supply, hydropower generation, water contact recreation, non-contact water recreation, warm freshwater habitat, wildlife habitat; rare, threatened, or endangered species; and groundwater recharge. The beneficial uses of groundwater are municipal and domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial process supply, industrial service supply, water contact recreation, non-contact water recreation, and wildlife habitat.

FACILITY-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the above requirements, the County shall comply with the following:

1. Discharge of wastewater at a location or in a manner different from that described above is prohibited.
2. The County shall ensure the WWTS are operated in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order.

3. The County shall retain records of each inspection, by lot, including the date of inspection, and any measured readings and calculations performed. The County shall also record the condition of the tanks and leachfields, and the date that they were cleaned or repaired, and who conducted such services. The presence or absence of surfacing effluent shall be noted for each inspection.
4. When the County determines that an individual leachfield has failed, or is in danger of failing, it shall take appropriate action to assure the system is repaired in a timely manner to the satisfaction of the Kern County Environmental Health Director.
5. The County shall ensure that septic tanks that are cracked or otherwise damaged are promptly repaired.
6. The County shall submit the required annual fee (as specified in the annual billing issued by the State Water Resources Control Board), until the NOA is officially terminated.
7. Failure to abide by the conditions of the General Order and this letter authorizing applicability, including its monitoring and reporting requirements, could result in enforcement actions, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, please contact Dale Harvey at (559) 445-6190.



Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Water Quality Order No. 97-10-DWQ