



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

5 October 2021

Gerald Chooljian
Del Rey Packing Company Dehydrator
5287 S. Del Rey Avenue
Del Rey Avenue, CA 93616

CERTIFIED MAIL
7018 3090 0001 1080 7263

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2020-0002
WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR
SMALL FOOD PROCESSORS, WINERIES, AND RELATED AGRICULTURAL
PROCESSORS WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

GERALD CHOOLJIAN AND DEL REY PACKING COMPANY.,
DEL REY PACKING DEHYDRATOR
FRESNO COUNTY
(ENROLLEE # R5-2020-0002-0087)

On 20 February 2020, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted Resolution R5-2020-0002, *Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Food Processors, Wineries, and Related Agricultural Processors within the Central Valley Region* (Small Food Processor Waiver or Waiver). We are in receipt of your Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) received on 6 July 2021, requesting to enroll the Del Rey Packing Dehydrator (Facility) under Tier 3 conditions of the Waiver as an existing discharger.

The Facility is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order 96-198 for the discharge of raisin processing and dehydrating wastewater to land. In 2018, the Facility ceased the discharge of raisin process wastewater. With the removal of raisin process wastewater from the discharge, the volume and quality of the discharge from the dehydrating operations meets the conditions of discharge under the Waiver.

Tier 3 allows land application of up to 1,000,000 gallons of wastewater per year for irrigation of landscaping or crops and land application of residual solids associated with that volume of wastewater. Any process wastewater or residual solids in excess of

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

those amounts must be disposed of off-site at an appropriately permitted facility. If you wish to land apply more wastewater or residual solids, you must submit a Report of Waste Discharge to obtain waste discharge requirements prior to increasing the discharge volume above 1,000,000 gallons per year.

Based on the information provided in the RWD, we have determined that the discharge meets the required conditions for approval under the Waiver. You are hereby assigned enrollee number **R5-2020-0002-0087**. A [copy of the Waiver](#) and the [Waiver Attachments](#) are enclosed and available on the Central Valley Water Board's website. (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2020-0002_waiver_wdrs.pdf and https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2020-0002_waiver_atts.pdf)

Coverage under Waiver R5-2020-0002-0087 will become effective upon rescission of WDRs Order 96-198, tentatively scheduled for the 9/10 December 2021 Board Meeting. Please familiarize yourself with the contents of the Waiver, including the Conditions of Discharge (Waiver Attachment A) and Monitoring and Reporting Program (Waiver Attachment B). The discharge must be managed in accordance with the requirements contained in the Conditions of Discharge and the information submitted in the RWD.

DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

Gerald Chooljian and Del Rey Packing Company (Discharger) own and operate the dehydrating facility (Facility) at 3693 Indianola Avenue in Fresno County as shown in Attachment A. The Facility is located approximately two miles north of the community of Del Rey (Section 28, Township 14 South, Range 22 East, MDB&M). Facility operations include dehydrating grapes to produce raisins. On average the Facility processes approximately 3,000 tons of raisins each year. Activities that generate process wastewater include tray washing, fruit rinse water, and equipment wash down. On average, the Facility generates about 325,000 gallons of wastewater annually during the processing season from August through November. A minor amount of process wastewater may be generated at other times of the year, if needed, to recondition raisins due to a wet season.

The wastewater is pre-screened and clarified to reduce the organic load then passes through floor drains and is collected in a concrete sump. A sump pump is used to pump the wastewater into a pipeline and send it to the land application areas where it is applied to approximately 52 acres of grapes and about 4 acres of winter oats, barley, and/or rye for winter hay or spring grazing. According to the Discharger, the land application areas will be managed to ensure even distribution of wastewater and the lines will be flushed with fresh water at the end of each day to minimize odors.

On average, the Facility's operations will generate approximately eight tons of residual solids annually including leaves and stems. Solids are stored in bins and spread within the land application areas on a daily basis.

MONITORING AND REPORTING

Attachment B of the Waiver includes monitoring and reporting requirements that you must comply with, including routine monitoring and reporting to the Central Valley Water Board. Please review the Monitoring and Reporting Program closely and establish the appropriate record keeping system so that you are able to complete the required Annual Monitoring Report form, which is also contained in Attachment B of the Waiver.

By **February 1 of each year**, the Annual Monitoring Report must be submitted to our office, even if there is no discharge during the reporting year. The 2021 Annual Monitoring Report is due **1 February 2022**.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The Waiver includes specific and general conditions with which you must comply. You must maintain control over the discharge and operate in accordance with the information provided in your RWD and this Notice of Applicability (NOA).

Please review this NOA carefully to ensure that it completely and accurately reflects the facility name, location, and details of the proposed discharge. Failure to comply with the requirements of the Waiver may result in enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code, which could include civil liability. Discharge of wastes not described in the Conditions of Discharge (Attachment A) of the Waiver is prohibited.

Please note that the Waiver will expire on **20 February 2025**, after which you must either cease the discharge or do one of the following:

1. Submit a new RWD with a filing fee (if required) to obtain coverage under a subsequently adopted waiver, or
2. Submit a RWD with a filing fee to apply for individual or general Waste Discharge Requirements.

SALT AND NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAMS

At its 31 May 2018 Board Meeting 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 (i.e., Salt and Nitrate Control Programs). These Basin Plan amendments became effective on 17 January 2020. A Notice to Comply for the Salt Control Program was issued to Del Rey Packing Company (CV-SALTS ID 1952) on 5 January 2021. As required by the Notice to Comply, the Del Rey Packing Company submitted a Notice of Intent and elected to join the Priority and Optimization Study (or P&O Study) under Pathway 2. Payment for the P&O Study was submitted on 6 August 2021.

For the Nitrate Control Program, dischargers that are unable to comply with stringent nitrate requirements will be required to take on alternative compliance approaches that involve providing replacement drinking water to persons whose drinking water is affected by nitrates. Dischargers may comply with the Nitrate Control Program either individually (Pathway A) or collectively as part of a Management Zone Group (Pathway B). Del Rey Packing Company falls within Groundwater Sub-Basin 5-022.08 (San Joaquin Valley – Kings Basin), a Priority 1 basin. A Notice to Comply for the Nitrate Control Program was issued to Del Rey Packing Company on 29 May 2020. To comply with the Nitrate Control Program the Del Rey Packing Company joined in the initial formation of the Kings Management Zone Group (Pathway B).

DOCUMENT SUBMITTALS

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: centralvalleyfresno@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: Del Rey Packing Dehydrator
Program: Non-15
Order: R5-2020-0002-0087
CIWQS Place ID: 219496

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
Fresno Office
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706

All documents, including responses to inspections and written notifications, submitted to comply with this Waiver 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 Waiver, and notification for termination of coverage under the Waiver, shall be directed, via the paperless office system, to the WDR Permitting Unit, attention Katie Carpenter. Ms. Katie Carpenter can be reached at (559) 445-5551 or by email at Katie.Carpenter@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, sections 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

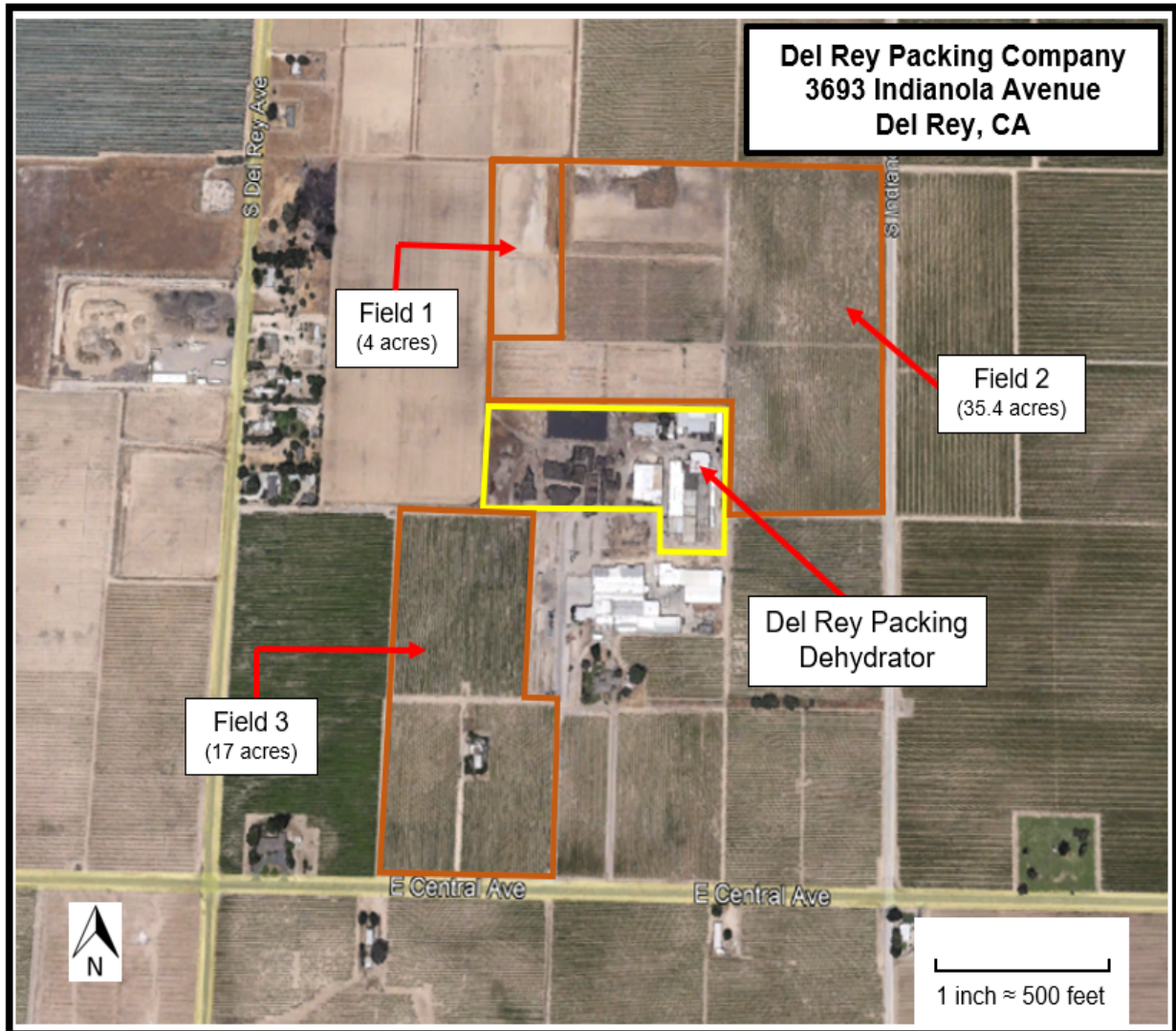
date of this NOA falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Resources Control Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. [Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions](#) may be found on the internet or will be provided upon request.
(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality)

Original Signed by Scott J. Hatton for:
Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachments: Attachment A - Site Map

Enclosure: Resolution R5-2020-0002 (Discharger only)

cc w/o encl: Russell Walls, Central Valley Water Board, Fresno (via email)
Donald Ikemiya, Provost and Pritchard, Visalia (via email)



ATTACHMENT A – SITE MAP
RESOLUTION NO. R5-2020-0002-0087
GERALD CHOOLJIAN AND DEL REY PACKING COMPANY
DEL REY PACKING DEHYDRATOR
FRESNO COUNTY