

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

364 Knollcrest Drive #205, Redding, CA 96002

REVISED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

**ADOPTION OF CEASE AND DESIST ORDER
FOR
CHESTER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
CHESTER SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT
PLUMAS COUNTY**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS ITEM WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO BE HEARD AT THE
APRIL 2021 BOARD MEETING**

The Chester Public Utility District (Discharger) owns and operates the Chester Sewage Treatment Plant (Facility) in the community of Chester, Plumas County. The Facility consists of a bar screen, flow measurement device, six stabilization ponds connected in series, and a chlorine contact basin for disinfection when discharging to surface water. Wastewater is discharged from Discharge Point 001 to Lake Almanor, a water of the United States or Discharge Point 002, a series of four constructed wetland ponds on the Discharger's property. The discharge is regulated under an existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, Order R5-2021-0022, adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on 22 April 2021.

The Discharger has been subject to several CDOs in the past beginning in 1989 and continuing to present. In large part, these CDOs have required the Discharger to reduce excessive inflow and infiltration into their collection system, improve biological treatment, and increase storage capacity of the Facility to comply with the seasonal discharge prohibition to Lake Almanor. Despite ongoing efforts by the Discharger, Facility improvements to date have not yet resulted in consistent permit compliance during periods of discharge to Lake Almanor. Specifically, the Discharger has historically violated permit effluent limits for BOD/TSS percent reduction, total coliform, and occasionally ammonia.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) will consider adoption of a tentative Cease and Desist Order (CDO) for the Facility. The tentative CDO provides interim effluent limits for total ammonia and total coliform and a time schedule for drafting a pollution prevention plan and conducting a preliminary engineering assessment to achieve compliance with these effluent limits. Staff recommends the Central Valley Water Board adopt the tentative CDO to regulate discharge from the Facility.

The Central Valley Water Board previously circulated the tentative CDO for a 30-day public comment period beginning on 26 February 2021. No comments were received. The tentative

CDO was originally noticed for hearing on 22 April 2021 but was inadvertently omitted from the Central Valley Water Board's meeting agenda. Therefore, by way of this Notice, the Central Valley Water Board is notifying the public of its intent to consider adoption of the proposed CDO at its upcoming 17/18 June 2021 Board meeting. This Notice incorporates the previous comment period and procedure provided in the 26 February 2021 Notice of Public Hearing. No additional written public comment period will be provided; however, interested persons and the Discharger will have an opportunity to speak at the hearing.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 17/18 June 2021
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Online Meeting

Anyone having questions regarding the hearing item should contact Jeremy Pagan at Jeremy.Pagan@waterboards.ca.gov. Interested parties may download the [tentative Orders](#) and related documents from the Central Valley Water Board's Internet website at (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). Copies of these documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 364 Knollcrest Avenue, #205, Redding, California 96002 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The [final meeting agenda](#) will be available at (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) at least 10 days before the meeting. The agenda will provide the anticipated date the hearing will be held for this item, the anticipated order of all agenda items, and any change in hearing location. The Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the proposed CDO.

The procedures governing Central Valley Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. [The procedures](#) may be obtained by accessing (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/). Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the [Central Valley Water Board's website](#) at (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml) or by contacting any one of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to the Central Valley Water Board Redding Office at (530) 224-4845.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an email to agenda5@waterboards.ca.gov or call (530) 224-4845 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

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Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original signed

BRYAN J. SMITH, P.E.
Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer
14 May 2021