

**Temecula Valley Wine Country  
Questions and Answers Regarding Proposed General Order  
August 2010**

1. Can criteria be developed for projects to get approval prior to adoption of this general Order?

Response: Prior to adoption of this General Order, a project proponent has the option of submitting a report of waste discharge for a specific proposal, which would require redirection of staff from working on the preparation of the General Order to the review and processing of the individual application. This process would take at a minimum 30 days to do the initial review and then 140 days to prepare individual requirements.

2. What is the timeframe for completing the general order?

Response: As currently planned, the General Order will be completed in two phases. The first phase will address projects that are currently in the process of obtaining approval from the County of Riverside and do not need to wait for an amendment to the County's General Plan. The tentative schedule for the first phase estimates that the General Order will be completed by February/March 2011. Work on the second phase for all projects will be completed after adoption of the General Plan amendment.

3. What happens if we cannot come up with management measures that satisfy water quality standards?

The State Water Resources Control Board's Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 establishes the priorities, goals, objectives, and actions for the State and Regional Water Boards to help achieve their mission to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations. With regards to the goal to improve and protect groundwater quality in high use basin, such as the upper Santa Margarita Basin, the Strategic Plan notes that "wastes from intensive land use, such as urbanization and agriculture, will continue to degrade groundwater unless current management practices are improved through a comprehensive approach that takes into account the relationship between land use and potential impacts to water resources." The Strategic Plan identifies that "comprehensive groundwater management, coupled with sustainable land use practices that maximize natural recharge and regulate controllable discharges, can prevent or slow the rate of groundwater degradation due to intensive land use. Comprehensive salt management plans for those groundwater basins where increasing salinity threatens beneficial uses must be developed. However, considering the long-term buildup of pollutants (e.g., decades of application of agricultural fertilizers and imported irrigation water containing salts), wellhead treatment, coupled with brine disposal plans, may be needed as an element of a basin's management where groundwater is used for drinking water supply."

**Temecula Valley Wine Country  
Questions and Answers Regarding Proposed General Order  
August 2010**

4. Are centralized or on-site disposal wastewater systems better for this area?

Response: The San Diego Water Board's position on this issue, as stated in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9), is that "it is desirable that city and county governments prohibit the use of new community and individual sewerage systems where existing community sewerage systems are reasonably available. The determination of whether or not existing systems are reasonably available should be the responsibility of the local agency or agencies having jurisdiction over the project.

One key factor that must be considered in any community decision regarding a selection of centralized, decentralized, or some combination of the two is identifying the management program for the system. The responsibility for the management of the system must be clearly and legally assumed by an entity with the financial and legal capability to assure that the system provides protection to the quality of the waters of the State for the duration of the development served by the system.

5. What are the characteristics of the various types of wastes?

Response:

*Process Wastewater* contains mostly tap water used for washing of tanks, barrels, equipment, and floors. Depending on the cleaning process, caustic acid, citric oxide, sodium percarbonate, chlorine, sodium hydroxide, etc. may be present in the wastewater. A significant amount of lees (dead or residual yeast, or other particles that precipitate out of the wine) is also present in process wastewater. Lees is the source of the pollutant biochemical dissolved oxygen (BOD). The largest volumes of process wastewater are produced during the crushing season and during barrel washing. Constituents of concern include BOD, total suspended solids (TSS), total dissolved solids (TDS), nutrients, and trihalomethanes byproducts.

*Domestic Wastewater* contains human waste and greywater (wastewater from washing water). Constituents of concern include BOD, TSS, TDS, bacteria, and nutrients.

*Irrigation Return Water* is the surface and subsurface water that leaves a field following application of irrigation water. Constituents of concern include: TDS, nutrients, pesticides, and herbicides.

**Temecula Valley Wine Country  
Questions and Answers Regarding Proposed General Order  
August 2010**

6. Where can flexibilities be built into the general Order?

The general Order will establish performance standards and minimum requirements for eligibility. The Discharge will be able to select from a variety of management measures to comply with the performance standards.

7. What is the driving force behind the general Order?

Response: The driving force behind the Order was San Diego Water Board receiving several proposals for onsite wastewater treatment systems for projects in the area that raised concerns with compliance with the criteria prescribed in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9) for when the San Diego Water Board would defer its regulation of the systems to the County of Riverside. The key factor related to the evaluation of the cumulative impacts of the individual discharges on water quality. By addressing this issue in its entirety rather than piecemeal will facilitate the regulatory process for individual project proposals.

8. Who will have jurisdiction over the design of OWTS and other structural management measures?

Response: The San Diego Water Board could either establish prescriptive design criteria for OWTS in its General Order or refer to design criteria prescribed by the County of Riverside, requiring the project developer to obtain approval of the design from the County. For other structural management measures, the San Diego Water Board could also establish design criteria in its General Order or require a certification report by a license professional that the facility is designed to meet the performance standards established in the Order.

9. Is it better to wait until the General Order is adopted before starting construction plans?

Response: The San Diego Water Board can not answer this question. One objective of the General Order is to clarify the San Diego Water Board requirements for discharges of waste from activities expected to occur within the Temecula Valley Wine Country. The performance standards that are the basis for these requirements are contained in various existing San Diego Water Board regulatory documents. The bottom line is that the project proponent must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the San Diego Water Board that the discharge of pollutants to the environment from the future facility and operation will not cause or contribute to a violation of the water quality objectives established in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9) for surface and ground waters in the Santa Margarita Hydrologic Unit. If a project proponent has sufficient



**Temecula Valley Wine Country  
Questions and Answers Regarding Proposed General Order  
August 2010**

**Water Quality Objectives for Ground Waters in Upper Santa Margarita**

Concentrations not to be exceeded more than 10% of the time during any one year period.

Upper Santa Margarita Hydrologic Areas										
Constituent (mg/L or as noted)										
HA	Murrieta	Domenigoni	Auld	Pechanga	Pauba	Wolf	Wilson	Cave Rocks	Aguanga	Oakgrove
Unit Number	2.30	2.35	2.40	2.50	2.51	2.52	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90
TDS	750 <sup>c</sup>	2,000	500	500	750	750	500	500	500	500
Cl	300 <sup>c</sup>	-	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250
SO <sub>4</sub>	300 <sup>c</sup>	-	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250
%Na	60	-	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
NO <sup>3</sup> as NO <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>c</sup>	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Fe	0.3 <sup>c</sup>	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Mn	0.05 <sup>c</sup>	-	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
MBAS	0.5	-	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
B	0.75 <sup>c</sup>	-	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
ODOR	none	-	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	None
Turb (NTU)	5	-	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Color (Units)	15	-	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
F	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

12. What are some available management measures?

See Management Measures, attached