



San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

November 2, 2023

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Sent by email only: robert.kmetz@ocpw.ocgov.com

In reply refer to/attn.:
234038:MIzadmehr

Subject: Notice of Applicability for Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, Waste Discharge Requirements for Joplin Youth Center Onsite Wastewater Treatment System, San Diego County

Robert Kmetz:

This Notice of Applicability (NOA) is to inform Orange County Public Works (Discharger) that the Joplin Youth Center (Facility) onsite wastewater treatment system (OWTS) is anticipated to be enrolled in State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2014-0153-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems* (General Order). The Facility's enrollment in the General Order is effective upon adoption of Order No. R9-2023-0042, *An Order Rescinding Order No. 93-47, Waste Discharge Requirements for County of Orange, Joplin Youth Center, Orange County* (Order No. R9-2023-0042) by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board). Adoption of Order No. R9-2023-0042 will be considered at the regularly scheduled San Diego Water Board meeting on December 13, 2023.

The San Diego Water Board reviewed Order No. *93-47, Waste Discharge Requirements for County of Orange, Joplin Youth Center, Orange County*, as amended (Order No. 93-47) and the Discharger's record of compliance with Order No. 93-47. Order No. 93-47 is outdated and not as protective of water quality as the requirements specified in the General Order. Implementation of the General Order provides a more appropriate and consistent statewide approach to regulating small domestic wastewater treatment systems. While the Discharger may request to be regulated under individual waste discharge requirements, the Facility's enrollment in the General Order allows the San Diego Water Board to effectively and efficiently regulate discharges from small domestic wastewater treatment systems, while prioritizing the agency's limited resources.

CELESTE CANTÚ, CHAIR | DAVID GIBSON, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Facility OWTS discharges less than 100,000 gallons per day (gpd) and meets the enrollment eligibility criteria included in the General Order. An electronic copy of the General Order is available online at the following website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2014/wqo2014_0153_dwq.pdf

NOA FINDINGS AND REQUIREMENTS – The Discharger must comply with all applicable requirements in the General Order and any additional requirements included in this NOA, upon the effective date of enrollment in the General Order.

1. FACILITY AND DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Facility is located at 19480 Rose Canyon Road, Trabuco Canyon in Orange County, within the Upper Trabuco Hydrologic Subarea of the San Juan Hydrologic Unit. The Facility's OWTS includes a package wastewater treatment plant consisting of an equalization tank, two sequencing batch reactors (SBRs), and a percolation pond with a backup spray field for disposal. Domestic wastewater is collected from the Facility's restrooms, showers, kitchen sinks and washing machines.

2. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The General Order regulates discharges from new and existing small domestic wastewater treatment systems. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and consistent with Finding No. 32.a of the General Order, the action to enroll the Facility is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR) title 14, section 15301 (ongoing or existing projects), section 15302 (replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems), and section 15303 (new construction or conversion of small structures).

3. FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Discharger and operator of the Facility must be familiar with the requirements contained in the General Order, this NOA, and the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) in section 4 below.

The Discharger must comply with the prohibitions and specifications contained within the General Order, which are applicable to all wastewater systems. The Discharger also must comply with the following General Order specifications applicable to the Facility's specific treatment and/or disposal system.

- a. Required Technical Reports/Plans. The Discharger must submit the following plans by 5:00 p.m. on March 13, 2024, to the San Diego Water Board:
 - i. A Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan consistent with the requirements of General Order Provision E.1.a.

- ii. A Sampling and Analysis Plan consistent with the requirements of General Order Provision E.1.b.
- iii. A Sludge Management Plan consistent with the requirements of General Order Provision E.1.c.

Upon receipt of these plans by the San Diego Water Board, the Discharger must implement the plans.

- b. Prohibitions. The Discharger must comply with all prohibitions listed in section A of the General Order and all applicable requirements in the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan).¹
- c. Setback Requirements. The Discharger must ensure new discharges maintain the applicable setbacks specified in Table 3 of the General Order.
- d. Additional Applicable Requirements of the General Order. The Discharger must comply with all the requirements listed in sections B.1 (All Wastewater Systems), B.4 (Activated Sludge Systems), B.5 (Pond Systems), and B.7 (Land Application) of the General Order. Pursuant to section B.1.a of the General Order, the Discharger shall not discharge wastewater in excess of the flow limit(s) specified in this NOA. The Discharger is prohibited from discharging in exceedance of a monthly average effluent flow rate of 100,000 gpd, pursuant to Finding 27 of the General Order. The Discharger must further evaluate the discharge to determine if nitrogen effluent limitations are appropriate, if the monthly average effluent flow rate exceeds 20,000 gpd.

4. MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

The Discharger must comply with the monitoring requirements below, which are based on the MRP of the General Order.

- a. Reporting Frequency

The Discharger must submit quarterly and annual monitoring reports as described in sections A and B of Attachment C of the General Order. The Discharger's first quarterly report is the January– March 2024 Quarterly Report, which must be submitted to the San Diego Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on May 1, 2024. The Discharger's first annual report is the 2024 Annual Report, which must be submitted to the San Diego Water Board by March 1, 2025.
- b. Effluent Monitoring
 - i. The Discharger must collect a liquid grab sample of effluent from the SBRs tanks and combine them in equivalent amounts for a single analysis. The

¹ Web link to the Basin Plan:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/

Discharger must collect SBR tank effluent samples as close to the outlet pipe as practical. The Discharger must analyze the samples, and report the results as described in Table 1 below:

Table 1. SBR Tank Effluent Monitoring

Constituent	Units ¹	Sample Type	Sample Frequency ^{2,3}	Reporting Frequency ^{2,3}
Flowrate	gpd	Metered ⁴	Continuous	Annually
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Annually
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Annually

Table Notes:

- 1) mg/L denotes milligrams per liter.
- 2) Annually is defined as a period of 12 consecutive calendar months beginning January 1.
- 3) Quarterly is defined as a period of three consecutive calendar months beginning on January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1.
- 4) The Discharger may meter or estimate the effluent flowrate based on potable water supply meter readings or other approved method.

c. Percolation Pond Monitoring and Inspection

The Discharger must collect samples from a location that provides representative samples of the percolation pond. The Discharger must analyze the samples, and report the results as described in Table 2 below:

Table 2. Percolation Pond Monitoring and Inspection

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sample Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Annually
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Grab	Quarterly	Annually
Freeboard	0.1 feet	Measurement	Quarterly	Annually
Odors	--	Observation	Monthly	Annually
Berm Condition	--	Observation	Monthly	Annually

d. Land Application Area Monitoring

Land application area monitoring and inspecting must include the following:

Table 3. Land Application Area Monitoring

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Supplemental Irrigation	gpd	Meter ^a	Monthly	Quarterly
Wastewater Flow ^a	gpd	Meter ^a	Monthly	Quarterly

Constituent	Units	Sample Type	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Local Rainfall	Inches	Weather Station ^b	Monthly	Quarterly
Acreage Applied ^c	Acres	Calculated	Monthly	Quarterly
Application Rate ^d	gallons/acre/month	Calculated	Monthly	Quarterly
Soil Erosion Evidence	--	Observation	Monthly	Quarterly
Containment Berm Condition	--	Observation	Monthly	Quarterly
Soil Saturation/Ponding	--	Observation	Monthly	Quarterly
Nuisance Odors/Vectors	--	Observation	Monthly	Quarterly
Discharge Off-Site	--	Observation	Monthly	Quarterly

Table Notes:

- a. Meter requires meter reading, a pump run time meter, or other approved method.
- b. Weather station may be a site-specific station or a nearby government weather reporting station.
- c. Acreage applied denotes the acreage to which the Discharger applies wastewater.
- d. The Discharger may also report the application rate as inches/acre/month.

5. CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP

When control or ownership changes of the Facility 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 must be immediately forwarded to the Executive Officer for the San Diego Water Board.

6. ENFORCEMENT

The Discharger must review and ensure this NOA completely and accurately reflects the Facility's discharge. If the Discharger violates the terms or conditions listed in this NOA or the General Order, the San Diego Water Board may take enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liability. Prior to allowing changes to the wastewater strength, generation rate, or method of waste disposal, the Discharger must contact the San Diego Water Board to determine if submittal of a report of waste discharge is required.

The Discharger is responsible for compliance with the General Order and this NOA. Failure to comply with the requirements in the General Order and this NOA could result in an enforcement action as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code. Discharges of wastes other than treated domestic wastewater are prohibited.

7. ANNUAL FEES AND SAN DIEGO WATER BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

The discharge has a threat to water quality and complexity rating of 3-B. The annual fee corresponding to a threat to water quality and complexity of 3-B can be found using the current fee schedule.² Pursuant to CCR title 23, section 2200(a), footnote 2, dischargers covered by waste discharge requirements for municipal and domestic discharges with permitted flows of less than 50,000 gpd in categories 2-B, 2-C, 3-B, and 3-C will receive a 50 percent fee discount. The fee is due and payable on an annual basis until enrollment in the General Order is terminated by the San Diego Water Board. If the wastewater discharge ceases, the Discharger must provide written notice to enable the San Diego Water Board to terminate enrollment and billing.

Please review the conditions specified in this NOA and applicable sections of the General Order and notify the San Diego Water Board if for any reason the Discharger is not able to comply with any of the conditions specified.

Please submit all future monitoring reports and documents required by this NOA and the General Order to the San Diego Water Board by email. Email submittals must include a signed cover/transmittal letter with the facility name, facility contact information, and reference code **234038:Mizadmehr**. Monitoring reports, documents, and other email submittals must be sent to sandiego@waterboards.ca.gov. Routine email correspondence may be sent directly to individual San Diego Water Board staff members.

Documents that are 50 megabytes or larger should be transferred to a compact disc (CD) or universal serial bus (USB) drive and mailed to the San Diego Water Board. Board staff may request that specific individual items such as appendices to large/complex technical reports and/or large drawings, grading plans, or maps continue to be provided in paper format. If you have specific questions about email submittal procedures, please contact our Mission Support Services Unit by phone at 619-516-1990, or via email at sandiego@waterboards.ca.gov.

³ Web link to Fee Schedule:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/fees/water_quality/

Please contact Dr. Mahsa Izadmehr at (619) 521-8048 or via email at Mahsa.Izadmehr@waterboards.ca.gov if you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully,

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer

DWG:rnm:as:bn:mi

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Tech Staff Info & Use

Regulatory Measure IDs: 453767 (NOA) 398403 (WQ 2014-0153-DWQ)

Order No.: WQ 2014-0153-DWQ

Place ID: 234038

Party ID: 534684, 634540