Ca...ornia Regional Water Quality Control ..ard
North Coast Region

ORDER NO. R1-2000-81
ID NO. 1B79056OMEN

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

FOR

STIMSON LANE VINEYARDS & ESTATES – HOPLAND
13300 BUCKMAN DRIVE, HOPLAND
AND
McDOWELL VALLEY VINEYARDS

Mendocino County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter the Regional Water Board), finds that:

1. On July 26, 2000, Stimson Lane Ltd., dba Stimson Lane Vineyards & Estates-Hopland (hereinafter referred to as the discharger), submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD). The ROWD indicates a change of ownership of an existing winery presently governed by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 95-31 issued to the discharger's predecessor in interest.

2. The discharger has purchased the winemaking facility formerly known as Associated Vintage Group, Inc. and McDowell Valley Vineyards from Associated Vintage Group, Inc. The winery is located at 13300 Buckman Drive, Hopland within the Russian River drainage basin. The property is further described as Mendocino County Assessor's Parcel No. 050-080-13; and is located within the SW ¼ of Section 14, SE ¼ of Section 15, NE ¼ of Section 22 and NW ¼ of Section 23, T13N, R11W, MDB&M (latitude N 38 58' 70" and longitude W 123 02' 99") within the Hopland quadrangle as shown on Attachment "A".

3. The discharger has a lease agreement with McDowell Valley Vineyards to use the industrial wastewater treatment facility owned by McDowell Valley Vineyards. The treatment facility, located at 3811 Highway 175, is approximately ¼ mile from the winemaking facility and will be operated and maintained by the discharger. The treatment facility is further described as Mendocino County Assessor's Parcel No. 050-080-10 and is located within the N ½ Section 22, T13N, R11W, MDB&M as shown on Attachment "A".

4. The discharger anticipates production to be 450,000 cases of wine per year, based on a grape harvest estimate of 6,800 tons per year. This estimated average annual case production represents no increase in historical permitted operations at this winery. The discharger anticipates industrial wastewater flows for the calendar year will average 18,000 gallons per day in a calendar month. During the grape crush, industrial wastewater flows will average 23,000 gallons per day and a peak flow no greater than 42,000 gallons per day. Industrial wastewater consists primarily of washwater from the wine making process and related cleanup activities.

5. The industrial wastewater system removes winery solids through a float-controlled sump and rotary hydrosieve. Wastewater flows by gravity into a treatment pond system consisting of one five acre-foot (1,629,500 gallon) aerated pond, one five acre-foot (1,629,500 gallon) settling pond and one 320 acre-foot (104 million-gallon) final polishing reservoir. The aeration pond is designed to provide treatment for wastewater flows up to 36,000 gallons per day. Treated wastewater will be reused as necessary for frost protection and vineyard irrigation.

6. Solid waste (pomace, stems, seeds, lees, etc.) from the wine making process will be incorporated back into land under the control of the discharger.

7. Domestic waste collection, treatment and disposal will utilize an existing septic tank and leachfield system approved by the Mendocino County Department of Public Health.

8. The Regional Water Board *Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* includes water quality objectives and receiving water limitations.

9. The beneficial uses of the Russian River and its tributaries include:

   a. municipal and domestic supply
   b. agricultural supply
   c. industrial service supply
   d. industrial process supply
   e. groundwater recharge
   f. navigation
   g. hydropower generation
   h. water contact recreation
   i. non-contact water recreation
   j. commercial and sport fishing
   k. warm freshwater habitat
   l. cold freshwater habitat
   m. wildlife habitat
   n. migration of aquatic organisms
   o. spawning, reproduction, and/or early development of fish
   p. estuarine habitat
   q. aquaculture

10. Beneficial uses of areal groundwaters include:

    a. domestic water supply
    b. agricultural water supply
    c. industrial service supply
    d. industrial process supply

11. The discharge is presently governed by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 95-31, adopted by the Regional Water Board on April 27, 1995.

12. This project is exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.) as it involves the permitting of an existing facility involving no or negligible expansion of use under the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301.

13. The Regional Water Board has notified the discharger and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations.

14. The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

15. The permitted discharge is consistent with the provision of State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16 Statement of Policy with respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California. The impact on existing water quality will be insignificant.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 95-31 is rescinded and the discharger, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

A. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS

1. The discharge of any waste not specifically regulated by this Order is prohibited.

2. Creation of a pollution, contamination, or nuisance, as defined by Section 13050 of the California Water Code (CWC), is prohibited. [Health and Safety Code, Section 5411]

3. The discharge of waste to land that is not under the control of the discharger is prohibited, except as authorized under Section C (**SOLIDS DISPOSAL**) below.

4. The discharge of untreated or partially treated waste from anywhere within the collection, treatment, or disposal facility is prohibited.

5. The discharge of waste to the Russian River, its tributaries, or any other surface waters is prohibited.

6. The discharge of domestic waste, treated, or untreated, to surface waters is prohibited.

7. The use of treated wastewater shall be restricted to designated vineyards, pastures, or landscape irrigation areas.

8. Treated wastewater shall not be applied to the irrigation areas within two days of a forecasted rain event, during rainfall, 48 hours after a rainfall event or when soils are saturated.

B. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. Representative samples of the reused wastewater discharged for vineyard irrigation or frost protection shall not contain constituents in excess of the following limits:

Constituent	Unit	Monthly Average[1]	Daily Maximum
BOD (20° C, 5-day)	mg/l	50	80
Suspended Solids	mg/l	50	80
Settleable Solids	ml/l	0.2	1.0

2. The mean daily flow of wastewater shall not exceed 18,000 gallons per day averaged over a calendar month except as provided for in Section B.3 below.

3. The mean daily wastewater flow shall not exceed 23,000 gallons per day as averaged over the crush period[2].

4. The maximum daily wastewater flow shall not exceed 42,000 gallons per day.

5. The dissolved oxygen concentration in the treatment/holding ponds shall not be less than 1.0 mg/l at any time.

6. The discharger shall maintain at least 2 feet of freeboard in the treatment/holding ponds.

C. SOLIDS DISPOSAL

1. Collected screenings, sludges, and other solids removed from liquid wastes shall be disposed of at a legal point of disposal, and in accordance with the State Water Board promulgated provisions of Title 27, Division 2 of the California Code of Regulations or as waived pursuant to Section 13269 of the California Water Code.

2. Cultivated lands that receive solid wastes from the wine making process shall be managed to prevent ponding, runoff and erosion.

3. During wet weather conditions when solid wastes cannot be incorporated into the soil or hauled off-site for disposal, the solid wastes may be temporarily stored in a designated solids storage area out of the flood plain.

4. The discharge of leachate from solids storage areas or rainfall runoff which has come into contact with the solids being stored, to the Russian River or its tributaries is prohibited.

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1 The mean of all samples collected in a calendar month.

2 The crush period is defined as the time of year during which the facility is processing the seasonal grape harvest. A typical crush period is 60 days in length and may occur from August through November.

D. WATER RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Reclaimed water shall be managed in conformance with regulations contained in Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3, California Code of Regulations.

2. The use of treated wastewater that results in unreasonable use or waste of the treated wastewater is prohibited.

3. The use of treated wastewater that creates a condition of pollution or nuisance is prohibited.

4. The discharger shall be responsible to insure that all users of treated wastewater comply with the terms and conditions of this Order.

5. Reclaimed wastewater shall be applied in such a manner so as not to exceed vegetative demand or field capacity.

6. The application of treated wastewater shall be managed to prevent ponding, runoff, and erosion.

7. All piping, valves, and outlets shall be marked to differentiate treated wastewater from other sources of water.

8. There shall be no connection between a potable water supply and the treated wastewater distribution system.

9. There shall be no irrigation or impoundment of treated wastewater within 100 feet of any water well.

10. Adequate measures shall be taken to prevent the breeding of insects and other vectors of health significance.

11. Perimeter warning signs indicating use of non-potable water shall be posted at least every 500 feet with a minimum of a sign at each corner and access road.

E. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. A copy of this Order shall be maintained at the discharge facility and be available at all times to operating personnel.

2. Severability

   Provisions of these waste discharge requirements are severable. If any provision of these requirements is found invalid, the remainder of these requirements shall not be affected.

3. Operation and Maintenance

The discharger must maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible any facility or control system installed by the discharger to achieve compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

4. Change in Discharge

The discharger must promptly report to the Regional Water Board any material change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.

5. Change in Ownership

In the event of any change in control or ownership of land or waste discharge facilities presently owned or controlled by the discharger, the discharger must notify the succeeding owner or operator of the following items by letter, a copy of which must be forwarded to the Regional Water Board:

a. existence of this Order, and
b. the status of the discharger's annual fee account

6. Vested Rights

This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. The requirements prescribed herein do not authorize the commission of any act causing injury to persons or property, nor protect the discharger from his liability under federal, State, or local laws, nor create a vested right for the discharger to continue the waste discharge.

7. Monitoring

The discharger must comply with the Contingency Planning and Notification Requirements Order No. 74-151 and the Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R1-2000-81 and any modifications to these documents as specified by the Executive Officer. Such documents are attached to this Order and incorporated herein. Chemical, bacteriological, and bioassay analyses must be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the State Department of Health Services.

8. Inspections

The discharger shall permit authorized staff of the Regional Water Board:

a. entry upon premises in which an effluent source is located or in which any required records are kept;
b. access to copy any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of this Order;
c. inspection of monitoring equipment or records; and
d. sampling of any discharge.

9. Noncompliance

In the event the discharger is unable to comply with any of the conditions of this Order due to:

a. breakdown of waste treatment equipment;
b. accidents caused by human error or negligence; or
c. other causes such as acts of nature;

the discharger must notify the Executive Officer by telephone as soon as he or his agents have knowledge of the incident and confirm this notification in writing within two weeks of the telephone notification. The written notification shall include pertinent information explaining reasons for the noncompliance and shall indicate the steps taken to correct the problem and the dates thereof, and the steps being taken to prevent the problem from recurring.

10. Revision of Requirements

This Regional Water Board requires the discharger to file a report of waste discharge at least 120 days before making any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge. The Regional Water Board will review this Order periodically and may revise requirements when necessary.

Certification

I, Lee A. Michlin, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on October 27, 2000.

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Lee A. Michlin
Executive Officer

(stimsonlanevineyardswdrs)