Large Domestic General Order Workshop 1 – Preliminary Draft

CVCWA Teams Meeting

February 10, 2026

Agenda

- Introduction
- General Order Purpose & Eligibility
- Overview of LDGO & Process
- Key Provisions
- Other Review and/or Comment Areas
- Questions and Discussion
- Survey
- Next Steps

Introduction

CVCWA and its Participation in the General Order

Process For Input and Engagement

Desired Outcomes for Today

General Order Purpose & Eligibility

CVCWA Teams Meeting - February 10, 2026

February 4th Preliminary Draft LDGO

Purpose

The Central Valley Water Board currently regulates **approximately 200 Large WWTPs**. These facilities generally share common characteristics, including similar constituents of concern, concentration levels, disposal techniques, flow ranges, and treatment standards. Therefore, Large WWTPs that will be regulated under this **General Order are consistent with the criteria listed in Finding B.2 below, and therefore, it is appropriate to regulate these discharges under a general WDRs Order.** (See Wat. Code, § 13263, subd. (i).)

Finding A.3, e-pg. 5

Eligibility Criteria

Large WWTP (i.e., **facility designed to treat a monthly average flow of at least 100,000 gpd or 0.1 million gallons per day [MGD]**) must meet the following criteria:

a) The facility receives and treats **domestic wastewater from municipal and private community sources** and other sources with similar wastewater characteristics, including but not limited to national and state parks, hospitals, prisons, commercial centers, and airport terminals. Influent wastewater characteristics should conform to those of typical domestic wastewater as outlined in Table 1 contained in the attached Information Sheet.

b) The facility **does not receive influent from industrial sources unless they comply with** the applicable pretreatment requirements specified in the **Pretreatment Requirements** and Pretreatment Specifications of this General Order.

c) The **facility discharges wastewater to land, including but not limited to disposal ponds/fields (e.g., evaporation/percolation ponds) and non-potable reuse (recycled water) activities (e.g., agricultural or landscape irrigation**).

And use the appropriate treatment level to protect receiving water quality at the wastewater disposal area.

Finding A.5, e-pg. 6

Overview of LDGO & Process

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February 4th Preliminary Draft LDGO

February 4th Preliminary LDGO Includes:

- Public Notice
- Preliminary Notice of Intent
- Preliminary Large Domestic General Order
- Preliminary Monitoring and Reporting Program Template (Attachment A)

Does not yet include

- Information Sheet/Definitions
- ROWD/Notice of Intent Guidance Sheet

Referenced Permits/Orders but not Regulated under this Order

- **Recycled Water**
  - Treatment Requirements in LDGO, recycled water application and distribution regulated by Statewide Order WQ 2016-0068-DDW
  - Does not require application sites to be co-permittees if under Recycled Water G.O.
- **Sanitary Sewer Systems**, a.k.a. Collection Systems, Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ
- **Biosolids:** State Water Board Order No. 2004-0012-DWQ, *General Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Biosolids to Land For Use as a Soil Amendment in Agricultural, Silvicultural, Horticultural, and Land Reclamation Activities,* or individual order.

Process:

(e-pg.19)

1. Discharger(s) seeking regulatory coverage under the LDGO must file a ROWD/NOI with RWB. (e-pg.19)
2. RWB Staff determines if coverage is appropriate, or if a waiver of WDRs, Individual WDRs or a different general WDR “would better regulate the discharge."
3. If appropriate, RWB issues a Notice of Applicability (NOA) which identifies effluent limits, set-back conditions and site-specific requirements.
4. Specialized conditions may be included in an NOI, but it must be taken to the Board for approval.*
5. NOAs become effective when the current WDR is rescinded.*

Notice of Intent (NOI)

- Form 200
- Application fee (New Discharge)
- Wastewater System Description
- **Wastewater System Technical Report**
- **Groundwater Information**
- **Antideg Analysis**
- CEQA
- Collection System
- Operator Certification
- CV-SALTS
- Existing Effluent Limitations
- Water Supply
- **Sources of Wastewater Production**
- Compliance Schedule Request
- **Technical Reports**
- Certification

NOI Technical Reports

- CV-SALTS Evaluation
- Initial Pond Evaluation
- O & M Manual
  - Sludge Management Plan
  - Wastewater Disposal Management Plan
  - Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Plan
  - Training Records Log
- Recycled Water Feasibility and Plan

LDGO Key Provisions

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List of Key Issues

- Effluent & Groundwater Limitations
- Pond Provisions
- BOD Loading Limits
- CV-SALTS Requirements
- Pretreatment
- Setbacks

Effluent Limits

Limitations III.A., e-pg. 34

Compliance schedules up to 24 months after NOA issued are available. Interim limit set at current permit levels. Longer compliance schedules must be adopted by the Board.

BOD/TSS (mg/l)

Treatment Level	Mo. Ave	Daily Max	Min Mo. % Removal
Secondary – Sac/SJ Basin	40	80	
Secondary – TL Basin	40	80	80
Tertiary	10	20	

Coliform-Secondary or Tertiary Treatment (MPN/100 ml)

7-Day Median	30-Day Max	Single Sample
2.2	23	240
23	240	240

Recycled Water

Total Coliform, Turbidity, Chlorine Residual – Title 22

Other Constituents/operational requirements – Title 22 Engineering report/approval letter

Plants with Nitrification/ Denitrification

Large WWTPs that provide full nitrification and denitrification shall comply with a total nitrogen effluent limitation of 10 mg/L (as a monthly average)

Limitation B.7, e-pg. 35

Tertiary Treatment Plant Requirements

- Title 22 Filtration
  - Traditional: Turbidity does not exceed 2 NTU average or 5 NTU more than 5% of time within a 24-hr period, or 10 NTU anytime.
  - Micro/ultra/nano-filtration or RO: Turbidity does not exceed 0.2 NTU more than 5% of time within a 24-hr period, or 0.5 NTU anytime.
- Title 22 Disinfection
  - Minimum Contact Time or inactivation or removal 99.999% virus.

Specification B.5, e-pg. 23

Groundwater Limitations

- *Cause or Contribute* constituents below or natural background, whichever greater:

a) MCLs and SMCLs (CV-SALTS related language)

b) Toxic substances, taste/odor producing constituents, cause nuisance, adversely affect beneficial uses

c) 2.2 MPN or greater coliform over 7-day period

Limitations III.A., e-pg. 34

Pond Lining – New, Reconstructed or Expanded Ponds (inc. sludge beds)

3. All new, reconstructed, and expanded treatment and storage ponds must be constructed with an **engineered liner**; emergency bypass pond lining may be required on a case-by-case basis. The engineered liner shall **meet a hydraulic conductivity limit of 1 x 10^{-6} centimeters per second** or less using one of the following:
   a. A compacted clay liner with a minimum clay thickness of two feet;
   b. A Portland cement concrete liner, designed to minimize cracking and infiltration;
   c. A synthetic liner, consisting of 40 thousandths of an inch (mil) synthetic geomembrane or a 60-mil high-density polyethylene liner installed over a prepared base or a secondary clay or concrete liner; or
   d. An equivalent engineered alternative.

Pond Lining – New, Reconstructed or Expanded Ponds (incl. sludge beds) (cont.)

- Exemption possible with approved technical demonstration.
- Design report required
  - Design plans and specifications
  - Geotechnical investigation
  - Construction Quality Assurance Plan (i.e., how will it be tested)
  - Operation and Maintenance Plan
    - Procedures for monitoring liner to ensure in good condition
    - Methods for detecting liner failure, action leakage level for each pond with a leachate detection system.

Specifications C, e-pg. 24-25

Ponds – Groundwater Separation

12. **A minimum five-foot separation between the base of any pond[9] and seasonal high groundwater shall be maintained at all times.** Dischargers with **wastewater ponds constructed prior to the adoption date of this Order with less than the five-foot minimum separation from groundwater must cease discharges to these ponds or modify the ponds to achieve the minimum five-foot separation no later than ten years from the date of enrollment in this Order.** Ponds that receive high-quality treated wastewater (i.e., disinfected secondary and disinfected tertiary wastewater) or are adequately lined (i.e., with a hydraulic conductivity of less than 1 x 10-6 cm/s) are exempt from this requirement.

[9] The lowest physical point within a pond where wastewater collects, either within the pond or within the collection system, if applicable (e.g., leachate removal and collection system).

Specifications C.12, e-pg. 26

All Ponds:
Treatment ponds, storage ponds, emergency storage/bypass ponds, etc.

Threat Assessment

- Initial Pond Evaluation Report in NOI
- Depending on RWB evaluation, a revised Pond Evaluation Report may be required in NOA
  - Initial report incomplete or appears to pose a threat to underlying groundwater quality.
- In that case: Submit a Workplan (within two years of NOI), including :
  - A Hydraulic Conductivity Evaluation Work Plan
  - Plan for obtaining groundwater quality monitoring data around the WWTP
  - Timeline
- Annual Status Updates
- Revised Pond Evaluation Report (within five years of Workplan),
- If threat determined and, if so, to what extent. Mitigation measures and timeline

IV.A. General Provisions 16, e-pg. 39-42

All Ponds:
Treatment ponds, storage ponds, emergency storage/bypass ponds, etc.

- **Pond System Design Standards**:
  - 100- yr precipitation distributed monthly per mean.
  - Accommodate wastewater, design seasonal precipitation, ancillary inflow/infiltration/wind-driven waves.
  - Two-foot freeboard
- **Dissolved Oxygen**
  - Must be maintained > 1.0 mg/L for three consecutive sampling events
  - Single sample < 1 mg/L D.O. = daily monitoring
  - If more than 3 consecutive days, written report to RWB w/ plan to resolve w/i 30-days.

Specifications C, e-pg. 24-26

BOD Land Application Requirements

BOD Loading Rate cannot exceed:

- 100 ppd/acre “cycle-average”
- 300 ppd/acre - daily max

If current WDR was adopted with different loading rates after 2007, then those BOD loading rates apply.

Cycle average BOD*5* loading *calculated* using the total volume applied on the day of application, the number of days between applications, the total application period, the irrigation application area, and a running average of the three most recent results for BOD*5* for the applicable source wastewater. Cycle average BOD*5* for each field shall be calculated using the equation below; however, for compliance determination, the quadrant cycle average BOD*5* loading shall be calculated as the average of all the non-zero cycle average values within that quadrant.

Where,

M = Mass of BOD*5* applied to the field on a monthly basis in lb/ac/day
C*i* = Concentration of BOD*5* in mg/L for the irrigation cycle.
V*i* = Total volume of wastewater applied to the field in Millions of Gallons (MG)
A = Area of the field irrigated in acres
8.345 = Unit conversion factor for mg/L and MG to lbs

Specifications D.3, e-pg. 27

CV-SALTS Requirements

Conditional Prohibitions of Salt and (if subject) Nitrate discharges, unless in compliance with:

- Salt Control Program
  - Conservative Pathway – must meet 700 µmhos/cm (monthly average), or
  - Alternative Pathway –
    - Fully participating in the P&O Study
    - Action levels at 120% last three years prior to NOA
    - Exceed = Salinity Action Plan
      - Evaluation (e.g. changes to source water)
      - Workplan of investigation of sources, if needed
      - Potential Impact Evaluation
- Nitrate Control Program (if Subject)
  - Cannot discharge Nitrate or other forms of nitrogen speciation unless in compliance with the Nitrate Control Program, including Nitrate MCL unless have exception.
  - Must comply if in prioritized area, or
  - Are a new or expanded discharge of nitrates (or nitrogen speciation)
  - Individual pathway may require an alternative compliance project for Categories 4 and 5

Pretreatment

- Required for WWTP w/ ADWF ≥ 5 mgd (CCR Title 23, § 2233(a))
- May require WWTP w/ADWF < 5 mgd as necessary (site or facility specific reasons).
  - If so, will specify in the NOA
  - Incorporate requirements “equivalent to” 40 CFR Part 403 (USEPA pretreatment requirements)
  - Guidance in Appendix B, attachment B
- “Shalls” List (see e-pg. 30+)

Setbacks

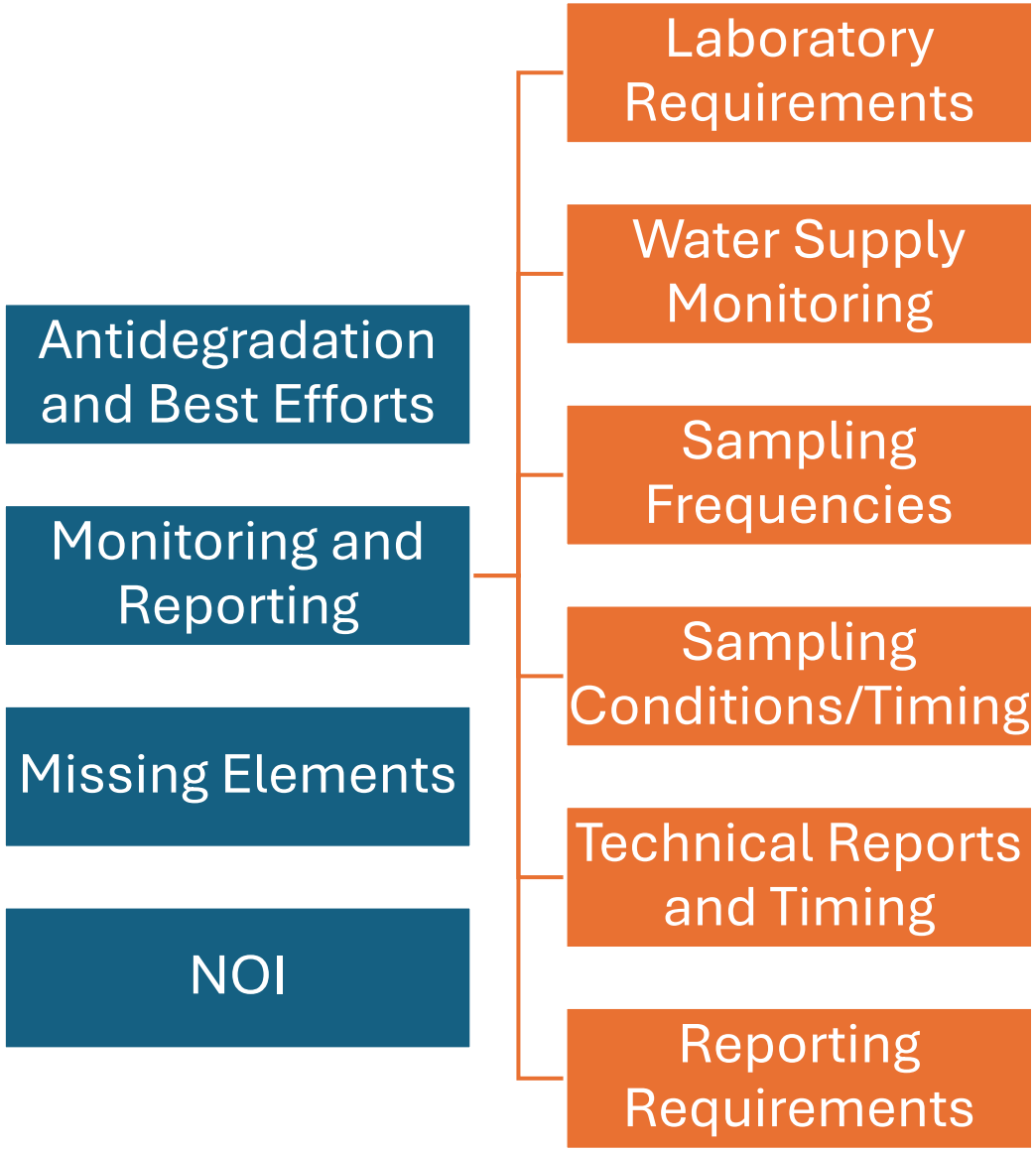
- TBD- Will be laid out in a table in the Information Sheet
- Recognizes some WWTP may not comply. Will be considered in compliance unless pollution or nuisance conditions result from setback distances.
- “Any” aerial expansion must comply unless a variance is obtained from E.O. Evaluation of potential impacts, mitigation measures are required.
- Site Specific setbacks in NOA

Need separation from sensitive receptors

- Spray fields
- Treatment facilities
- Storage facilities

Specification B.4, e-pg. 22-23

Other Areas for Review and Possible Comments



Questions and Discussion

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February 4th Preliminary Draft LDGO

Survey

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Next Steps

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Process for Input and Engagement

- Review/Comments on Preliminary Draft Order
- Review/Comments on Tentative Order
- Meetings with Water Board Staff and Management
- Comments at Adoption Hearing (June 3/4?)
- * Use workgroup meetings to develop comments, discussion points and alternatives

Next Steps

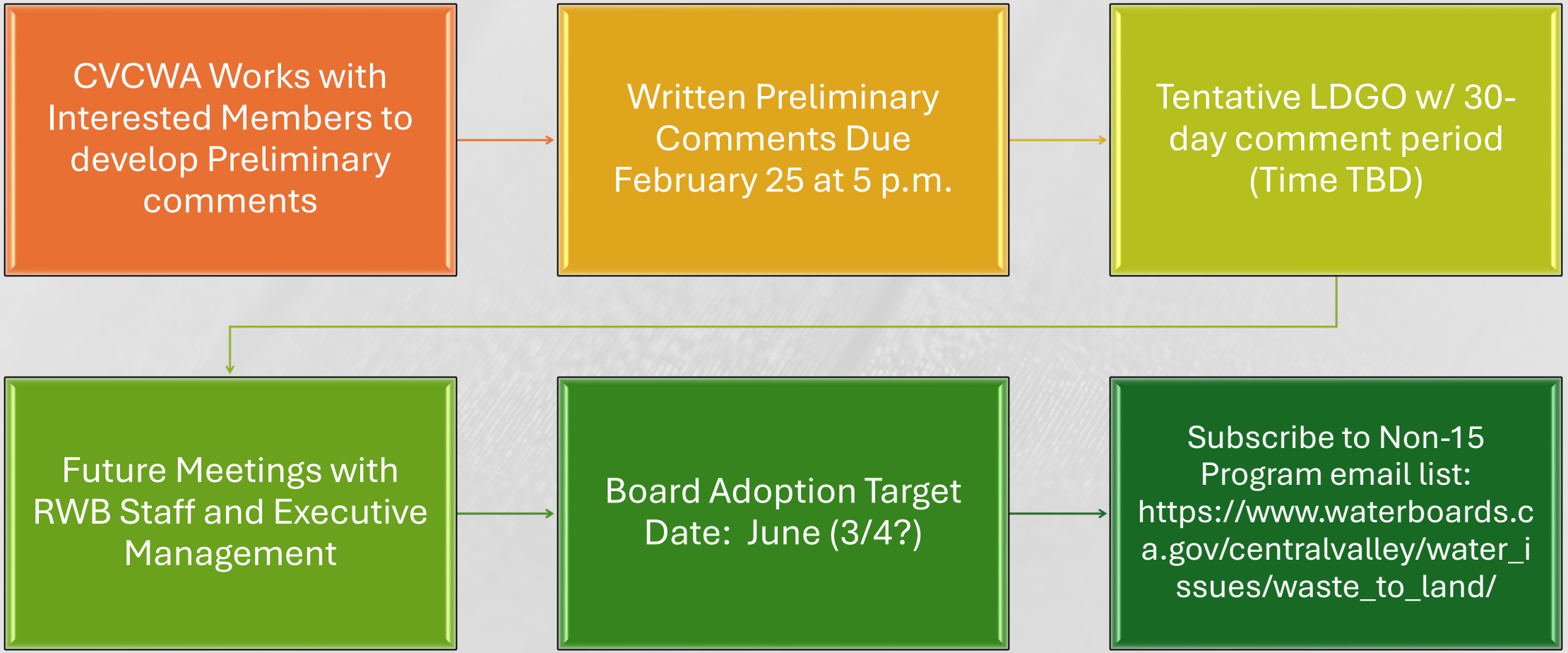
CVCWA Discussions/Comments

- Small Workgroups

Understanding Cost/Impacts

Next Webinar

Anticipated Timeline – Subject to Change



CVCWA

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