General Order for Recycled Water Use
WQ 2016-0068-DDW

WateReuse Central Valley/Sierra Foothills
July 21, 2016
• Background, Purpose, & Coverage
• Changes from 2014 Order
• General Order Roles and Responsibilities
• Implementation
• Central Valley RWQCB Update
• Contact Info & More Information
• Adopted by the State Water Board on June 7, 2016
  • Developed in response to the Governor’s proclamations of a Drought State of Emergency on January 17, 2014 and April 25, 2014
  • Recognized as an opportunity to conserve availability of local potable water supplies
  • The water recycling requirements are intended to replace the existing general waste discharge requirements adopted in 2014
• WQ 2016-0068-DDW effective date is August 6, 2016
Purpose of 2014 General WDR

- **Streamline permitting for recycled water use** that typically presents a relatively low threat to water quality so long as consistent with Title 22 requirements and pose no unreasonable risk to public health.
- **Relieve new individual recycled water end users** from the requirements to apply for Water Recycling Requirements or individual Waste Discharge Requirements.
- **Provide coverage for other recycled water uses** that are not currently addressed by other Conditional Waivers, General Orders, or Master Reclamation Permits.
• Replace the existing General WDR
  • Streamline permitting for recycled water use
  • Relieve new individual recycled water end users
  • Provide coverage for recycled water uses not yet permitted

• Recognize that recycled water is a resource by utilizing water reclamation requirements as permitting vehicle

• Further streamline recycled water permitting in the state by allowing a single permit implemented in multiple Regional Water Board boundaries
Coverage

• Allow producers and distributors of recycled water to facilitate recycled water use as water recycling administrators
• Limit source to treated municipal wastewater
• Provides coverage for uses undertaken consistent with requirements of Statewide Uniform Water Recycling Criteria (California Code of Regulations title 22, division 4, chapter 3).
  • Uses not addressed in the regulations will be subject to any additional requirements specified in the Notice of Applicability
• Potable reuse projects are not eligible for coverage
### Allowed Uses
(title 22 §§ 60304-60307)
- Irrigation (agricultural, landscape)
- Impoundments
- Cooling / industrial
- Other purposes listed in title 22 § 60307 (commercial carwashes, artificial snow making, dust control, flushing sanitary sewer, mixing concrete, street cleaning, soil compaction, etc.)

### Non Allowed Uses
- Activities intended to replenish groundwater resources
- Potable reuse

Uses not addressed in the regulations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
Changes from 2014 General WDR

• Administrative
  • Extension of CEQA exemption
  • Rescission of general WDR and adoption of WRR
  • DDW roles (CDPH transfer into SWRCB)
  • Transition of existing general WDR enrollees

• Substantive
  • NOA issuance by State Water Board for multi-region projects
  • Direction to Regional Water Board to transition existing enrollees under a Regional Water Board’s general order for RW use within 3 years
General Order Roles and Responsibilities

**Regional Water Board**
- Enroll dischargers
- Review and approve Water Recycling Program
- Conduct inspection and review monitoring reports
- Coordinate with State Water Board to include title 22 engineering report approval requirements

**State Water Board**
- Prepare and adopt GO
- Provide GO rollout/implementation support for Regional Water Board
- Review and approve title 22 engineering reports
- Coordinate NOA issuance for enrollees with multi-region program

**WATER RECYCLING PROGRAM**

**GO Enrollees**
Comply with GO requirements and assume responsibilities as Water Recycling Program Administrator

**Recycled Water Users**
Comply with Water Recycling Program requirements
Implementation

- WRR effective date is August 6, 2016. 2014 general WDR will be officially rescinded
- Primary implementation by Regional Water Boards for new enrollment and transitions
- DDW main responsibility is to review Title 22 Engineering Reports
  - Secondary: implementation assistance and coordinate NOI submittals to State Water Board (multiple RB project)
• A transition form has been distributed to all Regional Water Boards for mailing
• DDW communicated with RBs that currently have existing/pending enrollees
• Expect forms mailed out by the end of this week

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• There are a total of 8 enrollees (inc. 1 pending)
  • Cities and 1 sanitary district
• Most communities in Region 5 are already under an existing Master Reclamation Permits
• Region 5 also has a Low Threat Waiver (R5-2013-0145) that allows limited recycled water discharge for construction and dust control projects
  • R5-2013-0145 next issuance is in 2018
• Typical causes for slow down in the enrollment process:
  • Submittal of Title 22 Eng Rpt to DDW
  • Lack of clear definition of who is the administrator

• There are always discharge-specific variables and the RB gets lots of them. This makes it difficult to have ready-made answers to individual discharge-specific situations

• Central Valley RB staff don’t stray from the requirements of the order since it is developed intentionally to simply the permitting process
Contact – Central Valley RWQB

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More Information

- Division of Drinking Water’s Recycled Water Info
  http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/RecycledWater.shtml

- Statewide WRR on Recycled Water Use
  http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater=requirements.shtml