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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044, Room 113  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**From:**

Regional Water Quality Control Board,  
Central Valley Region  
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

**Project Title:** Waste Discharge Requirements for Barsotti Juice Company

**Project Applicant:** Barsotti Family LLC, Barsotti Juice Company, and Gael Barsotti (Owner/Discharger)

**Project Location:** 2239 Hidden Valley Lane, Camino, California 95709  
(APNs 085-030-057-000, 085-030-058-000, 085-030-059-000 (085-030-060-000), and 085-540-073-000).

**Project City:** Camino

**Project County:** El Dorado County

**Project Description:**

On 26 May 2021, Barsotti Family LLC submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) to apply for Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for discharge of processing wastewater generated at the Barsotti Juice Company (Facility) in El Dorado County. The production of fresh apple juice at the Facility started about two weeks a year beginning in the early 1980's. Juice production increased slowly over time; however, the Facility was not previously regulated under WDRs. The existing wastewater treatment and disposal system consists of a holding tank, two fine screening systems, two 10,000-gallon polyethylene above ground storage tanks, and 12 acres of land application areas (LAAs).

The proposed changes include installation of a wastewater treatment and storage system and expansion of the LAAs from 12 to 42.2 acres. The planned changes will be completed by December 2024. WDRs Order R5-2024-0030 for the Barsotti Juice Company was adopted by the Central Valley Water Quality Control Board on 21 June 2024.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:**  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:**  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

**Exempt Status:**  
Categorical Exemption: Title 14 Sections 15301 and 15304

**Exemption Reason:**  
The issuance of WDRs is a discretionary agency action subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The WDRs Order regulates an existing wastewater discharge to land at the Facility and includes flow limits of 1.4 million gallons per month and 14.6 million gallons per calendar year. To minimize water quality impacts from existing and proposed wastewater disposal operations, the Discharger intends to expand its LAAs to include 30.2 acres of existing, irrigated orchards and to construct two lined ponds consisting of a 396,650-gallon treatment pond and a 575,483-gallon storage pond, at the Facility. Authorization of the Discharger's existing operation is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14 section 15301 because such authorization involves no expansion of existing use. El Dorado County has issued a grading permit authorizing the Discharger to construct the proposed ponds. To the extent that the WDRs Order authorizes LAAs for waste disposal, the Central Valley Water Board has determined that such authorization is exempt from CEQA review pursuant to Title 14 section 15304 because it involves only minor alterations to the condition of the land, water, and/or vegetation of the LAAs.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:**  
John T. Murphy  
916-464-4698

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 2 July 2024

Signed by Lead Agency

Authority cited: Public Resources Code sections 21083 & 21110.  
Reference: Public Resources Code sections 21108, 21152 & 21152.1.