



NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and/or the Clean Water Act, where applicable. The Administrator has received an application for a Groundwater Discharge, permit number NS2018502 from the following applicant:

SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY/LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
1001 S. VALLEY VIEW BLVD
LAS VEGAS, NV - 89153

Permit NS2018502, GREAT BASIN RANCH:

The Permittee, Southern Nevada Water Authority/Las Vegas Valley Water District, has applied for the renewal of their groundwater discharge permit, NS2018502, for the Great Basin Ranch (GBR) located approximately 30 miles southeast of Ely in Spring Valley, White Pine County, Nevada. This permit allows for the discharge of manure and runoff from the production area to waters of the State in the event of a 25-year, 24-hour storm event or chronic rainfall event. The GBR is a collection of seven ranches which were purchased and combined into the one ranch by the Permittee.

The GBR is defined as a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) because the Permittee has indicated that they will confine at least 1,000 cattle for 30 days or more in a 12-month period, in an area devoid of vegetation during the normal growing season. As a CAFO, the Permittee is required to contain all manure and runoff from the production area. An exception to this is a precipitation overflow resulting from a 25-year, 24-hour storm event or chronic rainfall event. To qualify for this exception, the production area must be properly designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to contain manure, direct precipitation, and runoff from a qualifying storm event. The facility's construction is industry typical pipe and cable fence, concrete feed aprons and feed bunks, feed storage areas and associated storage structures, maintenance facilities, and waste management and control structures.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue Permit NS2018502 to discharge for a five (5) year period, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance should submit their comments or request, in writing, hand delivered or postmarked no later than 5:00 P.M. on 12/27/2024, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final determination(s) regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations.

Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The applications, proposed permits, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Melissa Marr, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, at (775) 687-9315 or at mmarr@ndep.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. For further information, the fact sheet for this project can be viewed at the following website: <https://ndep.nv.gov/posts/category/water>.

Please bring the forgoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.