



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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March 18, 2025

Hector Bedolla
Chair, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Blvd STE A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403-1072

Subject: Wastewater Permit Fees

Dear Chair Bedolla:

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors is requesting that the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Quality Board) review its Wastewater Permit Fee schedule and adjust the fees to ensure they are more equitable and achievable for small districts. We have recently been made aware of a bill in the amount of \$4,216 that was issued to the Grenada Sanitary District, which has created a significant financial burden for the district.

The Grenada Sanitary District generates approximately \$18,000 annually in sewer fees, and this bill from the Water Quality Board represents 25% of those fees. In addition, the district is required to spend over \$10,000 each year to maintain its wastewater disposal systems, leaving less than \$2,000 to address any other potential issues. At the current fee rate, this amounts to more than \$80 per residence annually. With an annual median household income significantly below the state average, raising sewer fees in Grenada would impose a financial hardship on residents.

We understand that the Water Quality Board must recover costs associated with its Wastewater Permit program. However, these costs should not place such a strain on districts that they risk their financial stability and the ability to operate their systems. Therefore, we respectfully request that the Water Quality Board explore the possibility of reducing fees or collaborate with districts to identify potential cost-saving opportunities.

Sincerely,

Nancy Ogren
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Megan Dahle
Assemblymember Heather Hadwick
Rural County Representatives of California
California State Association of Counties
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lang

Jess Harris
District 1

Ed Valenzuela
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Michael Kobseff
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