



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Western Region Salem Office
4026 Fairview Industrial Dr SE
Salem, OR 97302
(503) 378-8240
FAX (503) 373-7944
TTY 711

July 3, 2024

Ryan Yorke, Assistant Winemaker
Stone Wolf Vineyards, LLC
P.O. Box 369
Dundee, OR 97115

RE: **Warning Letter with Opportunity to Correct**
Duck Pond Cellars
2024-WLOTC-9381
WPCF general permit 1400-A
WQ file #106982
WQ – Yamhill County

On April 16, 2024, Tim McFetridge and I conducted a site inspection of your property located at 23145 US HWY. 99W, Dundee, Oregon. The inspection was in response to odor complaints filed with DEQ.

Additionally, DEQ received an incident report on March 29, 2024 from Ryan Yorke, assistant winemaker reporting an unauthorized discharge from the primary lagoon system for Duck Pond Cellars. During the inspection, it was observed that there was no locking mechanism on the ball valve or security measures around the discharge valve to prevent tampering.

Violation

Based upon this information, DEQ has concluded that Duck Pond Cellars is responsible for the following violation of Oregon environmental law. Class I violations are the most serious violations; Class III violations are the least serious. Compliance with your permit is required by Oregon Revised Statute 468B.025(2).

1. Unauthorized discharge of wastewater is a violation of ORS 340-012-0055(1)(a). This is a Class I violation.

Duck Pond Cellars
July 3, 2024
2024-WLOTC-9381

Requested Corrective Actions

We are concerned that additional violations may occur at your property. To maintain compliance with DEQ's solid waste and water quality regulations, please implement the following corrective actions:

1. **Corrective Action #1.** Replace discharge ball valve with a locking unit.

Please submit documentation that the above requested corrective actions have been completed no later than September 1, 2024.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are observations from the site inspection and can be considered as best management practices.

1. Replace air compressors with blowers for better aeration of primary lagoon.
2. Modification of pond system to utilize the capacity of the secondary and tertiary ponds.
3. Install fencing along property line of neighboring property, surrounding the discharge pipe and valve.

This notice is a warning letter with opportunity to correct. DEQ does not intend to take formal enforcement action at this time. However, should you fail to submit the requested documentation or repeat any of these violations, the matter may be referred to DEQ's Office of Compliance and Enforcement for formal enforcement action, including assessment of civil penalties and/or a DEQ order. Civil penalties can be assessed for each day of violation.

If you believe any of the facts in this letter are in error, you may provide information to me at Jennifer.Maglinte-Timbrook@deq.oregon.gov by 7/31/2024. I will consider any new information you submit and take appropriate action.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Maglinte-Timbrook
General Permit Compliance Specialist
Water Quality – Western Region

cc: Salem Water Quality files
ec: Ranei Nomura, Manager, Western Region, DEQ
Oregon Records Management Solution