



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

Northwest Region Office  
PO Box 330316, Shoreline, WA 98133-9716 • 206-594-0000

May 15, 2023

Mr. Alfonso Cisneros, President  
Pristine Valley Farms Pickle LLC  
PO Box 207  
La Conner, WA 98257-0207

Re: **WARNING LETTER** for State Waste Discharge Permit Number ST0501288  
Pristine Valley Farms Pickle

Dear Alfonso Cisneros:

This letter is to inform you that your facility is out of compliance with your industrial wastewater discharge permit. Violations are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

**Table 1.** Numeric Effluent Violations for Outfall #001 (Permit Special Condition S1.A.)

Date	Parameter	Measurement	Units	Limit	Limit Type
11/8/2022	Chloride	569	mg/L	250	Maximum Daily
11/8/2022	TDS	1170	mg/L	500	Maximum Daily
November 2022	Chloride	569	mg/L	250	Average Monthly
November 2022	TDS	1170	mg/L	500	Average Monthly
12/28/2022	BOD5	160	mg/L	109	Maximum Daily
12/28/2022	Chloride	964	mg/L	250	Maximum Daily
12/28/2022	TDS	1954	mg/L	500	Maximum Daily
December 2022	BOD5	160	mg/L	69	Average Monthly
December 2022	Chloride	964	mg/L	250	Average Monthly
December 2022	TDS	1954	mg/L	500	Average Monthly
1/20/2023	Chloride	905	mg/L	250	Maximum Daily
1/20/2023	TDS	1815	mg/L	500	Maximum Daily
January 2023	Chloride	905	mg/L	250	Average Monthly
January 2023	TDS	1815	mg/L	500	Average Monthly
2/27/2023	Chloride	783	mg/L	250	Maximum Daily
2/27/2023	TDS	1606	mg/L	500	Maximum Daily
February 2023	BOD5	90	mg/L	69	Average Monthly
February 2023	Chloride	783	mg/L	250	Average Monthly
February 2023	TDS	1606	mg/L	500	Average Monthly
3/29/2023	Chloride	682	mg/L	250	Maximum Daily
3/29/2023	TDS	1443	mg/L	500	Maximum Daily

Date	Parameter	Measurement	Units	Limit	Limit Type
March 2023	Chloride	682	mg/L	250	Average Monthly
March 2023	TDS	1443	mg/L	500	Average Monthly

TDS = total dissolved solids; BOD5 = 5-day biochemical oxygen demand

**Table 2.** Missing Submittals in 2022 and 2023

Due Date	Submittal Report	Permit Section
6/1/2022	O&M - Operation and Maintenance Manual (Final)	S4.A
7/1/2022	Groundwater Quality Evaluation Study Report	S7
3/31/2023	Irrigation And Crop Management Plan	S9

**Non-compliance notifications are required by your permit. You must submit this notice immediately.** You have not submitted a written notice of non-compliance for the violations in **Table 1**, therefore you are in violation of your permit. You may refer to **permit section S3.E.** for more information about what must be included in a written notice of non-compliance. The written notice of non-compliance should address the source(s) of the violations and how you are going to take action to prevent future violations. From this point forward, the notice of non-compliance and an electronic copy of the **laboratory report** should be attached to every discharge monitoring report (DMR) submission.

Three of the reports required by your permit are past due (**Table 2**). Although a draft version of the O&M Manual was submitted to Ecology on May 31, 2022, the final version is still due. Failure to comply with the conditions of your permit may result in formal administrative enforcement action, including orders and penalties. Ecology's enforcement authority for state waste discharge permits is governed by Chapter 173-216 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your permit manager Chris Martin by email at [christopher.martin@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:christopher.martin@ecy.wa.gov) or by phone at (206) 594-0159.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Onstad  
Compliance Specialist  
Water Quality Program

ecc: Permit and Reporting Information System (PARIS): Pristine Valley Farms Pickle, ST0501288  
Chris Martin, Ecology  
Monika Kannadaguli, Ecology  
Alfonso Cisneros, President, Pristine Valley Farms Pickle LLC  
Jocelyn Staffanson, Pristine Valley Farms Pickle LLC