

**Fiesta Canning Company, Inc.  
Individual Industrial Recycled Water Permit No. R105536  
Place ID 2465, LTF No. 97237**

**I. Introduction:**

In compliance with the provisions of Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) Title 18, Chapter 9, Article 7 and A.A.C. Title 18, Chapter 11, Article 3 and amendments thereto, and the conditions set forth in this permit, Fiesta Canning Company, Inc., located in McNeal, Arizona, in Cochise County is hereby authorized to use industrial recycled water for beneficial purposes in accordance with the limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in this permit and in the rules cited above.

**II. Permittee, Facility Name, & Location:**

Facility Name: Fiesta Canning  
Facility Physical Address: 7978 North Central Highway  
McNeal, Arizona 85617

Permittee: Fiesta Canning Company, Inc.  
Mailing Address: 1860 E. River Road, Suite 325  
Tucson, Arizona 85718

Facility Contact: Tom Lahut  
Position/Title: Vice President of Operations  
Emergency Phone No.: (520) 642-3366 (plant office) or (915) 494-4668 (mobile)

Latitude/Longitude: 31° 31' 33" N / 109° 41' 55" W

**III. Facility, Wastewater, and Reuse Site Description:**

Fiesta Canning Company, Inc. has owned and operated a facility since November 15, 1984 in Cochise County. The facility steams, peels, processes, and cans regional vegetables and sauces for sale to restaurants and supermarkets as cooking ingredients and salsa. Chlorine rinsate is added to pumped groundwater which is used in the process to rinse the vegetables and to wash down the processing equipment. The wastewater (up to approximately 1,948,000 gallons per day (gpd)) from the processing plant is collected in a lift station/pump vault and from there pumped to the Daritech DT360 separator unit to separate the solids. The lift station vault also receives steam condensation (approximately 49,100 gpd), process-related washdown water from the sinks and drains (approximately 2,000 gpd), and boiler blow-down water (approximately 900 gpd), for a combined average of 2,000,000 gpd. From the separator, the wastewater is temporarily stored in one on-site aboveground holding tank and pumped from there by pipeline approximately 1500 feet north-northeast where it may be either directly applied to the agricultural fields for irrigation or placed in the North or South storage ponds to be later pumped onto the adjacent agricultural fields for irrigation.

This Individual Industrial Recycled Water Permit (RWP) authorizes the use of industrial recycled water (components listed above) for irrigation of up to 1,262 acres of a combination of alfalfa, milo, sudan, fescue, winter wheat, or triticale, which are used to feed livestock (A.A.C. R18-9-C701(A)(2)). The facility was originally permitted to irrigate 251 acres, then 480 acres, and under this permit, the facility is allowed to irrigate up to 1,262 acres. A summary of land information for each reuse site is in TABLE I. The Department has determined that the North and South storage ponds are permitted under this RWP. Prior to this RWP, the North and South storage ponds were permitted under Type 3.01 General Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) P-511466 with LTF 75174 (South Pond) and LTF 88628 (North Pond). Unless a request to terminate coverage of active LTFs under APP P-511466 is received, the P-511466 shall remain active until expiry. Recycled water monitoring shall be performed on a routine basis as indicated in TABLE II.

TABLE I: LIST OF REUSE SITES						
Reuse Site	Owner	Parcel #	Latitude	Longitude	Acreage (acres)	Types of crops to be irrigated
1	Fiesta Canning Company, Inc.	40512002B, 40501023	31° 31' 54" N	109° 41' 06" W	480	Alfalfa, milo, sudan, fescue, winter wheat, or triticale
2	MiCasu Farms	Part of 40501002	31° 31' 30" N	109° 39' 50" W	782	Alfalfa, milo, sudan, fescue, winter wheat, or triticale

#### IV. Permit Changes

Changes from prior RWP:

1. Section 1.0
  - a. Updated permittee information
2. Section 2.0
  - a. Updated mailing address
  - b. Added information for reuse site no. 2
  - c. Updated facility, wastewater, and reuse site description for reuse site no. 2
  - d. Updated wastewater effluent parameters based on application
  - e. North and South Storage ponds are now covered by the RWP
  - f. General permit coverage for North and South Storage Ponds are automatically revoked per AAC R18-9-A307(C) since the RWP provides replacement general permit coverage
  - g. Added list of reuse sites in TABLE I
3. Section 3.0
  - a. Updated to boilerplate language as necessary
4. Section 4.0
  - a. Added section 4.3 regarding reuse site agreements
5. Section 5.0
  - a. Updated to standard boilerplate language as necessary

6. Section 6.0
  - a. Updated to standard boilerplate language as necessary
7. Section 7.0
  - a. Added a compliance schedule item (CSI) section with 3 CSIs
8. Section 8.0
  - a. Updated references as required

## **V. Regulatory Status:**

The industrial recycled water from the food processing plant at Fiesta Canning Company is currently used for irrigation of up to 480 acres of a combination of alfalfa, milo, sudan, fescue, winter wheat, or triticale, which are used to feed livestock (reuse site no. 1, TABLE I). The facility is required to maintain an RWP per A.A.C. R18-9-C701(A)(2) because of the use of recycled water from an industrial facility for production or processing of a crop or substance that may be used as human or animal food.

The first RWP was issued for Fiesta Canning on January 18, 2006 (LTF 34532), and renewals were issued on November 14, 2013 (LTF 50980) and May 2, 2019 (LTF 74152). The RWP was reissued on September 2, 2021 (LTF 87874) after receiving an application to increase the recycled water flow to 0.828 mgd and to increase the irrigation area to 480 acres.

An application was received on January 5, 2023 (LTF 97237) to increase the recycled water flow to 2.0 mgd, and increase the reuse site irrigated area to 1,262 acres by adding reuse site no. 2 (TABLE I). The January 5, 2023 application is not related to a known enforcement action.

## **VI. Compliance with Aquifer Water Quality Standards (AWQS):**

### **Monitoring and Reporting Requirements**

The permit requires the permittee to collect representative samples of the recycled water prior to delivery for reuse. The permittee is required to monitor and report for the parameters in TABLE II. Self-Monitoring Report Forms (SRMFs) are submitted through MyDEQ, and any report that cannot be submitted MyDEQ is submitted directly to the ADEQ Groundwater Protection Value Stream.

The facility produces industrial recycled water, which does not have a coliform sampling requirement in AAC R18-11-308. Coliform is not expected to be present in the facility discharge, so coliform sampling is not required. Total nitrogen and total trihalomethanes have been included because they are expected to be present in the recycled water discharge as a disinfection byproduct resulting from the chlorination process.

TABLE II – ROUTINE MONITORING					
Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Identification			Latitude	Longitude
1	From the lift station vault			31° 31' 35.8" N	109° 42' 2.5" W
Parameter	Alert Level	Discharge Limit	Units	Sampling Frequency	Reporting Frequency
Flow <sup>1</sup> : Daily	Not Applicable <sup>2</sup>	Not Applicable	mgd <sup>3</sup>	Daily	Quarterly
Flow: Monthly Average Flow Provided for Reuse <sup>4</sup>	Not Applicable	2.0	mgd	Monthly Calculations <sup>5</sup>	Quarterly
Total Nitrogen <sup>6</sup> :	Not Applicable	10.0	mg/l	Quarterly	Quarterly
Total Trihalomethanes <sup>7</sup>	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	mg/l	Annually	Annually

### **Best Management Practices and Water Balance Review**

Best management practices and a water balance were reviewed as part of the permit application. Runoff is not expected to occur due to the management practices required in permit section 4.0. The applicant provided the following water balance scenarios as part of the application: two

1 Flow rate shall be measured using a continuously recording totalizing flow meter and shall be located to gauge the flow of recycled water from the lift station vault to the storage ponds and/or to the reuse site. Flow rate shall be measured on days when recycled water is delivered from the lift station vault to the storage ponds and/or to the reuse site. On days when there is no delivery of recycled water, indicate “no flow” on the Self-monitoring Report Form (SMRF).

2 Not applicable - No limits have been established at the time of permit issuance.

3 mgd = million gallons per day

4 Monthly Average means the calculated average of daily flow values in a month

5 Flow monitoring shall occur only during months in which there is delivery of recycled water from the lift station vault to the storage ponds and/or to the reuse site.

6 Total Nitrogen = Nitrate as N + Nitrite as N + Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen

7 Total Trihalomethanes are comprised of Bromoform, Bromodichloromethane, Chloroform, and Dibromochloromethane.

ponds active, one pond active, and no active ponds. The water balance provided shows that crop water demand exceeds the available irrigation water for all months of the year for all scenarios.