

Background

Gallo Glass is a glass manufacturer located at 605 S Santa Cruz Ave, Modesto, CA 95354. The facility has been in operation since 1958. Community members are concerned about potential pollution sources from the facility's operations and exposure to pollution that may impact public health.

Is the facility subject to environmental requirements?

Gallo Glass is subject to local, state, and federal requirements related to air emissions, water quality, and hazardous materials and waste.

Who is involved in this matter?

Multiple agencies at the local, state, and federal level are responsible for regulating Gallo Glass and have been engaged in inspection and enforcement activities. The following agencies have met to coordinate on environmental compliance activities:

- Stanislaus County Certified Unified Program Agency (Stanislaus CUPA)
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (San Joaquin Valley APCD)
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
- California Air Resources Board (CARB)
- California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 (US EPA)

Stanislaus CUPA Actions

The Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources, Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) serves as the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for Stanislaus County. In this capacity, the CUPA implements and enforces statutes and regulations for hazardous materials and hazardous waste, in addition to aboveground and underground storage tanks.

- Stanislaus County CUPA conducted a routine inspection of Gallo Glass on November 1, 2022. The inspection consisted of the Hazardous Materials

Business Plan (HMBP), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Large Quantity Generator (LQG), and Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank Act (APSA) programs.

As a result of the inspections, the following violations were cited:

- 1 - Class 2 violation in the HMBP program for failure to provide required annual employee training and 1 – Minor violation in the HMBP program for failure to disclose a reportable amount of a hazardous material in the chemical inventory. Corrective actions for the HMBP violations were completed on December 15, 2022 for the inventory violation and January 31, 2023 for the employee training violation.
- 4 – Class 2 violations in the RCRA-LQG program for failure to store hazardous waste in a closed container, failure to store hazardous waste in a labeled container, failure to make required hazardous waste determination, and failure to provide required employee training in addition to; 1 – Minor violation in the RCRA-LQG program for failure to manage leaks/spills of non-RCRA hazardous waste. CAM-17 testing was performed to make a proper hazardous waste determination, which came back as non-RCRA hazardous waste. The labeling, open container and leaking oily water violations were all corrected on site at the time of inspection and all employee training documentation was provided on January 6, 2023.
- 1 – Class 2 violation in the APSA program for failure to submit the annual APSA tank facility statement for the years: 2020 – 2022; and 1 – Minor violation for failure to include two tanks in underground areas (TIUGAs) in the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan. The tank facility statement violation was corrected on December 15, 2022, and the amendment of the SPCC Plan violation was corrected on December 23, 2022.
 - An initial California Accidental Release Prevention (CalARP) program inspection was performed on November 19, 2025.

As a result of the inspection, there were no violations cited.

San Joaquin Valley APCD Actions

The San Joaquin Valley APCD is a public health agency whose mission is to improve the health and quality of life for all Valley residents through efficient, effective, and entrepreneurial air quality management strategies, which include the adoption and enforcement of rules intended to control sources of air pollution. In addition to public complaint investigations and joint inspections with other agencies, District enforcement staff perform field inspections at Gallo Glass Company to ensure the facility's strict adherence to applicable District Rules, as well as state and federal regulations, which include District Rules 1070, 1080, 1081, 1100, 1160, 2040, 2010, 2020, 2031, 2070, 2080, 2201, 2410, 2520, 4101, 4102, 4201, 4202, 4305, 4306, 4311, 4320, 4354, 4601, 4603, 4701, 4702, 4801, 8011, 8021, 8031, 8041, 8051, 8061, 8071, 40 CFR 60, 40 CFR 61, 40 CFR 63, 40 CFR 64, and 40 CFR 82.

The District takes enforcement action whenever violations are found. Following an enforcement action, the District works with the facility to expedite their return to compliance, which is often accomplished on the same day the violation was discovered.

From 2021 through 2025, District staff conducted 33 inspections and other field operations at Gallo Glass Company.

The San Joaquin Valley APCD's compliance activities at Gallo Glass Company dating back to 2021 are summarized below:

- In 2025: 1 inspection, 6 enforcement actions taken, and 1 complaint investigated.
 - Complaints: Crushed glass was reported along the nearby roads. The complaint was confirmed, but no violations of District Rules were identified during the investigation.
- NOVs:
 - Failure to notify the District of a Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) exceedance within the permitted time limit.
 - Failure to submit an accurate Annual Compliance Certification (ACC) report.
 - Failure to submit an Emission Reduction Credit (ERC) withdrawal application prior to operating.
- Failure to operate the dust collectors within the permitted differential pressure limits.
- Failure to calibrate the Carbon Monoxide (CO) analyzer daily and perform a Cylinder Gas Audit (CGA) on the CO analyzer.
- Failure to operate with the furnace caps closed, resulting in excess emissions.
- In 2024: 1 inspection, 6 enforcement actions taken, and 2 complaints investigated. Complaints:
 - A substance was released inside the facility. No violations of District Rules were identified.
 - Fugitive dust was reported. The complaint was not confirmed.
- NOVs:
 - Failure to demonstrate compliance with the limits of District Rule 4354 by the specified compliance deadline.
 - Failure to tune twice per CY during operation; failure to submit a deviation report within 10 days.
 - Failure to change engine oil and filter every 500 hours of operation; failure to submit a deviation report within 10 days.
 - Exceeded throughput limit of 110 tons of lime received and stored per quarter; failure to submit a deviation report within 10 days.
 - Exceeded CO emissions 3-hour rolling average limit of 0.20 lb./ton of glass produced; failure to submit a deviation report within 10 days.
 - Exceeded the rolling 30-day NOx limit of 0.99 lb./ton of glass produced; failure to submit a deviation report within 10 days.
- In 2023: 1 inspection, 5 enforcement actions taken, and 2 complaints investigated. Complaints:
 - Small glass debris was reported in the air. Glass debris was observed on the nearby streets, but not in the air. The complaint was referred to the City of Modesto Code Enforcement and Stanislaus County Environmental Resources.
 - Complaints of the working conditions were reported regarding the "hot end coater smoke" and the lack of appropriate permits. No smoke of concern was observed, and no equipment was observed to be unpermitted. The complaint was referred to the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH).

- NOV:
 - Failure to operate the dust collectors within the permitted differential pressure limits.
 - Failure to operate the dust collectors within the permitted differential pressure limits.
 - Failure to monitor and record the baghouse differential pressure readings.
 - Failure to submit an accurate ACC report.
 - Failure to demonstrate compliance with the Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) and Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) analyzers and the zero concentration on the low range during the daily CEMS calibration check.
- In 2022: 1 inspection, 3 enforcement actions taken, and 0 complaints investigated.
- NOV:
 - Failure to operate with the furnace caps closed, resulting in excess emissions.
 - Failure to operate with the furnace caps closed, resulting in excess emissions.
 - Failure to operate one of the dust collectors within the permitted differential pressure limits.
- In 2021: 2 inspections, 2 enforcement actions taken, and 0 complaints were investigated.
- NOV:
 - Failure to operate furnace within the permitted production rate limit; failure to submit a deviation report within 10 days.
 - Failure to operate one of the dust collectors within the permitted differential pressure limits.

State and Regional Water Board Actions

Gallo Glass Company is subject to the requirements of the State (California) Water Resources Control Board National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit No. CAS000001 for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities (General Permit) adopted on April 1, 2014. This site is currently under a site-specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to comply with the General Permit, that is publicly available in the Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS) under WDID # 5S50I002699. Gallo has a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Codes 3221-glass containers, making it a Category 2 facility under the General Permit.

- Gallo Glass revised and updated the SWPPP and associated Monitoring Implementation Plan (MIP) in

July 2020. Revisions included adding VPSA as a potential pollutant source to the assessment of potential sources and adding receiving water impairments as potential pollutant sources.

- In March 2026, State Water Board staff conducted a SMARTS review of the case history. Evaluation of the Gallo Glass's historical storm water sampling data found that none of the parameters that are required by Permit Section XI.B.6.a have exceeded the instantaneous maximum numeric action levels (INALs) or the annual average numeric action levels (AANALs). The historical sampling data supports the conclusion that the facility has a low potential to mobilize pollutants.
- Due to Gallo Glass's consistent ability to comply with the monitoring and requirements and due dates of the General Permit, State and Regional Water Board Staff have not conducted an on-site inspection in the last five years.

CARB Actions

CARB is responsible for protecting the public from the harmful effects of air pollution and for developing and enforcing statewide programs that reduce emissions and address climate change. CARB's enforcement programs protect public health by ensuring facilities comply with statewide requirements and by responding to community concerns.

For this Title V facility, CARB oversees compliance with statewide greenhouse gas programs, including Cap-and-Invest and Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting, as well as statewide toxic air contaminant requirements. Daily permitting and routine inspections for both facilities are handled by the local air district, with CARB enforcing the statewide rules that apply.

CARB has no recent enforcement history for Gallo Glass.

DTSC Actions

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is the lead regulatory agency in California for hazardous waste management. DTSC makes decisions on permit applications for treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste and enforces hazardous waste laws.

- The Hazardous Waste Management Program (HWMP) protects public health and the environment by enforcing hazardous waste laws in California. Within HWMP the Permitting Division reviews and makes decisions on permit applications for treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. The Enforcement and Emergency Response Division inspects permitted facilities, along with transporters and some generators of hazardous waste. The Office of Criminal Investigations (OCI) conducts investigations and assists with projects as needed.
- The Office of Environmental Equity (OEE) – Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (EJTA) Program focuses on communication and engagement with communities and Environmental Justice organizations regarding activities directly overseen by DTSC. The program’s staff helps facilitate conversations between DTSC programs, community members, and Environmental Justice organizations. EJTA works with DTSC staff across all programs to gather and provide information on projects or sites that fall under DTSC’s purview.

On April 6, 2026, DTSC’s Office of Criminal Investigations (OCI), conducted a sampling activity in response to a complaint alleging illegal disposal from Gallo Glass along a local rail line shared by food distributors in the Beard Industrial District of Modesto, CA. The purpose of sampling was to determine if the material along the rail demonstrated a hazardous characteristic and/or matched similarly to the profile of Gallo Glass’ baghouse dust waste.

DTSC collected one sample of light beige-colored, silty solid material alleged in the complaint from the rail line about a mile from Gallo Glass. The sample was submitted to DTSC’s Environmental Chemistry Laboratory (ECL) for analytical testing of total metals. The analytical results showed that heavy metals were not detected in the sample, such that the material along the rail tracks did not originate from Gallo Glass.

OCI has closed the case due to lack of evidence supporting the complaint.

CalEPA Actions

CalEPA is the parent agency to six boards, departments, and offices charged with protecting public health and the environment, including DTSC, CARB, and the Water Boards. The HMBP/CalARP Unit at CalEPA oversees the implementation of the HMBP and CalARP Program at the state level. CalEPA has not exercised independent enforcement authority over activities at Gallo Glass. CalEPA is focused on providing support as well as ensuring enforcement and compliance activities are consistent, effective, and coordinated.

US EPA Actions

USEPA Region 9 (Pacific Southwest Region) provides regulatory oversight over states, tribes, and territories. USEPA works with state and local agencies to ensure private and public facilities maintain compliance under environmental statutes, including the Clean Air Act (CAA).

USEPA maintains the Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) database that focuses on compliance- and enforcement-related information for EPA-regulated facilities. ECHO includes permit data, inspection/compliance evaluation dates and findings, violations of environmental regulations, enforcement actions, and penalties assessed for federally regulated sources of pollution, including Gallo Glass. The ECHO page for Gallo Glass can be accessed through the following link: <https://echo.epa.gov/detailed-facility-report?fid=110000485270>

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