
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING ON AN AMENDMENT TO WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION ESTABLISHING TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR ORGANOPHOSPHATE AND ORGANOCHLORINE COMPOUNDS IN IMEPERIAL VALLEY WATERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is seeking written public comments on the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Regional Water Board) final amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan or the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan), establishing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and an Implementation Plan for organophosphate (OP) and organochlorine (OC) compounds in Imperial Valley waters (collectively, Basin Plan Amendment).

BACKGROUND

On May 10, 2022, the Regional Water Board adopted the subject Basin Plan Amendment via [Resolution R7-2022-0032](#). The Basin Plan Amendment was developed to address OP and OC compounds that are currently impairing Imperial Valley waters (i.e., Alamo River, Imperial Valley Drains, New River, Wiest Lake). The pollutants addressed in the TMDLs include dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) and its related degradates (dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane (DDD) and dichlorodiphenyl-dichloroethylene (DDE), dieldrin, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and toxaphene. The concentrations of these compounds found in fish tissue and/or water violates Basin Plan toxicity and chemical constituent water quality objectives (WQOs) to support/protect human health and the aquatic habitat designated beneficial uses of these waters. To address these impairments, numeric targets for water, fish tissue, and sediment were selected to protect benthic and aquatic organisms, and wildlife from potentially harmful effects (toxicity) associated with OP and OC compounds. Numeric targets are based on toxicity guidelines of pollutants outlined in other federal and state regulations, plans, and policies, and published peer reviewed scientific reports as screening values.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

Regional Water Board Resolution R7-2022-0032, the Basin Plan Amendment and the supporting Staff Report are posted to the Regional Water Board's [website](#) (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/water_issues/programs/tmdl).

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alternatively, these materials may also be obtained via mail by contacting Lauren Briggs at (760) 313-1291 or Lauren.Briggs@waterboards.ca.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING WRITTEN COMMENTS

Persons interested in the Basin Plan amendment are encouraged to submit comments electronically. Comment letters must be received **by 12:00 noon on October 4, 2022**. Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless the State Water Board determines otherwise.

Address comments to Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the State Water Board. Please indicate in the subject line: **“Comment Letter – Colorado River Basin OP-OC TMDL”**.

Written comments may be submitted electronically in pdf format (if less than 15 megabytes in total size) to the Board Clerk via e-mail at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in size, then the written comments may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620.

Alternatively, comments may be submitted by hand delivery or mail to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814-0100 (hand delivery)
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 (mail)

Couriers delivering written comments must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Jeanine Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS

In accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3779, subdivision (f), the State Water Board may refuse to accept any comment that does not satisfy all of the following requirements:

1. Comments must specifically address the final version of the Basin Plan amendment adopted by the Regional Water Board
2. If the Regional Water Board previously responded to a similar or identical comment, the commenter must explain why and in what manner the commenter believes each of the responses provided by the Regional Water Board to each comment was inadequate or incorrect.
3. The commenter also must include either a statement that each of the comments was timely raised before the Regional Water Board, or an explanation of why the commenter was unable to raise the specific comment before the Regional Water Board.

NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Board will consider adopting a resolution to approve the Basin Plan Amendment and SED.

The date, time, and location of the public meeting is:

Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 9:00a.m.
COASTAL HEARING ROOM
Joe Serna Jr. – CalEPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
and via Video and Teleconference

Video and Teleconference Option: This meeting will occur with both a physical meeting location and an option for the public to participate from a remote location.

- For those who only wish to watch the meeting, the webcast remains available at either <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/> or <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/> (closed captioning available) and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.
- For members of the public who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants at the public meeting. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. To ensure a productive and efficient meeting in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time limited. For other presentation recommendations go to:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml .

If you require language interpretation or sign language services, please email a request to Lauren Briggs at (760) 313-1291 or Lauren.Briggs@waterboards.ca.gov as far in advance of the meeting as possible. Telecommunications device for the hearing impaired (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CHANGES TO THE NOTICED ITEMS

Any change to the information noticed above will be provided via the State Water Board's email distribution list. Any person desiring to receive future notices must subscribe to the distribution list by accessing the following [subscription form](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml): (www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml).

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board webpage on [Travel to the CalEPA Headquarters Building](http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location) (www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location).

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5254 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Lauren Briggs, Environmental Scientist, at (760) 313-1291, or by e-mail at Lauren.Briggs@waterboards.ca.gov.

September 2, 2022

Date

Courtney Tyler for _____
Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board