
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

PROPOSED GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISCHARGE OF WASTES AT COMPOST MANAGEMENT UNITS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public meeting to consider approving the draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and adopting the statewide proposed General Waste Discharge Requirements for the Discharge of Wastes at Compost Management Units (Order) and the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP). The State Water Board may approve the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and adopt the Order and MRP at the end of the meeting. The location and time of the public meeting is provided below:

Tuesday, October 16, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.
State Water Resources Control Board, Coastal Hearing Room (2nd Floor)
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
Directions at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/location.htm>
This meeting will be webcast and available on the Internet.
See: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>

BACKGROUND

The State Water Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (collectively the Water Boards) are required to protect the quality and beneficial uses of the waters of the state. The California Water Code requires that anyone who discharges waste that could affect waters of the state must submit a report of waste discharge. Current practice is to issue individual waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for larger composting facilities. A conditional waiver for “green waste-only” composting facilities was in effect from 1994 until 2003, when a change in law required all waivers to be either renewed or replaced with WDRs. The State Water Board is considering approval of the draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and the adoption of the Order and which would address water quality protection at compost management units that currently exist or may be constructed.

The Water Boards do not have the ability to waive requirements on discharges to surface waters subject to the federal Clean Water Act. For discharges to surface waters, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits may be required to address either stormwater or wastewater discharges.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Order, the MRP, and the draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration may be obtained via the Internet on the State Water Board Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/compost/. Individuals may also receive a copy by writing to: Mr. Roger Mitchell, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, 9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92123-4340, or by contacting Mr. Mitchell at (858) 467-2724, FAX: (858) 571-6972, or e-mail: rmitchell@waterboards.ca.gov.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The comment period for the Order and MRP was noticed **on August 7, 2012**. Written comments for the Order and MRP will end at **12:00 noon on September 12, 2012**.

The draft Initial Study/mitigated Negative Declaration was filed with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research – Public Clearinghouse on **September 5, 2012** (#2012091002). Written comments for the draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration must be received by **12:00 noon on October 10, 2012** and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Commenters are encouraged to submit written comments electronically, in pdf text format (if less than 15 megabytes in total size), to the Clerk to the Board via e-mail at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, then the comment letter may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Please indicate the subject line **“Comment Letter – Compost Order CEQA draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.”** Persons delivering hard copies of comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

After the written comment period deadline, State Water Board staff will not accept additional written comments or materials on the draft documents.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At this meeting, there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. At the meeting, participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations. 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, please go to the State Water Board's web site at:

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

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal/EPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board web site at

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>.

The facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the Office of Employee Assistance, at (916) 341-5881 at least five working days prior to the meeting. Persons with hearing or speech impairments can contact us by using the California Relay Service Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD). TDD is reachable only from phones equipped with a TDD Device. HEARING IMPAIRED RELAY SERVICE: TDD to Voice (800) 735-2929, Voice to TDD (800) 735-2922.

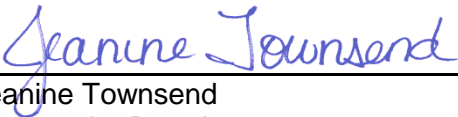
All visitors to the Cal/EPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

A Web broadcast of the public meeting will be available via the Internet and can be accessed at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions regarding the Order, MRP and draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to Mr. Roger Mitchell at (858) 467-2724 or e-mail rmitchell@waterboards.ca.gov.

September 10, 2012
Date


Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board