

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 83-33

CONSIDERATION OF REVISION TO AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY
CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN CONCERNING WATER
QUALITY STANDARDS FOR ENDRIN AND RADIOACTIVITY

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, (Regional Board) by Resolution No. 82-07, adopted "Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin Concerning Water Quality Standards for the San Lorenzo River, Santa Cruz County".
2. On July 21, 1982, in compliance with California Water Code Section 13245, the Regional Board submitted a request to the State Board for approval of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin (basin plan), and the State Board took the Regional Board's basin plan amendment under consideration at its October 21, 1982 regular Board meeting.
3. The State Board adopted Resolution No. 82-44 which approved, in part, the basin plan amendment and remanded a portion back to the Regional Board for reconsideration.
4. Specifically, the exceptions to the approval requested the Regional Board to do the following:
 - a. Correct an error which would have set the maximum contaminant level for endrin at 0.002 mg/l which is above the Federal standard of 0.0002 mg/l;
 - b. Correct a mis-citing of Title 22, California Administrative Code, of the section dealing with radioactivity; and
 - c. Revise the gross alpha particle activity of 15 picocuries per liter (pCi/l) to exclude radon and uranium and include in accordance with Title 22.
5. On February 25, 1983, the Regional Board complied with all State Board recommendations in its Resolution No. 83-03 and requested State Board reconsideration and approval.
6. Regional Board Resolution No. 83-03 further amends the basin plan (page 4-9) by inserting a supplemental paragraph under "Radioactivity" which specifies a standard for uranium-derived alpha particles, as follows:

"Until a radionuclide standard for uranium-derived alpha particles in domestic or municipal water supply is promulgated by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) should not exhibit uranium-derived gross alpha particle activity in excess of 10 pCi/l, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's current advisory limit."

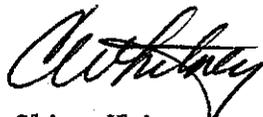
7. EPA staff advises 10 pCi/l as a safe limit for uranium in drinking water and that field tests of methods of removing excessive uranium are currently being conducted.
8. In adopting a numerical limit, the Regional Board stated its opinion that a limit would provide some guidance for public health and safety.
9. The State Board is desirous of recognizing the above addendum to the basin plan as an expression of the Regional Board's concern for public health and safety. The State Board recognizes that 10 pCi/l is an advisory limit for uranium and not an enforceable safe drinking water quality standard.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the State Board approve the basin plan amendment as revised in Regional Board Resolution No. 83-03 for pages 4-8 and 4-9, Pesticides, and page 4-9, Radioactivity (excluding radon and uranium and including radium-226 in the gross alpha particle activity contaminant level).
2. That the addendum specifying a numerical contribution from uranium to the gross alpha particle activity be accepted as an advisory limit, but not as an enforceable standard.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on May 24, 1983.



Clint Whitney
Executive Director