

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
APRIL 7, 2009**

ITEM 3

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A FEDERAL GRANT TO CONTINUE CONTAMINANT SOURCE INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES IN THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

DISCUSSION

The San Gabriel Valley federal Superfund sites were placed on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA's) National Priority List in 1984. As part of the federal requirements, U.S. EPA must attempt to identify potential responsible parties. In addition, the existing sources of contamination must be identified and mitigated.

Since October 1985, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) has been investigating sources of groundwater contamination in the San Gabriel Valley. In 1988, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) endorsed a strategy for addressing groundwater contamination in the San Gabriel Valley.

The Los Angeles Water Board began using funds from an initial grant from U.S. EPA in June 1989 to address the source investigation component of the strategy. The current year Cooperative Agreement with U.S. EPA is for a grant of \$350,000. An additional \$155,000 is available for April 1 through June 30, 2009, and State Water Board authorization is necessary to receive the funding.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board authorize the Executive Director or designee to accept approximately \$155,000 in federal grant funds from U.S. EPA to continue contaminant source identification activities in the San Gabriel Valley by the Los Angeles Water Board?

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed grant would continue the San Gabriel Valley Pollutant Source Investigation Project with federal grant funds. The State Water Board budget has adequate expenditure authority to expend these funds.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

Yes, Los Angeles Water Board.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board authorize the Executive Director or designee to accept approximately \$155,000 in federal grant funds from U.S. EPA to continue contaminant source identification activities in the San Gabriel Valley by the Los Angeles Water Board.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in implementing Priority 2 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to protect and restore groundwater quality. In particular, approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective 2.3 to ensure the viability of high quality groundwater basins the clean-up of contamination.

D R A F T

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2009-

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A FEDERAL GRANT TO CONTINUE CONTAMINANT SOURCE INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES IN THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

WHEREAS:

1. The San Gabriel Valley groundwater basin provides drinking water for over one million people;
2. A portion of the San Gabriel Valley groundwater basin is contaminated with volatile organic compounds and nitrates at concentrations exceeding State and federal drinking water standards;
3. The San Gabriel Valley groundwater basin was placed on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA's) National Priorities List in 1984;
4. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) has been investigating sources of groundwater contamination in the San Gabriel Valley since October 1985 in an attempt to identify potential responsible parties;
5. In April 1988, the Los Angeles Water Board endorsed a program strategy and action plan for continuing the cleanup of the San Gabriel Valley groundwater basin; and
6. U.S. EPA intends to augment the current year grant of \$350,000 by \$155,000 to fund Los Angeles Water Board staff to continue source identification activities in the San Gabriel Valley.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

That the State Water Board authorizes the Executive Director or designee to accept approximately \$155,000 in federal grant funds from U.S. EPA to continue contaminant source identification activities in the San Gabriel Valley by the Los Angeles Water Board.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the 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 April 7, 2009.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board