

ITEM: 13

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan to Establish a Drinking Water Policy for Surface Waters of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Upstream Tributaries

BOARD ACTION: Public hearing to receive comments

BACKGROUND: The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta provides drinking water for two thirds of the people in California. The 2000 CALFED Record of Decision identified the need for a Drinking Water Policy (Policy) for the Delta and upstream tributaries. In the 2002 Implementation MOU for the CALFED Drinking Water Quality Program, the Central Valley Water Board (Board), in consultation with DPH, SWRCB and USEPA, was given primary responsibility for developing the Policy. A Central Valley Drinking Water Policy Workgroup was formed, comprised of federal and state agencies, drinking water agencies, and wastewater, municipal storm water and agricultural interests. Workgroup members have provided funding as well as received grant funding to conduct technical studies and analytical modeling to support Policy development.

The proposed Basin Plan amendment includes the following:

- A narrative water quality objective for *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia* to protect the public water system component of the MUN beneficial use. As described in the Staff Report, there are currently no violations of this proposed water quality objective. The implementation plan includes numeric triggers to prompt investigatory action by the Central Valley Water Board to identify sources of changes in existing water quality. However, the numeric triggers would not indicate a violation of the water quality objective.
- Monitoring and surveillance language designed to support the Drinking Water Policy. This includes support for a one-time special study to characterize ambient background conditions and potential sources of *Cryptosporidium* in the project area and consideration of monitoring for organic carbon, nutrients and salinity when waste discharger requirements are renewed.
- Clarify the existing chemical constituents objective to explicitly include drinking water chemical constituents of concern such as organic carbon.

- Recognize existing Basin Plan elements associated with the protection of the MUN beneficial use.

RECOMMENDATION: Hearing to accept public comments.

Mgmt. Review_____

Legal Review_____

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