

ITEM: 22

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

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Approval of Environmental Document and Adoption of Proposed Amendment*

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 Central Valley Water Board held a meeting in April 2013 to accept comments on the proposed Amendments. All verbal comments received during the April Board meeting were supportive of the Proposed Amendment.

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.
- An implementation program to attain the water quality objectives. As described in the Staff Report, there are currently no violations of the proposed water quality objectives. The proposed 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.

- Clarification that the existing chemical constituents objective includes drinking water chemical constituents of concern such as organic carbon.
- Identification of the existing Basin Plan elements that is associated with the protection of the MUN beneficial use.

Three comment letters were received on the proposed Amendment and staff report during public review and comment period. The letters mostly addressed clarification issues associated with the proposed Amendment and staff report. Staff worked with the commenters to address the comments and to revise the staff report and proposed Amendments as needed.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed Basin Plan Amendment and approve the environmental document.

Mgmt. Review\_\_\_\_\_

Legal Review\_\_\_\_\_

25/26 July 2013

11020 Sun Center Dr. #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670