
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING and NOTICE OF FILING OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS Concerning

An 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

NOTICE TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS NEW DEADLINE TO ACCEPT WRITTEN COMMENTS – MAY 15TH

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) will hold a public hearing to discuss the development of an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins. The amendment is being developed to establish a Drinking Water Policy for surface waters of the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta and upstream tributaries. 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 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 discharge requirements are renewed.
- Clarify the existing chemical constituents objective to explicitly include drinking water chemical constituents of concern such as organic carbon.
- Compile existing Basin Plan elements associated with the protection of the MUN beneficial use.

The Board's Basin Planning Program is considered a certified regulatory program, which means that the Board is exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report for basin planning activities under the California Environmental Quality Act because a sufficiently rigorous environmental review is incorporated into the basin planning process itself. (Pub. Res. Code, § 21080.5; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15251(g).) The Board's environmental review of the proposed Basin Plan Amendments is contained in a draft Staff Report, which is considered to be "substitute environmental documentation" or "SED".

The public hearing is scheduled as follows:

Date: 11 to 12 April 2013 (Please contact staff two weeks prior to the meeting for the exact date.)
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

The public hearing in April will provide participants with: 1) an update of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment and draft staff report prior to consideration of the amendment by the Central Valley Water Board; 2) an opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan; and 3) an opportunity to hear comments from interested persons on the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan. All comments will be included in the final administrative record. Following the public hearing in April, staff will review comments received and prepare responses and final recommendations in a report for Water Board consideration at a public hearing scheduled for its 25–26 July 2013 meeting.

During a subsequent public meeting scheduled for the following dates, the Board will consider adoption of proposed amendments to the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basin Plan to establish a Drinking Water Policy for surface waters of the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta and upstream tributaries and SED:

Date: 25 to 26 July 2013 (Please contact staff two weeks prior to the meeting for the exact date.)
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Place: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

The draft staff report and environmental documents for the establishment of a drinking water policy for surface waters of the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta and upstream tributaries has been posted for public review. Interested persons may download the draft staff report from the Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/drinking_water_policy/

Copies of the report also can be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114, on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Staff contact information: Jay Simi, (916) 464-4833, jsimi@waterboards.ca.gov.

The deadline for written comments has been extended. Written comments must be submitted to the above email or postal address by **15 May 2013** in order to be included in the written response to comments that will become part of the final administrative record. Oral testimony will be limited in time by the Board Chair. Groups are encouraged to designate a spokesperson. All exhibits presented at the hearing, including charts, graphs, and other testimony, must be left with the Board and will become part of the administrative record.

At the conclusion of the July hearing, in response to written comments and testimony received, the Central Valley Water Board may take action on the proposed amendment, which may include adopting the amendment as proposed, or adopting the amendment with changes that are consistent with the general purpose of the proposed amendment and are a logical outgrowth of the evidence and testimony received.

The hearing and workshop facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original signed by
Kenneth Landau, Assistant Executive Officer

3/25/13
Date