



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



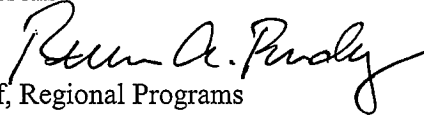
Linda S. Adams
Agency Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF HEARING

To: Interested Persons

From: Renee Purdy 
Section Chief, Regional Programs
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

Date: July 20, 2009

Subject: Notice of Public Hearing for a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan - Los Angeles Region* to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load for PCBs, Organochlorine Pesticides and Sediment Toxicity for McGrath Lake

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) will consider a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan - Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to establish waste load and load allocations and an implementation plan to attain water quality objectives for PCBs, organochlorine pesticides and sediment toxicity in McGrath Lake. Additional regulations or policies, consistent with the general purpose of the proposed amendment and complementary to the proposal may be developed at the hearing as a logical outgrowth of discussions. The Regional Board will act on the proposed amendment after hearing staff's presentation and public comments.

Copies of the tentative Resolution, Basin Plan Amendment, Staff Report, draft Substitute Environmental Document containing the CEQA checklist, and Notice of Filing can be obtained from the Regional Board website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/tmdl/tmdl_list.shtml.

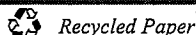
***A Public Hearing will be held on October 1, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California***

Written comments and exhibits must be received by the Regional Board no later than 5:00 p.m. on September 3, 2009. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for the Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or exhibit into evidence (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Section 649.4). Comments should be submitted to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013

ATTN: Elisha Wakefield

California Environmental Protection Agency



Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

All exhibits including charts, graphs and other testimony presented at the public hearing must be left with the Regional Board for inclusion in the Administrative Record. Please note that the Regional Board may impose time limits on oral testimony at the public hearing.

Background

The proposed amendment would incorporate into the Basin Plan a TMDL to establish waste load and load allocations and an implementation plan to attain water quality objectives for PCBs, organochlorine pesticides and sediment toxicity in McGrath Lake. The Regional Board's goal in incorporating the above-mentioned TMDL is to protect the beneficial uses of this waterbody which include recreation (REC-1 and REC-2), aquatic life (EST, WILD, RARE, and WET) and commercial and sport fishing (COMM) and to restore overall water and sediment quality in McGrath Lake. The Regional Board has prepared this TMDL to address the documented PCBs, organochlorine pesticides and sediment toxicity impairments in McGrath Lake.

The Regional Board is charged with implementing the provisions of both the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California law) and the federal Clean Water Act in the Los Angeles Region. One of the ways in which the Regional Board implements these laws is through the development and implementation of water quality standards for all of the water bodies within the Region. Under the federal Clean Water Act, water quality standards consist of beneficial use designations of waterbodies and numeric or narrative water quality objectives that are protective of those beneficial uses as well as the State's anti-degradation policy. Section 303(d)(A)(1) of the Clean Water Act requires the State to identify those waters that are impaired by pollution (not meeting water quality standards), and establish TMDLs for the pollutants causing the impairments. A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and allocates the acceptable pollutant load to point and non-point sources.

The proposed TMDL sets numeric targets for PCBs and organochlorine pesticides based on numeric water quality objectives (WQOs) and the interpretation of narrative WQOs provided in the Basin Plan and in 40 CFR 131.38 (California Toxics Rule). Non-point source dischargers are assigned load allocations for this TMDL. The contaminants of concern have been detected in both water and sediment samples collected at McGrath Lake, therefore the TMDL assigns load allocations to both sediment and water, which are equal to the numeric targets. The sediment toxicity impairment is addressed by numeric targets, which are protective of aquatic life in water and sediment.

The proposed TMDL would require the responsible parties to achieve the final load allocations within 14 years. The goal of the TMDL implementation plan is to attain the final TMDL allocations, demonstrate attainment of the TMDL numeric targets, and restore the beneficial uses of McGrath Lake.