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## Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

**TO:** Interested Persons

**FROM:** Renee Purdy  
Section Chief, Regional Programs

**DATE:** June 19, 2014

**SUBJECT:** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED NON-REGULATORY AMENDMENTS TO ADMINISTRATIVELY UPDATE CHAPTER 1 "INTRODUCTION", CHAPTER 5 "PLANS AND POLICIES", AND CHAPTER 6 "MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT" OF THE BASIN PLAN

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of non-regulatory amendments to administratively update certain chapters of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan). The purpose of this action is to administratively update Chapter 1 "Introduction", Chapter 5 "Plans and Policies", and Chapter 6 "Monitoring and Assessment" of the Basin Plan.

#### Background on the Administrative Update to Chapters 1, 5, and 6 of the Basin Plan

The current Basin Plan was adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board on June 13, 1994, and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on November 17, 1994 and by the State Office of Administrative Law on February 23, 1995.

In 2010, the Los Angeles Water Board recognized the need for an overall update to the Basin Plan as several amendments to the Basin Plan, which had been adopted since 1994 and were in effect, had not been physically integrated into the Basin Plan. Also, the Basin Plan did not reflect current information on Los Angeles Water Board programs, plans, and policies, or more recently available geographical and background information for the Los Angeles Region. As a result, an administrative update of the Basin Plan was identified as a priority project to be addressed during the 2008-2010 triennial review (Resolution No. R10-001).

The administrative update to the Basin Plan has been conducted in phases, three of which have been completed to date. The update to Chapter 2 "Beneficial Uses" was completed in November 2011, and was followed by the addition of Chapter 7 "TMDLs" to the Basin Plan in December 2011. The update to Chapter 3 "Water Quality Objectives" was conducted in May 2013.

This fourth phase involves the administrative update of Chapters 1, 5, and 6 of the Basin Plan. Chapter 1 "Introduction" contains information on the function and the legal basis and authority of the Basin Plan, as well as background information on the Los Angeles Region to which it

applies. Chapter 5 contains summaries of all Regional and State Water Board plans and policies applicable to water quality protection in the Los Angeles Region. Chapter 6 contains a description of monitoring and assessment programs and corresponding databases designed to assess the effectiveness of the Los Angeles Water Board's water quality control programs.

The proposed administrative updates to these chapters of the Basin Plan specifically include:

- (i) Updates to background information on the Los Angeles Region in Chapter 1;
- (ii) Updates to the summaries of Regional and State Water Board plans and policies in Chapter 5;
- (iii) Updates to descriptions of monitoring and assessment programs in Chapter 6 and the addition of water quality database descriptions;
- (iv) Updates to tables in Chapters 1, 5, and 6 containing background information on the Los Angeles Region, as well as information on the Regional and State Water Board's planning and implementation programs, pertinent plans and policies, and monitoring and assessment programs; and
- (v) Updates to maps and figures in Chapters 1 and 5 to reflect current Regional Water Board program information, as well as background and geographical information.

This administrative update to Chapters 1, 5, and 6 of the Basin Plan is non-regulatory in nature and does not involve any new changes to water quality standards for the surface and ground waters of the Los Angeles Region. Neither does it modify the application of these standards or their implementation provisions. It is the next phase of a multi-step plan to administratively update the entire Basin Plan. Any regulatory updates to these chapters of the Basin Plan will be addressed in the future as separate Board actions.

## **I. PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND LOCATION**

The Los Angeles Water Board will hold a public hearing to consider amending the Basin Plan to administratively update Chapters 1, 5, and 6. The Los Angeles Water Board is expected to take formal action at the hearing on the proposed non-regulatory amendments. The Board is scheduled to hold a hearing to receive comments and evidence on, and consider adoptions of, the tentative Basin Plan amendments at its regularly scheduled board meeting on:

**Date:** Thursday, September 11, 2014

**Time:** 9:00 AM

**Place:** Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
700 North Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Please check the Los Angeles Water Board's website (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/>) for the most up-to-date public hearing date and location as they are subject to change. If there is not a quorum on the scheduled date of the public hearing, all items will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting. A continuance of the hearing will not automatically extend any deadlines set forth in this notice.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Theresa Rodgers at (213) 576-6789 or [Theresa.Rodgers@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Theresa.Rodgers@waterboards.ca.gov) at least five working days prior to the meeting.

## II. SCOPE OF HEARING

Interested persons may present relevant written and oral comments and evidence on the proposed Basin Plan amendments. Please be advised that comments or evidence concerning the appropriateness of any previously adopted Basin Plan amendment are not relevant to this action and will not be accepted or responded to. Comments shall be limited to the proposed administrative updates to Chapters 1, 5, and 6 of the Basin Plan.

## III. AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The draft tentative resolution, updated Basin Plan chapters, and staff report are available on the Los Angeles Water Board's website at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/basin\\_plan/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/).

These documents are also available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM at the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region  
320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of documents may be made by calling the Los Angeles Water Board at (213) 576-6600. Appointments are encouraged so the documents can be readily available upon arrival. Comments and responses to comments and other subsequent relevant documents will be available online as they are generated.

## IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on the draft tentative resolution, Basin Plan amendments, and Staff Report, or submit evidence for the Los Angeles Water Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing. To be evaluated and responded to by Board staff, included in the Board's agenda binder, and fully considered by the Board members in advance of the hearing, all written comments and evidence must be received at the Board's office by **5:00 PM on August 4, 2014**. Untimely submittal of written comments or evidence will not be accepted or responded to by the Los Angeles Water Board.

Interested persons are encouraged to submit comments electronically. Send comments by e-mail to: [Ginachi.Amah@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Ginachi.Amah@waterboards.ca.gov). Please indicate in the subject line, "Comment Letter – Administrative Update to Chapters 1, 5, and 6 of the Basin Plan." Written comments submitted through email are requested to be transmitted in Microsoft Word format. Written comments sent by mail should be addressed to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region  
Attn: Dr. Ginachi Amah  
320 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Failure to comply with the above requirements is grounds for the Los Angeles Water Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or exhibit into evidence pursuant to section 649.4, Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

Interested persons are also invited to attend the hearing and present relevant oral comments to the Board. To the extent possible, oral presentations should summarize any submitted written comments and evidence. Oral comments are generally limited to 3 minutes each, but time limitations may be adjusted at the discretion of the Chair, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Interested persons seeking more than 3 minutes to present oral comments at the hearing must contact the Los Angeles Water Board staff contact identified below by **September 1, 2014** to request additional time.

The State Water Board, when considering approval of a regional water board's adoption of Basin Plan amendments, may refuse to accept any comments that were not timely raised before the regional water board. Therefore, interested persons are strongly encouraged to make all comments on this proposed action to the Los Angeles Water Board before or during the public hearing.

#### **V. FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS FROM STATE WATER BOARD**

Any person desiring to receive future notices from the State Water Board regarding its approval process for the proposed amendments must sign up for the State Water Board's Lyris list at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/swrcb\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml)

#### **VI. LOS ANGELES WATER BOARD STAFF CONTACTS**

For additional information regarding this proposed action, please contact Dr. Ginachi Amah at (213) 576-6685 or [Ginachi.Amah@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Ginachi.Amah@waterboards.ca.gov) or Dr. Celine Gallon at (213) 576-6784 or [Celine.Gallon@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Celine.Gallon@waterboards.ca.gov).