

ITEM: 10

SUBJECT: Existing Milk Cow Dairies

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of General Waste Discharge Requirements*

BACKGROUND: Most Central Valley dairies historically operated under a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements adopted in 1982 (Resolution No. 82-036). The waiver expired on 1 January 2003 pursuant to California Water Code Section 13269.

The proposed general Order will apply to most, but not all, of the 1550 existing dairies in the Region. Any new dairies that go into operation after 17 October 2005 or facilities that expand in size after that date will have to obtain individual WDRs. If it is determined that a facility needs an NPDES permit, this Order will be replaced by such a permit.

The proposed general Order requires the preparation of a Waste Management Plan that addresses the production area and a Nutrient Management Plan that addresses the land application areas. Because of the extent of work required, there is a timetable that allows phased development and implementation of plans and necessary improvements. All changes must be in place by July 2012.

A draft of this Order was sent out for public review in November 2006 and the Board held two workshops in December 2006 to receive comments. The tentative Order reflects changes in response to comments received on the November draft. Written comments on the tentative Order in the agenda are due on 23 April 2007 and any changes in response to these comments will be provided to the Board as late revisions.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff will prepare recommendations following review of written comments.

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

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

**3/4 May 2007**

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