

ITEM: 10
SUBJECT: Revisions to the WDRs for Growers within the Western Tulare Lake Basin Area that are Members of a Third-party Group

BOARD ACTION: Consider Order revising Waste Discharge Requirements

BACKGROUND: On 9 January 2014, the Board prescribed waste discharge requirements for discharges from irrigated lands for growers that are members of third-party groups within the Western Tulare Lake Basin Area (the "General Order"). Some requirements of the General Order, such as the Farm Evaluation and Nitrogen Management Plans, are due for large farming operations within high vulnerability areas beginning 1 March 2015. The current time schedule does not provide growers with sufficient time to meet the 1 March 2015 deadlines. Additionally, the third-party groups have requested additional time for the submittal of some grower requirements, citing that the additional time is needed due to impacts from the drought. To address these concerns, the proposed tentative Order would amend the schedule for the preparation and submittal of the Farm Evaluations, Nitrogen Management Plans, Certification of the Nitrogen Management Plans and Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Reports for large farming operations in high vulnerability areas.

The proposed time schedule is consistent with the changes made by Order R5-2014-0143 Revising Order R5-2013-0120 Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Growers within the Tulare Lake Basin Areas that are Members of a Third-Party Group.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the tentative Order as proposed.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review PEP

5/6 February 2015
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