



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region

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<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego>

Date: July 6, 2010

TO: Interested Parties

RE: Notice of Public Workshop for the Basin Plan Triennial Review

Introduction

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) is conducting its triennial review of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan). This letter:

- invites you to attend a public workshop about the Basin Plan triennial review, and
- introduces the new stakeholder-involved process that the San Diego Water Board intends to use to complete the Basin Plan triennial review.

Notice of Public Workshop

The San Diego Water Board invites you to attend an informational public workshop about the triennial review conducted by the San Diego Water Board.

Date: Thursday, August 5, 2010

Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Board Room of the San Diego Water Board

9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100

San Diego, CA 92123-4340

The purpose of the workshop is to present the status of the triennial review and initiate a new stakeholder-involved process. This workshop will be the second public workshop conducted for the current triennial review. The first workshop was held on December 8, 2008; however, work on the triennial review was temporarily suspended shortly thereafter. This second public workshop will pick up where the earlier effort left off. A copy of the July 6, 2010 Notice of Public Workshop is enclosed (Enclosure 1).

Basin Plan Triennial Review

The Basin Plan triennial review is a periodic review of the Basin Plan to identify necessary updates to water quality standards and other elements. The product of the triennial review is a list of priority issues to be investigated further and, where appropriate, addressed through the adoption of Basin Plan amendments. The list of priority issues is adopted by the San Diego Water Board and serves as a workplan to guide regional basin planning activities during the upcoming three year period. The

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triennial review is required by state and federal laws and is termed a “triennial review” because it is mandated by the federal Clean Water Act every three years.

New Stakeholder-Involved Process for the Triennial Review

The San Diego Water Board is embarking on a new, stakeholder-involved triennial review process that includes the formation of a Triennial Review Advisory Committee (TRAC). The purpose of the TRAC is to enhance public participation by the regulated community and other stakeholders through participation in the prioritization of basin planning issues. The San Diego Water Board will strive to develop a consensus-based draft list of priority issues for public review and, ultimately, adoption by the San Diego Water Board.

Enhanced Stakeholder Participation

In previous triennial reviews (1998, 2004), the public had the opportunity to submit basin planning issues at the start of the triennial review and provide comments on the draft list of priority issues at the end of the triennial review; issue prioritization was done entirely by the San Diego Water Board. In the current triennial review, the public will have the same opportunity to submit basin planning issues at the start and provide comments on the draft list of priority issues at the end; issue prioritization, however, will now be a joint effort between stakeholder representatives on the TRAC and the San Diego Water Board.

TRAC Composition and Membership

The San Diego Water Board intends the TRAC will be composed of a reasonably balanced constituency of approximately 20 representatives from the regulated community, land use planning agencies, resources agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholder interests in the region. The TRAC may include, but will not be limited to, representatives of the following entities and interests: County of San Diego, County of Riverside, and County of Orange; San Diego Unified Port District; San Diego Regional Water Management Group; Upper Santa Margarita Regional Water Management Group; South Orange County Regional Water Management Group; Publicly Owned Treatment Works; Industry; Military; Agriculture; Non-Governmental Organizations (e.g., major environmental advocacy groups); and Resource Agencies. TRAC membership will be determined through San Diego Water Board invitation and through nomination during the public workshop to be held on August 5, 2010. If you are interested in serving on the TRAC as a stakeholder representative, please plan to attend the workshop. Final TRAC membership will be decided by the management of the San Diego Water Board and announced shortly after the workshop.

TRAC Member Activities

The TRAC will be a forum for open discussion about basin planning issues under consideration. TRAC members will use a scoring system developed by the San Diego Water Board and vetted by US EPA to prioritize basin planning issues. TRAC members will participate in a series of facilitated meetings to present and discuss issue prioritization recommendations. A TRAC member may expect to spend approximately 40-50 hours over the course of about eight weeks. This rough time estimate is based on the

need to score up to 80 issues and attend several meetings at the San Diego Water Board office. Progress toward achieving key milestones will be assessed during the process to afford TRAC members the opportunity to evaluate continued participation.

Public Review of TRAC Product

The draft list of priority issues developed through the TRAC effort will be made available for public comment along with a draft staff report and draft tentative resolution for consideration. An additional (third) public workshop will be scheduled during the public comment period. Staff will consider and respond to all public comments, and revise the documents as appropriate. Revised documents and responses to comments are expected to be released for public review and presented to the Board for adoption consideration in early 2011.

Availability of Documents

All documents relating to the current triennial review are available through the San Diego Water Board’s Triennial Review webpage at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/tri_review.shtml.

Preliminary, Un-Prioritized List of All Issues

A preliminary, un-prioritized list of all basin planning issues to be considered by the TRAC will be posted at the above link no later than July 19, 2010. The list will be based on a compilation of (a) comments received during the initial public solicitation period, October 2008 through January 9, 2009, and (b) issues carried over from the 2004 Triennial Review. If you are concerned about a basin planning issue that is not on the list, please inform the San Diego Water Board (see Staff Contact information below).

General Overview of Triennial Review Schedule (Tentative)

Public Solicitation Period opened	Oct 31, 2008
1 st Informational Public Workshop	Dec 8, 2008
Public Solicitation Period closed	Jan 9, 2009
2 nd Informational Public Workshop	Aug 5, 2010
TRAC formation	Aug 2010
TRAC meetings, issue prioritization	Sep through Oct 2010
Draft documents available for public review	Dec 2010 through Jan 2011
3 rd Informational Public Workshop	Dec 2010
Revised documents written response to comments available for public review	Jan 2011
Public hearing to consider adoption of Tentative Resolution that includes list of priority issues	Feb 2011

The San Diego Water Board anticipates a formal public hearing in February 2011 to consider adoption of a tentative resolution that includes the list of priority basin planning issues developed with the assistance of regional stakeholders during this triennial review.

To Receive Future Triennial Review Notices and Updates

Future triennial review notices and updates will be sent only to persons who are on the "Basin Planning Issues" electronic mailing list or have asked to receive triennial review information via U.S. Mail. Subscription to the "Basin Planning Issues" electronic mailing list is available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg9_subscribe.shtml.

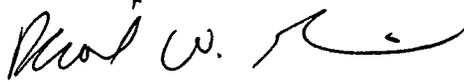
If you wish to receive future triennial review communications via U.S. mail, please send a written request to Ms. Deborah Woodward at DWoodward@waterboards.ca.gov, or to the fax or street address provided in the heading of this letter.

Staff Contact

Questions regarding the triennial review may be directed to Ms. Deborah Woodward at DWoodward@waterboards.ca.gov or (858) 637-5586.

Thank you in advance for your contributions to this very important process.

Sincerely,



David W. Gibson
Executive Officer

Enclosure:

Notice of Public Workshop for August 5, 2010

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP
FOR BASIN PLAN TRIENNIAL REVIEW**

**Public Workshop
August 5 at 1:30 p.m.
Regional Water Quality Control Board, Board Room,
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100,
San Diego, California 92123-4340**

Public Workshop

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) invites you to attend a public workshop about the Basin Plan triennial review (triennial review) conducted by staff of the San Diego Water Board. The public workshop will be held:

Date: Thursday, August 5, 2010
Time: 1:30 – 3:30
Location: San Diego Water Board Office - Board Room
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, California 92123-4340

Purpose

The purpose of the workshop is to initiate a new stakeholder-involved process that the San Diego Water Board intends to use while completing the triennial review.

Basin Plan Triennial Review

The Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) contains the water quality standards applicable within the San Diego Region. The triennial review is a periodic review of the Basin Plan for the purpose of identifying necessary updates to water quality standards and other elements of the Basin Plan. The product of the triennial review is a list of priority basin planning issues to be investigated further and, where appropriate, addressed through the adoption of Basin Plan amendments. The list of priority issues is adopted by the San Diego Water Board and serves as a workplan to guide basin planning activities during the upcoming three year period. The triennial review is required by state and federal laws, and is termed a “triennial review” because it is mandated to occur every three years.

New Stakeholder-Involved Process

In an earlier solicitation (October 31, 2008 through January 9, 2009), the public provided input on basin planning issues to consider during the triennial review. To prioritize the many issues, the San Diego Water Board is now embarking on a new, stakeholder-involved process that includes the formation of a Triennial Review Advisory Committee (TRAC). The purpose of the TRAC is to enhance public participation by the regulated community and other stakeholders through participation in the prioritization of basin planning issues.

The San Diego Water Board intends the TRAC will be composed of a balanced constituency of approximately 20 representatives from the regulated community, land use planning agencies, resources agencies, NGOs, environmental advocates and other stakeholder interests in the region. TRAC membership will be determined through San Diego Water Board invitation and through nomination during the August 5, 2010 public workshop. Final TRAC membership will be decided by the management of the San Diego Water Board and announced shortly after the workshop. TRAC members will participate in a series of facilitated meetings during September and October and assist in the development of a draft list of priority issues. Through the TRAC process, the San Diego Water Board will strive to develop a consensus-based draft list of priority issues for public review and, ultimately, adoption by the San Diego Water Board. Opportunity to comment on the draft list of priority issues will be announced at a later date.

More information about the Triennial Review is available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/tri_review.shtml.

Directions and Parking

Directions to the workshop are available at: (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about_us/). Scroll down to ‘Where We Are’ and click on Directions. Parking is available at the workshop. The workshop facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Lori Costa at (858) 467-2357 at least five working days prior to the workshop. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Staff Contact

If you need further information, please contact Deborah Woodward at (858) 637-5586.

/Original Signed by/
David W. Gibson
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dated: July 6, 2010