

## California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

### NOTICE OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT SCOPING MEETING

#### Draft Environmental Checklist for a Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin Changing the Nitrate Water Quality Objective for Forty-Four Groundwater Basins

#### California Environmental Quality Act Scoping Meeting

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) will hold a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting on July 31, 2014 to provide information and receive public input on a Draft Environmental Checklist to support a proposed amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan).<sup>1</sup> If adopted, that Basin Plan amendment would change the nitrate water quality objective for 44 Groundwater Basins.

The Draft Environmental Checklist assesses environmental impacts from the San Diego Water Board's proposed action to change the nitrate groundwater quality objectives established in the Basin Plan for 44 groundwater basins in the San Diego Region. At this time, the Draft Environmental Checklist concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the environment. The San Diego Water Board plans to prepare and release a Substitute Environmental Document for the proposed action at a later date.

#### Scoping Meeting Details

**Thursday, July 31, 2014, 9:00 A.M. to Noon**  
**San Diego Water Board, Board Meeting Room**  
**2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100; San Diego, California 92108**

At the scoping meeting, staff will give an overview of the Draft Environmental Checklist, receive public comments, and answer questions from interested persons. The San Diego Water Board Staff would like to receive verbal public comments about the Draft Environmental Checklist and ideas for its improvement. A quorum of Board members may be present at the workshop but no action will be taken.

#### Background

The San Diego Water Board is required to protect the quality and beneficial uses of the waters of the State, and is proposing to make the following amendments to its Basin Plan:

<sup>1</sup> See Basin Plan on-line at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/programs/basin\\_plan/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/index.shtml)

1. Change the Basin Plan's water quality objective established for nitrate in groundwater for 44 groundwater basins in the San Diego Region. The proposal is to raise the water quality objective for groundwater to be equivalent to the California Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for nitrate, currently set at 45 mg/L as nitrate.
2. Incorporate the State Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) Policy into the Basin Plan.
3. Make minor administrative changes to the Basin Plan.

The Draft Environmental Checklist, which is the subject of the scoping meeting, only assesses environmental impacts associated with the proposed action to change the nitrate groundwater quality objective. Environmental impacts associated with incorporating the State OWTS Policy are addressed in a separate Substitute Environmental Document, while the minor administrative changes to the Basin plan do not require assessment of environmental impacts and are exempt from CEQA requirements.

### **Directions and Parking**

For directions to the San Diego Water Board office, please refer to: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about\\_us/contact\\_us/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about_us/contact_us/). Two-hour free parking is available on a first-come first-serve basis, and long term fee parking is available in an adjacent parking structure. The facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. The facility is also accessible via public transit. Persons requiring additional accommodations should contact Ms. Chris Blank at [chris.blank@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:chris.blank@waterboards.ca.gov) or (619) 521-3382 at least five (5) days prior to the workshop.

### **Contact Information**

Any questions or concerns regarding the above subject should be directed to Mr. Fisayo Osibodu at 619-521-8036 or by email at [olufisayo.osibodu@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:olufisayo.osibodu@waterboards.ca.gov).