



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Executive Office

Tam M. Doduc, Board Chair
1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5615
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100
Fax (916) 341-5621 • <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

December 4, 2006

To: Interested Persons

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SOLICITATION OF WATER QUALITY DATA AND INFORMATION FOR 2008 INTEGRATED REPORT – LIST OF IMPAIRED WATERS AND SURFACE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT [303(d)/305(b)]

This letter initiates the solicitation period to request from interested persons data and information regarding water quality conditions in surface waters of California. Information gathered will be used to provide the basis both for identifying and listing impaired waters and for assessing overall surface water quality conditions in California.

Background Information

Every two years, the State of California is required by federal Clean Water Act section 303(d) and Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations section 130.7 to develop and submit to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for approval a list of polluted waters or water quality limited segments (distinct portions of rivers, streams, lakes, ocean waters, etc.). This list is commonly referred to as the "Section 303(d) List" or the "List of Impaired Waters." California's 2006 list has been adopted and is available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_lists2006.html. The State Water Board's policy regarding listing criteria may be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_listing.html.

The list includes water bodies not meeting water quality standards (beneficial uses, water quality objectives/criteria and the State's anti-degradation policy) that are not, or are not expected to be, attained with the implementation of technology-based controls. In addition, currently-listed water bodies can be delisted when evidence reveals that such impacts have ceased, impacts never existed, or the water body is meeting water quality standards. As required by federal law, listed water bodies will be scheduled for development of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) or other appropriate regulatory actions. A TMDL is the total maximum daily load of a pollutant that can be discharged daily into a given water body and still ensure the attainment of applicable water quality standards. In addition, Clean Water Act section 305(b) requires states to submit to USEPA for approval a report assessing statewide surface water quality.

California Environmental Protection Agency



2008 Integrated Report

For the 2008 update, the List of Impaired Waters and the Surface Water Quality Assessment will be combined into an Integrated Report. This Report is due to USEPA by April 1, 2008. The USEPA integrated reporting guidelines can be viewed at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/2006IRG/report/2006irg-report.pdf>

Development of Integrated Report

Data and information for the 2006 list were submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). However, for the 2008 update, data and information are to be submitted to each Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board), which will then compile and approve regional lists. Enclosure 1 provides Regional Water Board contact information. Enclosure 2 identifies each of the nine Regional Water Boards and some of the major water bodies within each Region. **To be considered in this review process, data and information must be submitted to the appropriate Regional Water Board no later than February 28, 2007.**

The State Water Board will compile the regional lists into a statewide list and consider it for adoption. Following State Water Board adoption, the list will then be combined with the Regions' surface water quality assessments into an Integrated Report, as described above, and submitted to USEPA for approval by April 1, 2008.

Since the data and information gathered in this solicitation will contribute to the preparation of a statewide assessment of surface water quality, please do not limit your data and information submissions to only those data that show standards are not met. Data that show standards are being met should also be submitted, as these data and information are extremely important to a proper understanding of the health of the waters of the State. More detailed information about the overall process and requirements for submitting water quality data and information can be found in Enclosure 3.

The tentative schedule for conducting the review and approval of portions of the Integrated Report is shown below. The schedule may change depending on the amount of data to be assessed and the resources available to perform the assessment.

Activity	Date
Beginning of solicitation period for data and information	December 2006
End of solicitation period for data and information	February 28, 2007
Regional Water Boards' approvals of the regional lists and water quality assessment	September 2007 through December 2007
Submittal of Regional Water Boards' portions of the List and Report to State Water Board	December 2007
State Water Board approval of statewide Integrated Report and submittal to USEPA	April 2008

Should you have questions regarding data or information you wish to submit or about this notice, please contact the respective Regional Water Board contact (see Enclosures 1 and 2). You may also contact Craig J. Wilson at the State Water Resources Control Board at 916-341-5560 (cjwilson@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Thomas Howard
Acting Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Alexis Strauss, Director
Water Division (WTR-1)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

All Regional Water Quality Control Boards