

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Scoping for the Draft General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations Environmental Impact Report

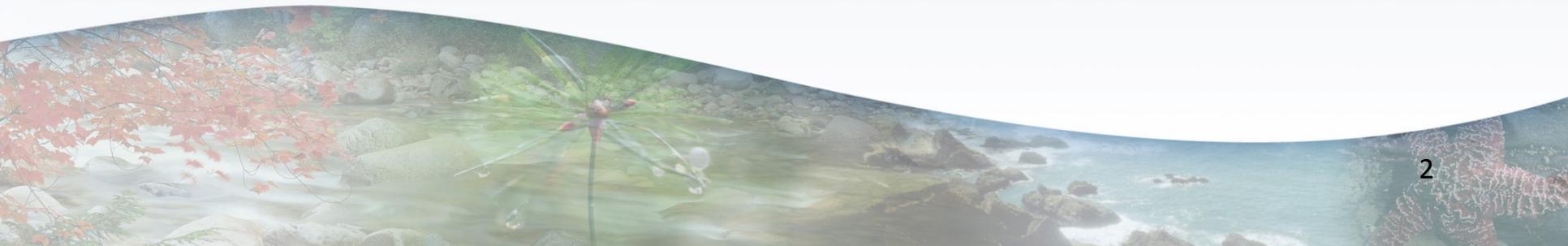
Cal EPA Building
Coastal Hearing Room
August 23, 2013

Send comments to:
commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov
By September 6, 2013



AGENDA

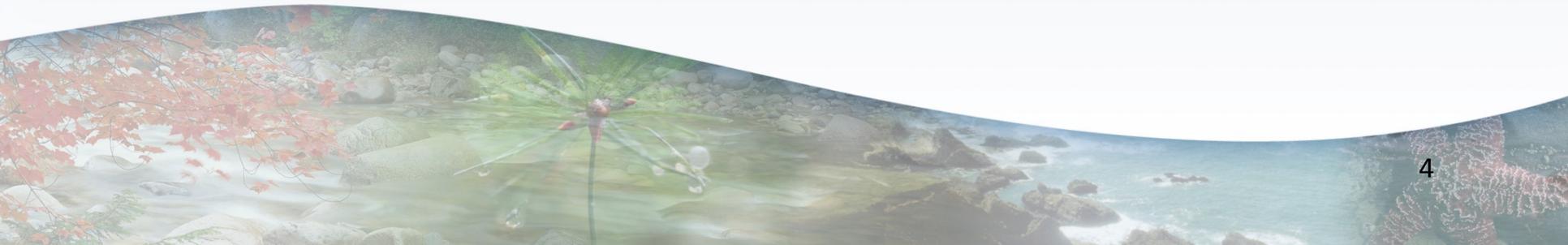
- Introductions
- Background
- Project Description
- CEQA Process
- Next Steps
- Questions/Comments



BACKGROUND

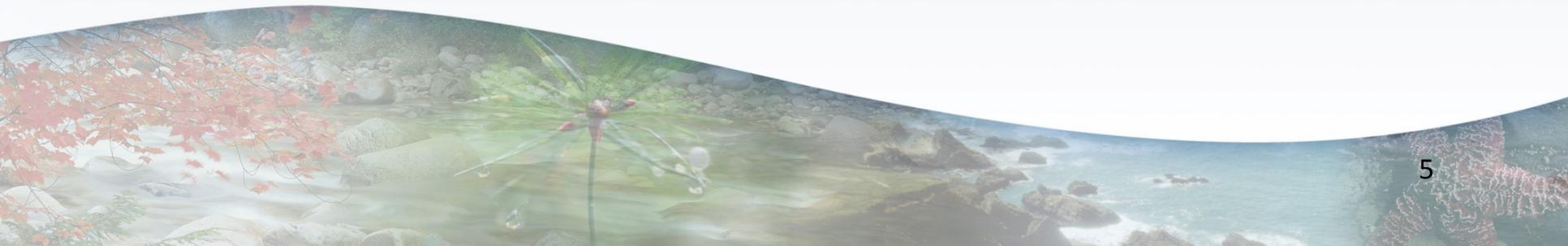
- **2003**: Existing waivers expired for Composting Operations
- **2009-2012**: Development of a statewide General Order for Composting to replace the expired waivers
- **September 2012**: General Order and Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) released for public review
- **October 2012**: Due to public comments on the IS/MND the General Order is pulled from Board Meeting
- **May 2013**: Preliminary draft conditions presented to stakeholders
- **July 2013**: Notice of Preparation (NOP) released to formally kick off the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) process

PROJECT DESCRIPTION – DRAFT GENERAL ORDER FOR COMPOSTING OPERATIONS



GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- Protect the beneficial uses of waters of the state from discharges to land associated with composting operations
- Streamline water quality permitting for composting operations and create statewide consistency with water quality regulations related to composting operations
- Support California's goal to recycle 75 Percent of our solid waste by 2020
- Coordinate with CalRecycle's Title 14 Compostable Materials Handling regulations



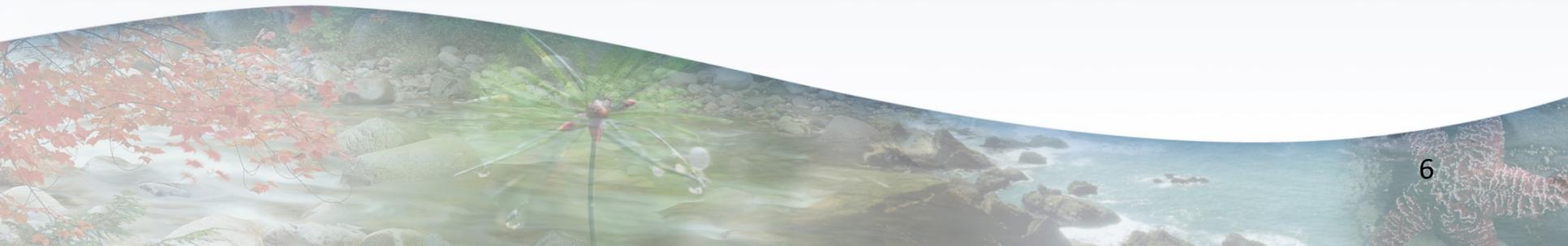
COVERED ACTIVITIES – TWO TIERS

Tier I

- Capacity $< 25,000 \text{ yd}^3$
- Siting Criteria for depth to groundwater and distance to surface water and drinking water supply wells
- Feedstock materials: agricultural, green, paper, vegetative food

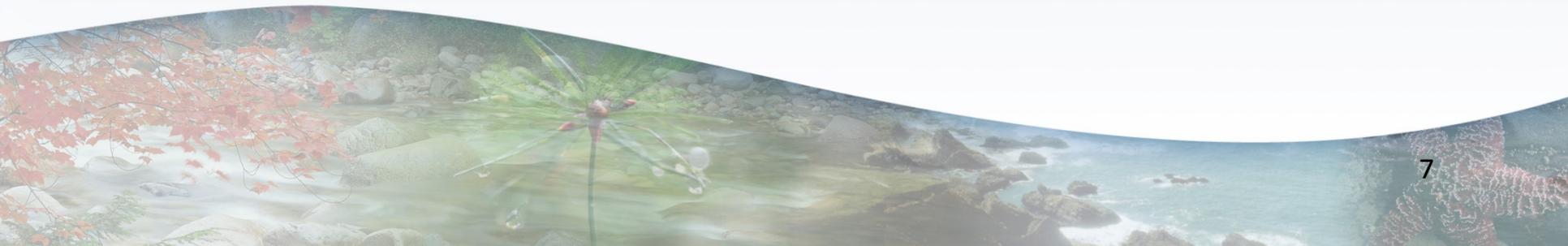
Tier II

- Capacity $\geq 25,000 \text{ yd}^3$ or $< 25,000 \text{ yd}^3$ not meeting Tier I siting criteria
- Feedstock materials: Tier I, food materials, biosolids, manure



DESIGN REQUIREMENTS – ALL TIERS

- Surfaces capable of preventing degradation of waters of the state; designed and constructed to prevent conditions that may cause contamination, pollution, or nuisance
- Surfaces must be designed, constructed and maintained to prevent ponding; reliably transmit liquid, and to withstand damage from operations
- Must manage all wastewater from a minimum 25-year annual total precipitation period (provide a Water and Wastewater Management Plan)
- Drainage/Conveyance – sized for a minimum 25-year, 24-hour peak storm event; sloped and maintained to keep liquid flowing, and inspected and cleaned out every year



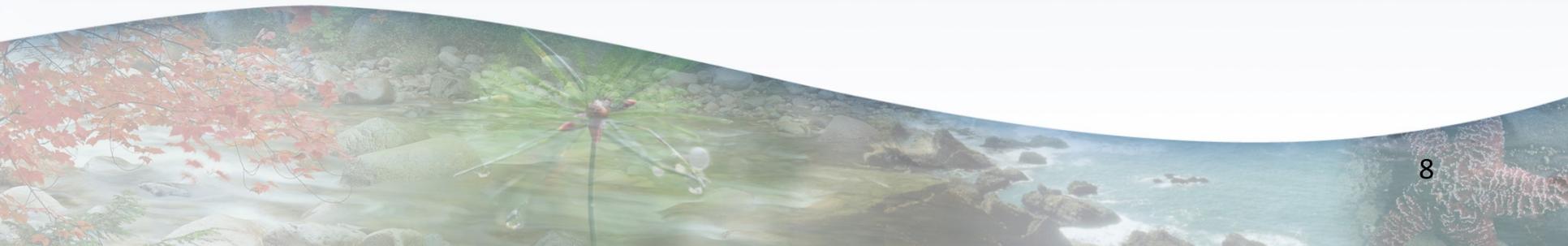
DESIGN REQUIREMENTS – TIER II ONLY

Pad and Drainage/Conveyance Design

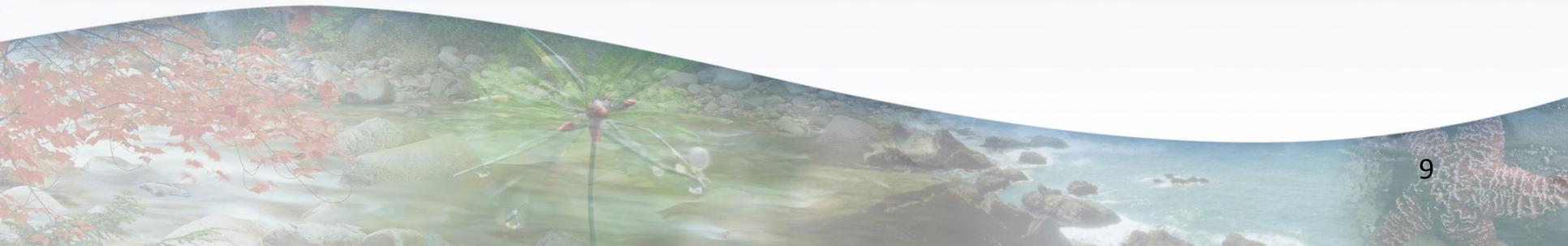
- Hydraulic Conductivity – 1.0×10^{-5} cm/sec
- In lieu of hydraulic conductivity requirement, applicant may propose a Groundwater Protection Monitoring Program that must be approved by the Executive Officer

Pond Design

- Meet hydraulic conductivity of 1.0×10^{-6} cm/sec or less
- Must be constructed with a specified monitoring device or other approved engineered alternative

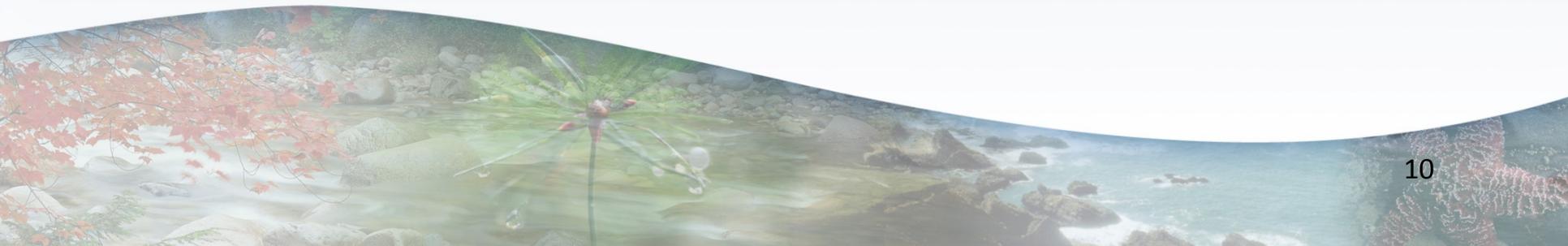


CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT PROCESS



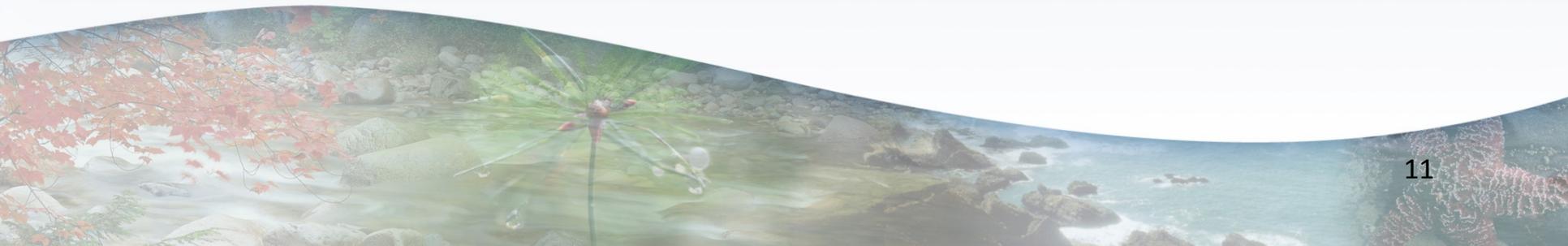
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

- Lead Agency: State Water Resources Control Board
- Programmatic analysis of impacts to the environment caused by the Draft General Order
 - Statewide analysis of physical impacts to the environment
 - Alternatives to the Draft General Order
 - Reasonable and feasible mitigation
- Comments on the scope and content of the EIR not the Draft General Order



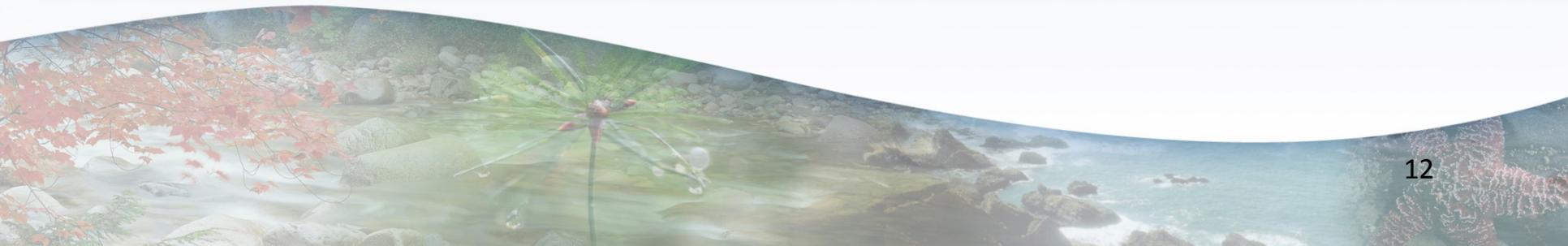
AREAS OF ANALYSIS

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Transportation and Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

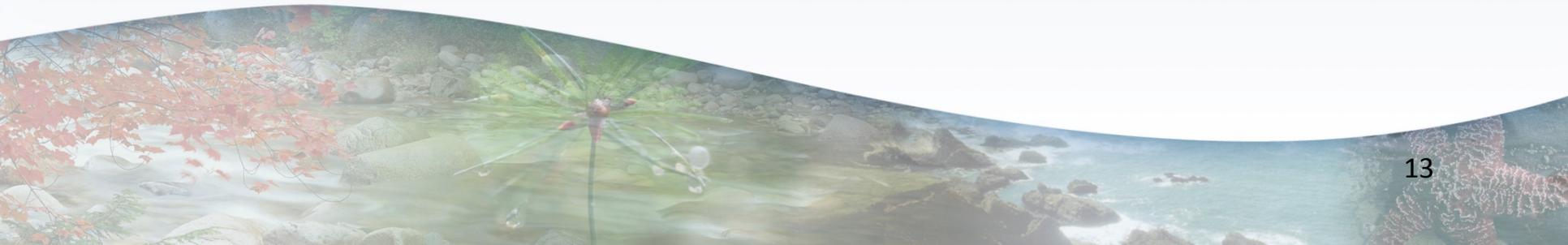


NEXT STEPS

- NOP comments due **September 6, 2013**
- Stakeholder and Agency coordination ~2013 through project approval
- Draft EIR and Draft General Order released for public review ~ mid 2014
 - Public Meeting
- Final EIR and Final General Order ~ late 2014
- Board Certification of EIR/Adoption of General Order ~ early 2015



CLARIFYING QUESTIONS



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Comment period extended to September 6, 2013

