
State Water Resources Control Board

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
AND
NOTICE OF INTENT**

**TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND
A GENERAL ORDER FOR SMALL DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT
SYSTEMS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public hearing to receive comments on proposed General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land By Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (General Order) and an associated California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study/Negative Declaration (Negative Declaration). The State Water Board may adopt the General Order and Negative Declaration at the end of the hearing. The location and time of the public hearing is provided below.

**Tuesday, September 23, 2014 - 9:00 a.m.
Joe Serna Jr. - Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814**

BACKGROUND

The State Water Board is preparing a General Order for land application of treated wastewater from small domestic wastewater and treatment systems that will be applicable statewide. The General Order will be used by Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) to streamline permitting of small domestic wastewater treatment systems, which typically are a relatively low threat to groundwater quality. The General Order will allow a monthly average flow rate up to 100,000 gallons per day and will allow the use of recycled water consistent with California Code of Regulations title 22. Wastewater treatment systems will vary from septic tanks, activated sludge treatment facilities, to pond facilities. The minimum level of treatment will be determined by requirements of the General Order, Regional Water Board Basin Plans, California Code of Regulations, title 22, and mitigation measures required by future site-specific CEQA evaluations.

Based on the contents of the Initial Study, and the early consultation performed with trustee and responsible agencies under CEQA, the State Water Board does not anticipate any significant effects on the environment will result from adopting the Negative Declaration or General Order.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The proposed General Order and Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration are available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/land_disposal/waste_discharge_requirements.shtml. For those without Internet access, please contact Timothy O'Brien at (916) 341-6904 or timothy.obrien@waterboards.ca.gov to obtain the documents. The comment period is from June 25, 2014 to July 25, 2014. The Negative Declaration and General Order will be considered at the public meeting of the State Water Board.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept both written and oral comments on the proposed General Order and Initial Study/Negative Declaration. Written comments must be received by **12:00 p.m.** on **July 25, 2014** and be addressed to:

<u>Hand/Courier Delivery</u> Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814	<u>U.S. Mail Delivery</u> Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Board P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100
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Comment letters may be submitted electronically (e-mail), by facsimile, U.S. Mail, or courier. Please indicate on the transmittal subject line:

“Comment Letter – General Order WDRs for Small Domestic Wastewater Systems and/or Negative Declaration and Initial Study.”

Electronic submittals shall be in pdf text format (less than 15 megabytes in total size), to the Clerk to the Board via e-mail at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, then the comment letter may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. U.S. Mail must be received (not postmarked) at the State Water Board offices by the close of the comment period; the mail address is presented above. Couriers delivering comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At the hearing there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. Participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations. To ensure a productive and efficient hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited. For other presentation recommendations, please go to the State Water Board's web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml .

EX PARTE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR PENDING GENERAL ORDERS

This item is subject to the ex parte communication disclosure requirements of Water Code section 13287, as explained in

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/exparte.pdf.

Any communications between interested persons and board members (other than at a noticed board meeting or submitted as a comment letter in compliance with the public notice) must be disclosed by the interested person within seven days of the communication. Sample disclosure forms are available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/swrcb_godf_fillin.pdf. Beginning **September 16, 2014**, ex parte communications between interested persons and board members concerning this item are prohibited.

Questions concerning the hearing should be directed to Timothy O'Brien by telephone at (916) 341-6904 or by email at timothy.obrien@waterboards.ca.gov.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal/EPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board web site at:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>.

The Cal/EPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5880 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

An audio broadcast of the meeting will be available via the Internet and can be accessed at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>.

All visitors to the Cal/EPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions regarding the proposed General Order and/or CEQA documents to Timothy O'Brien by telephone at (916) 341-6904 or by email at timothy.obrien@waterboards.ca.gov.

June 20, 2014

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board