
State Water Resources Control Board

July 15, 2013

Confirmation of e-mail sent on July 15, 2013

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

Dear Ms. Diamond:

CLEAN WATER ACT SECTIONS 303(d)/305(b) INTEGRATED REPORT PROCESS MOVING FORWARD

On June 14, 2013 the State Water Resource Control Board (State Water Board) management including (Tom Howard, Jon Bishop, and myself) met with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Division of Water management including (John Kemmerer and yourself), at the bi-monthly coordination meeting. At that meeting several topics were discussed including a list of proposals that State Water Board staff developed to create a more efficient and successful Clean Water Act (CWA) 303(b)/305(b) Integrated Report (Integrated Report) process for California. U.S. EPA representatives examined the proposals and gave verbal concurrence on the strategy moving forward.

The strategy agreed on includes dividing California into thirds by Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) and submitting an Integrated Report for three Regional Water Boards per listing cycle. This allows for the submittal of the Integrated Report in a timelier manner and is a strategy utilized by several other states. Furthermore, the State Water Board would redefine "readily and available data" to include only data submitted into the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN). This would reduce considerable loss of time eliminating data of poor quality and allow for more efficient assessments using the highest quality data available that follow the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program protocols. In addition, this process would allow for those Regional Water Boards that are "off cycle" to still examine high-priority data and make decisions related directly to Listings and De-listings and submit them for inclusion into the current listing cycle.

The immediate steps moving forward are to announce that the 2012 Integrated Report will consist solely of data submitted for Regional Water Boards 1, 6, and 7, followed by the immediate solicitation for the 2014 listing cycle utilizing the continuous submittal capabilities of

CEDEN. State Water Board staff will also be presenting an Agenda Item for the October State Water Board Meeting that will recommend that the State Water Board action to approve the Integrated Report be delegated to the Executive Director, in order to further expedite submittal to U.S. EPA. Please let us know if you have any questions by Monday, August 9, 2013.

If you have any questions on this subject, you may contact Mr. Nick Martorano, Chief of the Water Quality Assessment Unit at (916) 341-5290 <nmartorano@waterboards.ca.gov>. You may also contact Ms. Joanne Cox, Acting Chief of the TMDL Section, at (916) 341-5552 <jcox@waterboards.ca.gov> or Rik Rasmussen, Acting Assistant Deputy Director, at (916) 341-5549 <rrasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov>.

Sincerely,



Victoria A. Whitney, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality

Sent by e-mail <jdiamond@epa.gov>

cc: (via e-mail)
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