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State Water Resources Control Board

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Gray Davis
Governor

TO: All Regional Board Executive Officers

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FROM: Stan Martinson, Chief
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

DATE:

SUBJECT: SOLICITATION OF WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) needs to begin the process of evaluating the condition of the State's waters to begin preparing the April 2002 submission to USEPA (the revised 303(d) list). We need the assistance of the Regional Boards in two areas. First, we would like each Regional Board to conduct a public solicitation, on behalf of the SWRCB, of information describing the condition of each Region's Waters. Second, we would like each Regional Board to evaluate the information provided by the public and any information they have at their disposal that has been generated since July of 1997. We would like the Regions to convey their conclusions regarding these evaluations, and about the ability for their waters to attain standards, in the form of a recommendation to the SWRCB as to whether and in what respects the 1998-303 (d) list should be modified for the 2002 submission.

In order to take advantage of the significant local contact between Regional Board staff and various parties, I am requesting that each Regional Board conduct a public solicitation of water quality information on behalf of the State Water Resources Control Board. This solicitation should be initiated as soon as possible. We would like to provide at least 60 days for response to the notice of the solicitation. We need the solicitation to close on May 15, 2001. To assist you in undertaking this effort, I have enclosed an example solicitation letter. The announcement of the solicitation should be posted in newspapers of general circulation, on each Region's Web page and provided to interested parties lists that you maintain.

Each region should identify a staff contact to receive and catalog information as it comes in. We also intend to circulate a notice statewide that refers people to the Regional Boards, if they want to contribute available data and information. We will need the names of Regional Board staff contacts to include in the statewide notice. Please forward these names as soon as possible to Nancy Richard (916/341-5546, RICHN@dwq.swrcb.ca.gov). Our intent is to have all information provided to the Regional Boards and then forwarded to the SWRCB. Accordingly, the example notice requests two copies of any information as well as electronic versions. One copy would be forwarded to the SWRCB while the other would stay with the Region. We would like copies of all solicited information forwarded to the SWRCB in one package after the close of the solicitation period and after all the submittals are noted and cataloged. Evaluations and recommendations can be forwarded to the SWRCB separately and at a later date.

If you have any questions regarding this request please contact Stefan Lorenzato, (916/341-5525, lores@dwq.swrcb.ca.gov) in the Division of Water Quality.

Attachment

~~cc:~~ Edward C. Anton
Acting Executive Director

~~Tom Howard~~
Deputy Director

~~John Norton~~
Office of Statewide Initiatives

~~Assistant Executive Officers~~

bcc: Stefan Lorenzato

S.Lorenzato:Csmith/klh
2/13/01; 2/14/01
Desktop:WQStaff;Slorenzato:MemoSolic