State Water Resources Control Board

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Terry Tamminen
Secretary for Environmental Protection

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

APR 30 2004

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

Dear Ms. Strauss:

DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2004 FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST OF WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENTS

This letter confirms our discussion held on Friday, April 16, 2004, regarding the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB's) development of the 2004 federal Clean Water Act section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments (section 303[d] list).

Federal regulation (40 CFR 130.7[d]) requires states to develop a section 303(d) list every two years. During 2004, SWRCB will initiate the development of a new section 303(d) list. Prior to the development of the 2004 section 303(d) list and pursuant to Water Code section 131913.3(a), SWRCB will develop listing and de-listing guidelines to be used in the evaluation of water quality limited segments. Currently, SWRCB is approaching the development of these guidelines through the adoption of the Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act section 303(d) List (Listing Policy). Development of the 2004 section 303(d) list and Listing Policy will be conducted in parallel. Once the Listing Policy is completed, SWRCB staff will use it in developing the 2004 section 303(d) list. Enclosed is the schedule for development of the section 303(d) list and the Listing Policy.

Our strategy and schedule assume that $300,000 in Clean Water Act section 106 contract funding will be available over two fiscal years (2003/2004 and 2004/2005) to support development of the 2004 section 303(d) list. This funding will be allocated to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Tetra Tech services contract to provide assistance to SWRCB staff.

Should you have any questions on this subject, you may contact me at (916) 341-5615. The staff person most knowledgeable on the section 303(d) listing process is Craig J. Wilson, Chief of the TMDL Listing Unit, and he can be reached at (916) 341-5560 (wilscj@swrcb.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Celeste Cantú
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Arthur G. Baggett, Jr.
Chair
State Water Resources Control Board

Peter S. Silva
Board Member
State Water Resources Control Board

Richard Katz
Board Member
State Water Resources Control Board

Gary Carlton
Board Member
State Water Resources Control Board

Nancy Sutley
Board Member
State Water Resources Control Board

bc: Craig J. Wilson, DWQ

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Schedule:
Development of the 2004 section 303(d) List
and Listing/De-listing Policy

4/22/04

Apr-04 May-04 Jun-04 Jul-04 Aug-04 Sep-04 Oct-04 Nov-04 Dec-04 Jan-05 Feb-05 Mar-05 Apr-05 May-05

Development of the Listing/Delisting Policy

2
Finish response to comments

2 3 2
Revise FED and draft FED

2
SWRCB Workshop and Board Meeting

2 2
Assemble record, OAL approval, Notice of Decision

Development of the 2004 Section 303(d) List

2
SWRCB open statewide 30-day data solicitation

2 4 4
Data organization and QA/QC checks

4 4
Complete fact sheets, mapping, data evaluation

6
Finalize fact sheets

6
30-day public notice

Options:
A 6 6 6 **Hearing** and response to comments
B **No Hearing**

6
SWRCB workshop

6
Board Meeting

6
Submit list

6
SWRCB workshop

6
Board Meeting

Submit list

Please note:
Numbers in timelines
are number of staff assigned.

Assumptions:
(1) RWQCBs will not be involved in developing this list.
(2) Six staff in TMDL Listing Unit are available.
(3) Additional help available from N. Richard (GeoWBS management) and S. Saiz (statistical help).
(4) USEPA staff and contractors will assist.
(5) Completion dates are approximate depending on SWRCB public process.
(6) Completion of the 2004 list will impact the development of GeoWBS version 2 (part of California Integrated Water Quality System).