



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Executive Office

Tam M. Doduc, Board Chair
1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5615
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100
Fax (916) 341-5621 • <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT REVISED PROPOSED RECYCLED WATER POLICY AND REVISED DRAFT CERTIFIED REGULATORY PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has revised both its proposed Recycled Water Policy and the corresponding draft certified regulatory program environmental analysis (draft staff report), pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In late September 2007, the State Water Board circulated a previous version of the draft staff report and the proposed Policy, which was formerly known as the Water Recycling Policy. As previously announced, the State Water Board adoption hearing for this proposed Policy is scheduled for March 18, 2008.

Please note that the proposed Policy has been reorganized, and many clauses have been moved from their former locations. Although most of the text remains the same as in the previous version, due to the move in location, the text appears as underlined.

The State Water Board's responses to comments received will be made available prior to Board adoption. However we are taking this opportunity to highlight some of the more significant changes to the proposed Policy, as follows:

- text has been reorganized for improved clarity,
- more emphasis has been placed on the ultimate goal of the proposed Policy, namely to provide an incentive for development of salt (including nutrient) management plans in groundwater basins that are threatened by salts,
- requirements that apply only in the interim period (prior to approval of salt management plans) have been clearly distinguished from ongoing requirements such as interpretation of narrative toxicity objectives,
- anti-degradation requirements have been clarified,
- procedures related to the California Department of Public Health have been clarified,
- the source of the water (municipal waste water) has been clarified,
- a requirement has been added for the Regional Water Boards to make certain findings, as a first step towards developing salt management plans,
- the limited deferral of groundwater monitoring has been clarified and narrowed so that it does not apply to irrigated agriculture,
- nutrient management practices are required for irrigation projects when the recycled water exceeds three milligrams per liter of total nitrogen,

California Environmental Protection Agency

- in order not to preclude recycled water projects during the interim period, the total dissolved solids increment has been increased from 300 to 550 milligrams per liter, and
- the time frame for development of salt management plans has been changed from ten years to five years after the date of the Regional Water Board finding, with a possible additional five-year extension.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The revised proposed Recycled Water Policy and the revised draft staff report may be obtained via the internet on the State Water Board Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_recycling_policy/index.html

You may also receive paper copies by writing or calling: Colleen Ingram, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, or by contacting Ms. Ingram at (916) 341-5506 (cigram@waterboards.ca.gov). Interested parties may subscribe to an email list for future notifications about the proposed Recycled Water Policy at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lyrisforms/swrcb_subscribe.html; choose Water Recycling Policy.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS: The State Water Board will accept written comments on the revised proposed Recycled Water Policy and the revised draft staff report as follows. Comments will only be accepted on new text, deletions or additions to text that was previously circulated in late September 2007, and changes resulting from the relocation of previously-circulated text. All submissions must be received by **12 p.m. on March 10, 2008**. Written comments should be submitted to: Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board, Executive Office, State Water Resources Control Board, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100. (Fax: 916-341-5620 or email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov). Please indicate the project you are commenting upon in the subject line, "Comment Letter – proposed Recycled Water Policy."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Please direct questions about this notice, the proposed Recycled Water Policy, or the draft staff report to Gordon Innes at (916) 341-5517 (ginnes@waterboards.ca.gov).

February 15, 2008

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

