



Media Release

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

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Ken Harris Named Interim Executive Officer at the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2012

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San Luis Obispo – Ken Harris, Assistant Deputy Director in the Division of Water Quality at the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), has been named interim executive officer for the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The position is a temporary one while the regional board continues to search for a permanent executive officer to replace Roger Briggs, who retired August 1.

“We are really pleased that Ken has accepted our offer,” said Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Chairman Jeffrey Young. “He is eminently qualified to help us in this transition while we continue to look for a permanent executive officer. We look forward to working with him.”

Harris brings a deep background in water quality issues to the job, including serving as interim assistant executive officer at the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board for six months starting in June 2010. He has served as assistant deputy director of the Division of Water Quality since September of last year.

His duties as assistant deputy director include managing the Surface Water Branch, which oversees water discharge permits, waste water and storm water programs, the state’s ocean plan, dredging and filling of wetlands and basin planning programs.

Harris has 25 years of experience with the State Water Board, starting as an associate engineering geologist in the Division of Water Quality. He holds bachelor’s degrees in earth science and soil and water science, and a master’s degree in hydrology. He is a California licensed professional geologist.

“I appreciate the opportunity to lead the Central Coast Regional Board staff during this transition period,” Harris said. “I look forward to working with the Regional Board, staff, and stakeholders on the challenging water quality issues facing the Central Coast.”

The appointment will allow the Central Coast Regional Water Board office to continue operating smoothly while the regional board searches for a permanent executive officer.

The regional board has scheduled several closed session meetings in August to discuss finding a permanent executive officer.

The Central Coast Water Board is responsible for protecting and restoring water quality in the 300-mile-long coastal region from southern San Mateo and Santa Clara counties to the northern part of Ventura County. To learn more, please visit their home page at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/>