



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 A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE POLICY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (CWSRF) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

This announcement is to inform interested and affected parties of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) plan to consider amending the *Policy for Implementing the Clean Water State Revolving Fund for Construction of Wastewater Treatment Facilities* (CWSRF Policy) to do the following:

- 1) Realign the financing approval process to simplify and speed up the funding of projects;
- 2) Introduce planning financing to promote future projects;
- 3) Provide additional flexibility to implement a two-tiered environmental analysis to speed up the funding of projects;
- 4) Provide flexible interest rates and additional incentives to address affordability and implement provisions of the economic recovery legislation;
- 5) Add the small, disadvantaged community service charge approved by AB 2356 (Stats. 2008, ch. 609), if applicable, and clarify the financial impact on CWSRF financing agreements;
- 6) Make necessary editorial or grammatical changes to the CWSRF Policy; and
- 7) Update all CWSRF Appendices consistent with the proposed amended CWSRF Policy and current Division procedures.

The Division is seeking public comment on the proposed amendments to the Policy and the Appendices that will be considered for adoption by the State Water Board at a future Board meeting (scheduled for March 17, 2009). [Exhibit A](#) is a detailed listing of the proposed changes to the CWSRF Policy and is provided as an index for the proposed CWSRF Policy changes ([Exhibit B](#)). Exhibit B uses the following color-coding system (Microsoft Word's Track Changes tool) to indicate original text, deletions, and new text to the existing CWSRF Policy:

Original Text (no change): Black;
Deleted Text: Red with strikethrough text; and
New Text: Red with single underlined text.

[Exhibit C](#) is the proposed amended CWSRF Policy with all changes accepted.

The 9-day comment period ends on Wednesday, March 4, 2009, at 12 noon, Pacific Standard Time (PST). Comments may be submitted by mail, Fax (916) 341-5620, or email to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. Instructions for submitting comments can be found near the end of this letter.

BACKGROUND

The Division administers the CWSRF Program to provide low-interest financing agreements for construction of wastewater treatment and water recycling facilities, implementation of non-point source (NPS) projects and programs, and development and execution of estuary comprehensive conservation and management plans.

The CWSRF Policy was originally adopted by the State Water Board on August 18, 1988, and last amended on September 16, 2008. Extended term amendments became effective on October 7, 2008.

Division staff developed Exhibits A, B, and C for the proposed revisions of the CWSRF Policy. The State Water Board will consider at a future meeting whether to amend the CWSRF Policy addressing any comments received by March 4, 2009, from the public or stakeholders of the CWSRF Program. Staff recommends that the amended CWSRF Policy become effective March 17, 2009.

CHANGES TO THE POLICY

See Exhibits A, B, and C for all proposed changes to the CWSRF Policy.

STATE WATER BOARD CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The Division intends to present the proposed amendments to the State Water Board for consideration on March 17, 2009, at the regular Board Meeting. Further information on the Board Meeting can be found at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml#march09.

The public will have until 12 noon, PST, Wednesday, March 4, 2009, to review these Policy recommendations and submit comments.

The proposed changes to the CWSRF Policy are included in the Summary Document of proposed CWSRF Policy Amendment changes (Exhibit A), the proposed changes to the existing CWSRF Policy (Exhibit B-additions or deletions shown in red), and proposed amended CWSRF Policy with all changes accepted (Exhibit C). The above documents and Appendices are available at the following web site:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/srf/index.shtml.

TO TESTIFY

You may submit written comments and give oral statements regarding the proposed amendments to the CWSRF Policy. Oral comments may be directed to the State Water Board at its March 17, 2009, Board Meeting. Written comments may be submitted as early as possible to allow for thorough staff analysis. **Please indicate in the subject line “Amendment to the Policy for Implementing the CWSRF.”** All written comments are due by **12 noon, PST, on Wednesday, March 4, 2009.** Written comments should be directed to:

Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 "I" Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX: (916) 341-5620
email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

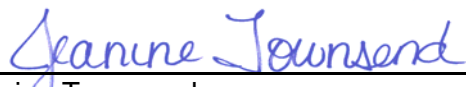
All visitors are required to sign in and receive a badge prior to attending any meeting in the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) building. The Visitor and Environmental Services Center is located inside and to the left of the Cal/EPA Building's public entrance. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Please allow up to 15 minutes for this process. Public parking is available in the City of Sacramento Garage on I Street between 10th and 11th Streets. Metered parking spaces are available on area streets. The Cal/EPA building is accessible by bus and light rail lines operated by Sacramento Regional Transit. The Cal/EPA building Hearing Rooms are accessible to persons with disabilities.

CONTACT PERSON

Any questions regarding this issue should be directed to Mr. Robert Been at (916) 341-5641, or by email at rbeen@waterboards.ca.gov, or Mr. Sudhakar Talanki at (916) 341-5434, or by email at stalanki@waterboards.ca.gov. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the Office of Employee Assistance, at (916) 341-5881, prior to the meeting date. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

February 23, 2009

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board