



Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5435
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2000 • Sacramento, California • 95812-2000
FAX (916) 341-5400 • Web Site Address: <http://www.waterrights.ca.gov>



Gray Davis
Governor

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

Regarding

Professor Joseph Sax's Report on the Legal Classification of Groundwater

Commencing on April 10, 2002 at 9:00 a.m.

at

Joe Serna Jr./Cal/EPA Headquarters Building

in the

Coastal Hearing Room

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA

and

Continuing on April 11, 2002 at 10:30 a.m.

at

Ontario Convention Center

in

Meeting Room 105

2000 Convention Center Way

Ontario, CA

SUBJECT OF WORKSHOP

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will hold two public workshops to receive comments on Professor Sax's report regarding the legal classification of groundwater. A copy of the final report can be downloaded from the SWRCB's website at <http://www.waterrights.ca.gov> (click on Hearings Program then Special Projects).

BACKGROUND

In Spring 2001, the SWRCB contracted with Professor Joseph Sax, a Professor of Law at the University of California at Berkeley to prepare a report answering specific questions

posed by the SWRCB about the legal classification of groundwater. The SWRCB asked Professor Sax to identify the current legal test, describe the SWRCB's permitting authority over subsurface waters, and recommend what changes, if any, should be made to the legal test. Professor Sax submitted his final report to the SWRCB on January 19, 2002.

WORKSHOP ISSUES

The purpose of the workshop is to receive comments on Professor Sax's report. The SWRCB will take the report and the

comments under advisement before considering whether to modify its existing procedures or practices.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

This is an informal workshop, but a court reporter will be present to provide an accurate record of the proceedings. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants, but the SWRCB and its staff may ask clarifying questions.

Participants are encouraged to provide written comments **by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 2, 2002**. The SWRCB requests that 10 copies of written comments be sent to:

**Paul Murphey
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, California 95812-2000**

The SWRCB requests electronic copies of written comments be e-mailed to WrHearing@WaterRights.swrcb.ca.gov with a subject line of "Subterranean Streams." Additional copies for participants in the workshop should be provided to the SWRCB on the day of the workshops.

Participants are encouraged to summarize their written comments in their oral presentations. However, oral presentations will not necessarily be limited to summarizing written comments. Oral presentations may be limited to ten minutes or less. Participants with similar comments are requested to make joint presentations.

DIRECTIONS

This workshop on April 10th will be held at the Joe Serna Jr./Cal/EPA Headquarters Building, in the Coastal Hearing Room, located at 1001 I Street in Sacramento, California.

The workshop on April 11th will be held at the Ontario Convention Center, in Meeting Room 105, located at 2000 Convention Center Way in Ontario, California.

Maps that include directions and locations of parking areas for both facilities are attached.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Paul Murphey of the Division of Water Rights at (916) 341-5435 (FAX 341-5400) or Erin Mahaney, Staff Counsel at (916) 341-5187.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Maureen Marché
Clerk to the Board

Dated: March 7, 2002

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