

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
OCTOBER 7, 2020**

ITEM 7

SUBJECT

PER- and POLYFLOUROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS) STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION TECHNICAL DATA PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION

Water Board staff will provide an update on data collected and analyzed as part of the statewide PFAS investigative orders issued in 2019 for monitoring at 30 airports, 196 landfills, and over 900 public water supply wells.

PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals resistant to heat, water, and oil. Manufacturing of PFAS started in the 1940s and majority of them are still in use today. PFAS are used in industrial and consumer products. Common occurrences of PFAS chemicals are in carpets, rugs, water-proof clothing, upholstery, food paper wrappings, non-stick products, cleaning products, fire-fighting foams, and metal plating (e.g., cookware). The Water Boards began statewide PFAS response and investigation in July 2018 with the issuance of a drinking water notification level. In March 2019 a strategic Investigative Approach to identify the impacts of PFAS to public water supplies and the environment began by requiring monitoring for PFAS in likely source areas (e.g., fire-fighting foams at airports and the use of PFAS in industrial processes such as chrome plating) and those receiving PFAS-containing materials (e.g., disposal of consumer products at landfills and industrial wastewaters at wastewater treatment plants); as well as monitoring orders sent to the Public Water Systems adjacent to Airports, Landfills and prior Federal EPA Unregulated Contaminant Rule (UCMR3) detections.

Since 2019, the Water Boards have received and analyzed over 3,000 drinking water and non-drinking water samples. Preliminary results are showing interesting trends in the types and concentrations of PFAS analytes reported in groundwater and public water supply wells. Water Board staff will provide a presentation on the methods used to analyze the data, a summary of the trends that are developing, and a Regional Water Board example of the watershed level efforts to understand the impacts from PFAS. The presentation will end with a summary of actions moving forward to further support PFAS investigations and data analysis.

POLICY ISSUE

None.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None, this is an informational item only.