

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023**

ITEM 13

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED ORDER ON OWN MOTION REVIEW OF GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCHARGES FROM IRRIGATED LANDS ORDER NO. R3-2021-0040, ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, CENTRAL COAST REGION (SWRCB/OCC FILE A-2751(A)-(B)). THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WILL CONSIDER ISSUING AN ORDER REMANDING THE GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS.

DISCUSSION

On April 15, 2021, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) issued General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands [Order No. R3-2021-0040](#) (General Waste Discharge Requirements) to all growers within the region. Two timely petitions were filed seeking review of the General Waste Discharge Requirements with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). These petitions were deemed complete and consolidated for review on July 30, 2021. On April 19, 2022, the State Water Board adopted an order to review the General Waste Discharge Requirements on its own motion.

The proposed Order would affirm the General Waste Discharge Requirements in part and also remand the General Waste Discharge Requirements to Central Coast Water Board to make revisions consistent with certain precedential elements of State Water Board [Order WQ 2018-0002](#) (Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed).

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board adopt the proposed Order remanding the General Waste Discharge Requirements to the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board?

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

Yes. The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board will have to revise the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands Order No. R3-2021-0040.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the Proposed Order.