
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND NOTICE OF MEETING

CONSIDERATION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO PROVIDE EXPEDITED REVIEW OF PROJECT APPLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE WETLAND DEFINITION AND PROCEDURES FOR DISCHARGES OF DREDGED OR FILL MATERIAL TO WATERS OF THE STATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will receive public comments on the proposed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to provide expedited review of transportation projects, environmental technical assistance, project consultations, and coordination services. Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on Friday, May 1, 2020**. The State Water Board will consider all timely comments, but will not prepare a formal, written response to any comments. For additional details on submitting comments, please see below.

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Board will consider adopting a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to enter into the MOU and an interagency agreement for reimbursement of Water Board staff time with Caltrans at the first State Water Board meeting in May 2020. The anticipated date, time, and location of the Board meeting are provided below.

Tuesday, May 5, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
State Water Board Meeting

Video and Teleconference Meeting Only

No Physical Meeting Location – See forthcoming agenda for
May 5, 2020 Board Meeting

BACKGROUND

In April 2019, the State Water Board adopted the State Wetland Definition and Procedures for Discharges of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State (Procedures). The Procedures authorize the State Water Board to enter into a written agreement with state agencies that act as CEQA lead agency for one of more projects subject to the Procedures, such as Caltrans, to set out alternative procedures and requirements regarding the submission and review of project applications.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The State Water Board and Caltrans have drafted such a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU covers general coordination activities such as early coordination, data sharing, and dispute resolution, as well as specific provisions on implementation of application submittal requirements of the Procedures.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The draft MOU is available on the [State Water Board's web site](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/#new) at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/#new

You may request a paper copy of the documents by contacting Jessica Nadolski at Jessica.Nadolski@Waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5290.

Additional information on the May 5, 2020, Board meeting in Sacramento will be available on the [State Water Board's web site](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/) at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept written public comments on the MOU with Caltrans. Written comment letters must be received no later than **12:00 p.m. noon on May 1, 2020**. The State Water Board staff will consider all timely comments, but will not prepare a formal, written response to any comments. Written comments must be addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento CA 95812-2000 (mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

Please indicate in the subject line: **“MOU with Caltrans”**

Comment letters may be submitted electronically, in PDF text format if less than 15 megabytes in total size, to the Clerk to the Board via e-mail at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, the comment letter may be submitted by mail or fax to (916) 341-5620.

If you would like a copy of the written comments submitted on this subject, please send a request to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, identifying the subject listed above. Written comments will not be available until after the comment deadline.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

For those who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available on the [State Water Board's web site](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/):
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/

Oral comments may be provided during the Board meeting. At the May 5, 2020, Board meeting there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. To ensure a productive and efficient meeting in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited.

ACCESSIBILITY

Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5261 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.


FUTURE NOTICES

Any change in the date and time of the Board Meeting will be noticed through the Lyris e-mail distribution list. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the MOU with Caltrans must sign up for the Lyris e-mail distribution list. To sign up for the Lyris distribution email list, access the E-mail List Subscription form, select the box for 'Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy / Statewide Dredge or Fill Procedures' (located within the section entitled 'Water Quality Topics'), and provide the required information. The subscription form is located on the [State Board's web site](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml): http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Jessica Nadolski at Jessica.Nadolski@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5290, or Paul Hann at Paul.Hann@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5726.

April 10, 2020
Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board