

## **2013 WQCC Meeting**

### **What is the WQCC?**

The Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) is authorized by Section 13171 of the California Water Code to assist the State Water Board in carrying out its responsibilities in water quality control. The purpose of WQCC meetings is to orient, train, and educate new and existing State and Regional Water Board Members on their administrative, legal, and policy-making responsibilities as gubernatorial appointees. Board Members are also updated on emerging technical and legal issues facing the Boards with the goal of developing a consistent statewide response. As Board members are newly-appointed to the State and Regional Water Boards, and as the complexity of budget and water issues in the State continues to rise, it has become increasingly important to provide orientation and education forums on topics that concern the roles of Water Board Members.

### **When and where will it be?**

This year's meeting will be on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, and will be held in Sacramento at the Cal/EPA Building, 1001 I Street, in the Coastal Hearing Room located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. An optional pre-meeting session will be held at the State Capitol Building, in Room 3191, and the Cal/EPA Building, in the Coastal Hearing Room, on Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **What are the topics?**

There are two themes for this day and a half WQCC meeting: "Climate Change: How will it influence the Water Boards' planning and regulatory decisions and activities?" (Day 1); and "Environmental Justice: Perspectives of Disadvantaged Communities, Sovereign Nations and the Water Boards' activities to address them" (Day 2). Day 1 will include presentations and panel discussions on recent developments in climate science and policy, stakeholder perspectives on Water Board actions to address climate change, and the potential for coordinated interagency climate change efforts. Day 2 will include presentations and panel discussions of environmental justice (EJ) challenges and concerns, and stakeholder perspectives on Water Board efforts in addressing EJ issues in disadvantaged communities.

The theme of the optional pre-meeting session (on October 23<sup>rd</sup>) is "Dialogue with State Leadership." The purpose of the session at the Capitol is to provide Water Board Members an opportunity to discuss with Governor's Office staff key issues that affect the Water Boards. The Capitol session will be followed by a meeting of Water Board Members and leadership of the Cal/EPA Boards, Departments, and Offices, to discuss climate change and EJ issues.