

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 22-23, 2014

Prepared on April 28, 2014

ITEM NUMBER: 16

SUBJECT: Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

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KEY INFORMATION:

Location: Region-Wide
Type of Discharge: Irrigated Lands Runoff and Leaching To Groundwater
Existing Orders: Order No. RB3-2012-0011 and WQ 2013-0101

THIS ACTION: **Direction on Proposed Revisions to the Monitoring and Reporting Programs, Order Nos. R3-2012-0011-01,-02, and -03, associated with the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands, Order No. R3-2012-0011, Regarding Changes Related to Groundwater Sample Parameters and the Sampling Completion Deadline.**

SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to discuss the Central Coast Groundwater Coalition's (CCGC) request for 1) the removal of the requirements for analyzing groundwater from primary irrigation supply wells for the major ions listed in Table 3 of the MRP and 2) a 90-day extension of the deadline to complete the individual groundwater monitoring and reporting program requirements for the spring monitoring of individual wells in the southern portion of the CCGC region, and for the Board to provide direction to the Executive Officer on these requests. If granted, these requests require modifications to the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) for Agricultural Order R3-2012-0011.

During a coordination meeting with Water Board staff on March 26, 2014, the CCGC representatives requested that the Executive Officer consider modifications to the MRP for Agricultural Order R3-2012-0011. CCGC's proposed MRP changes are related to groundwater sample parameters and a 90-day extension of the deadline to complete the individual groundwater sampling requirements for its southern area members. CCGC is performing the fall 2013 and spring 2014 individual monitoring on domestic and irrigation wells for many of its members in the southern portion of the Central Coast Region¹. CCGC indicated that these revisions are requested because the number of domestic wells in the southern portion was significantly higher than estimated in 2013 and is straining CCGC's short-term financial

¹ The State Board Order WQ 2013-0101 specifies that growers and landowners who had not joined a cooperative groundwater monitoring group prior to September 24, 2013, may participate in an approved cooperative groundwater monitoring program, provided they have completed two rounds of monitoring as required under individual groundwater monitoring requirements.

resources, a situation CCGC says will improve when the next dues collection cycle begins in September. None of the other CCGC deliverable deadlines would be affected by the requested MRP revisions.

CCGC provided Water Board staff with a preliminary proposal and justification for the modifications on April 21 and 22, 2014. An updated specific proposal was provided on April 28, 2014. The updated proposal is provided as Attachments 1 and 2.

Because of the timing of CCGC's extension request submittal relative publication dates for mail out of agenda materials, Water Board staff has not had sufficient time to analyze this request and provide a recommendation. Staff will provide a Supplemental Sheet to this item which will include analysis and recommendations for Board consideration and discussion.

ATTACHMENT

1. CCGC Request for Monitoring Deadline Extension and Ion Removal.
2. CCGC Request for Monitoring Extension Financial Timeline.

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