

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

Staff Report for Regular Meeting of July 18-19, 2019

Prepared on June 27, 2019

ITEM NUMBER: 12

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board

STAFF CONTACT:

- John Robertson 805/549-3140, John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

ACTION: Information / Discussion

KEY INFORMATION

This item presents a brief discussion of issues that may interest the Board. Upon request, staff can provide more detailed information about any item.

EMERGENCY REPLACEMENT WATER UPDATE

[Angela Schroeter, 805/542-4644, Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov]

Water Board staff are coordinating with the State Water Board Division of Financial Assistance (DFA), the Community Water Center (CWC), the Coalition for Urban/Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES) and other stakeholders to facilitate focused and regional emergency drinking water replacement grant projects (i.e., bottled water) for disadvantaged communities in the Central Coast Region. These efforts are focused on meeting the short-term emergency need while more suitable interim (e.g., point of use treatment devices) and sustainable long-term replacement drinking water solutions are being identified and implemented.

Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District

As a result of coordination between Angela Schroeter of our staff, DFA, CWC and the Pajaro/Sunny Mesa Community Services District (PSMCS D), Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) Urgent Drinking Water Needs funding has been awarded to the PSMCS D to provide bottled water to disadvantaged community residents to meet immediate drinking water needs to ensure residents have access to safe drinking water. As of the preparation date of this report the grant agreement was pending ratification between DFA and PSMCS D. The funding program, via augmentation of an existing agreement with PSMCS D, will provide bottled water to approximately 218 residences within the service areas of the Springfield Water Company (owned and operated by PSMCS D) and Struve Road Water system, both community water systems, as well as residents served by state small water systems and private domestic wells within or

adjacent to the PSMCSD Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) boundaries. The water systems and wells covered by this pending grant are all polluted with nitrate and 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP), and they are located in Monterey County north of Moss Landing and west of State Highway 1 in the Struve Road, Springfield Road and Bluff and Jensen Road areas. The polluted state small water systems and private domestic wells were identified by the Central Coast Water Board domestic well testing program. Long-term replacement water solutions are already being evaluated for the two community water systems and some of the state small water systems and domestic wells in proximity to the community water systems (i.e., connection to the PSMCSD via a new pipeline).

Regional Replacement Water Program

Central Coast Water Board and DFA staff are committed to developing a regional drinking water replacement program in the Central Coast to meet the growing demand identified by our regional domestic well testing program. Our staff are coordinating with DFA, CWC and CURES regarding the scope, relative responsibilities and project criteria associated with the pending grant funding agreement. More to come soon regarding this very important effort.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN CHARACTERIZATION REPORT

[Thea Tryon, 805/542-4776, Thea.Tryon@waterboards.ca.gov]

On June 18, 2019, Central Coast Water Board staff released a joint report prepared in coordination with Heal the Ocean that includes a summary of available groundwater quality information for the Santa Ynez River Valley (SYRV) groundwater basin. The SYRV groundwater basin is located in the Santa Barbara County South Coast Ranges, extending from the Cachuma Reservoir along the Santa Ynez River to the Pacific Ocean at the westernmost border. Within the greater SYRV basin, five subbasins are delineated by variations in aquifer materials and hydrogeologic properties. In addition to identifying areas and drinking water wells subject to naturally occurring arsenic and hexavalent chromium levels in excess of the human health drinking water standard, the report identifies areas where domestic wells may be at risk of pollution and it includes an evaluation of risk and potential impacts of onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) to the basin. However, the linkage between OWTS and observed nitrate impacts is not conclusive because of complicating well construction, hydrogeologic and land use factors. The data gathering, compilation, statistical analysis, and reporting of data presented in this report was prepared by an intern funded by Heal the Ocean and the technical analysis was overseen by Central Coast Water Board staff. A copy of the report, *Santa Barbara County Groundwater Characterization Project: Santa Inez River Valley Groundwater Basin*, is available on the Heal the Ocean website at:

<https://www.healtheocean.org/>

ATTACHMENTS

1. Table 1 - 401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received
2. Table 2 - 401 Water Quality Certifications Issued
3. Table 3 - Groundwater Section, Case Closure Performance Scoreboard
4. Table 4 - Groundwater Case Closures
5. Table 5 - Enrollments In General Orders/Waivers