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## Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

November 21, 2022

### **NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION FOR THE CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD'S**

#### **Draft Racial Equity Resolution, No. R3-2023-0002, Condemning Racism, Xenophobia, and Racial Injustice and Strengthening Commitment to Racial Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, Access, and Anti-Racism**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) has prepared Draft Racial Equity Resolution No. R3-2023-0002, *Condemning Racism, Xenophobia, and Racial Injustice and Strengthening Commitment to Racial Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, Access, and Anti-Racism* (Draft Racial Equity Resolution) and is providing the opportunity for public review and comment. Central Coast Water Board Staff will also host a public listening session to discuss and gather input on the Draft Racial Equity Resolution.

The Draft Racial Equity Resolution articulates the Central Coast Water Board's commitment to racial equity, explains why this work is needed, and offers a roadmap for the Central Coast Water Board to:

- (1) ensure its programs and policies preserve, protect, and restore California's water resources equitably for people of all races; and
- (2) create an equitable, diverse, and inclusive workplace where all employees feel they belong, and their opportunities and professional outcomes are not predicted by their race.

Collaboration and input from all Californians help the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (collectively, Water Boards) advance decisions and policies that better protect the environment, public health, and beneficial uses. In California, race and ethnicity are the strongest predictors of access to safe, clean water for drinking and affordable services to support sanitation including wastewater collection, treatment, and reuse. As a government agency with a responsibility to protect water quality for all Californians, the Water Boards recognize the need to acknowledge racial inequity, create an inclusive culture where people of all identities feel they belong and can contribute, and proactively work to eliminate systemic racism and racial inequities within the Water Boards' policies, programs, and plans.

JANE GRAY, CHAIR | MATTHEW T. KEELING, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

The Draft Racial Equity Resolution, No. R3-2023-0002 and information about the listening session is posted on the Central Coast Water Board's website under the "Announcements" heading at: [waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/](https://waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/)

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Interested persons may submit written comments on the Draft Racial Equity Resolution during the written comment period from **November 21, 2022**, to **January 16, 2023**. Please send all written comments to the staff contact listed below and please include "Draft Racial Equity Resolution" in the subject line.

### **VIRTUAL LISTENING SESSION**

Central Coast Water Board Staff will host a virtual listening session on **Wednesday, December 14, 2022, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.**, to discuss the Draft Racial Equity Resolution and to gather public input. The listening session will be conducted via Zoom, please see link below. If you plan to attend the listening session, please complete the form below to register. If you require an interpreter, please contact the Water Board staff below.

**Registration Form Link:** [docs.google.com/forms](https://docs.google.com/forms)  
**Zoom Link:** [waterboards.zoom.us/j/93064673328](https://waterboards.zoom.us/j/93064673328)

### **FUTURE BOARD ACTION**

Public comments received will inform future revisions of the Draft Racial Equity Resolution. Central Coast Water Board staff aims to propose a Draft Racial Equity Resolution to the Central Coast Water Board as an action item in February 2023. The action item and any changes will be posted on the Central Coast Water Board's website and noticed through the email distribution list. Any person desiring to receive future notices must sign up for the email distribution list by assessing the Email List Subscription Form webpage link below and subscribing to the "Environmental Justice and Racial Equity" email list.

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/reg3\\_subscribe.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg3_subscribe.html)

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Please submit written comments and direct any questions regarding this notice to the Central Coast Water Board staff person identified below:

**Peter Meertens, Central Coast Water Board**  
**895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401**  
**(805) 549-3869**  
[RB3-Equity@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:RB3-Equity@waterboards.ca.gov)