
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

REVISED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Proposed revisions to the Waste Discharge Requirements for Growers
within the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed (R5-2012-0116-R2)**

On 6 February 2015, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) released proposed revisions to the Waste Discharge Requirements for Growers within the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed that are Members of the Third-party Group R5-2012-0116-R2 (Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order, or Order). This revised notice provides notification of one additional change as shown in underline text below. All other revisions released in the 6 February notice remain unchanged. The new deadline for submitting written comments is 13 March 2015, as described later in this notice.

- Allow additional time for the third-party to submit the Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plan (Comprehensive Management Plan). The Comprehensive Management Plan development is dependent on the vulnerability designations yet to be determined in the Groundwater Assessment Report.
- Change the northern boundary of the East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) from the Stanislaus River Watershed to Stanislaus River, and make a clear demarcation of parcels located north and south of the River.
- Provide a 1-year extension for certification of Nitrogen Management Plans in high vulnerability areas. This will allow additional time for the impending grower certification program to be available to third-party members. Preparation of Nitrogen Management Plans will not be delayed.
- Clarify expectations for grower implementation of Nitrogen Management Plans.
- Add language to the Monitoring and Reporting Program providing the Coalition an opportunity to participate in an Executive Officer approved Regional Monitoring Program.

Electronic copies of documents showing the proposed revisions to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order are available on the Central Valley Water Board's website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/new_waste_discharge_requirements/index.shtml

Copies of these documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114, on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

A public hearing concerning the proposed revisions to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order will be held in Fresno on 16/17 April 2015, at which time the board will consider adoption. The board will only consider adoption of the proposed revisions, and will not be re-considering other aspects of the Order. The hearing date and location are noted below:

Date: 16/17 April 2015
Time: To Be Determined
Location: Central Valley Water Board
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706

The final meeting agenda will be available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/agendas/ at least ten days before the meeting. The agenda will provide the hearing date for the revisions to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order, indicate the anticipated order of agenda items, include all material related to this agenda item, and may include staff revisions.

Written comments on the proposed revisions to the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order must be received at the Central Valley Water Board office or at the email address below **by 13 March 2015**. Persons submitting written comments are encouraged to do so electronically by sending them to yared.kebede@waterboards.ca.gov. Otherwise, written comments may be sent to the attention of Yared Kebede at Central Valley Water Board, 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. Comments received by 13 March will be included in the administrative record; submitted comments will be considered and a written response will be prepared. Written comments shall not be read into the record unless allowed by the Central Valley Water Board Chair.

At the hearing, staff will present a final recommendation for Central Valley Water Board consideration. Interested persons will be provided the opportunity to present oral comments to the Central Valley Water Board at the hearing. Oral testimony will be limited in time by the Central Valley Water Board Chair. Interested persons may be asked to respond to clarifying questions from Central Valley Water Board members, counsel, staff, or others, at the discretion of the Central Valley Water Board Chair. The Chair may, at his discretion, allow presenters to supplement their oral testimony with slides or other digital media. If you plan to use visual aids such as PowerPoint slides, contact staff prior to the meeting to arrange for equipment set-up. You must provide a printed or electronic copy of any visual aids.

Ex Parte Communications. Ex parte communications are allowed in this matter subject to the disclosure requirements of Water Code section 13287. **Ex parte communications are prohibited for a period beginning 14 days before the board meeting at which the proposed order is scheduled for board action.** For communications concerning any issue in this proceeding, ex parte communications are prohibited starting on **02 April**. If the board does not take action on **16/17 April**, the ex parte prohibition will remain in place until the board, the Chair or the Executive Officer directs otherwise. Once lifted, the prohibition on ex parte communications may be reinstated for 14 days before the day of the board meeting to which the decision is continued. The board will provide notice via the Lyris email list for this item if the prohibition is lifted and/or reinstated.

The procedures governing Central Valley Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the

Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml or by contacting any one of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

Any questions regarding the proposed action should be directed to Susan Fregien at (916) 464-4813 or susan.fregien@waterboards.ca.gov.

The workshop facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original Signed by

Adam Laputz, Assistant Executive Officer
13 February 2015