
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

16 February 2018

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COMMENTS ON THE KINGS RIVER WATER QUALITY COALITION'S GROUNDWATER QUALITY TREND MONITORING WORKPLAN

Thank you for submitting correspondence regarding the coalition-specific Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring Work Plan (GQTMP), required by Waste Discharge Requirements General Order R5-2013-0120 (Order). On 5 May 2017, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's Executive Officer revised the Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program to allow for the formation of a regional trend monitoring group. The Kings River Water Quality Coalition (Coalition), along with ten other members of the Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative (CVGMC), submitted a conceptual work plan for a regional trend monitoring effort on 31 October 2017. Following conditional approval of the conceptual work plan, the CVGMC additionally submitted a time schedule for completion of the Phase 1 Technical Workplan by 16 May 2018. Both the CVGMC and Regional Board staff are committed to begin trend monitoring by fall of 2018.

Based on staff review of the Coalition's individual GQTMP, the submittal is substantially incomplete as a stand-alone document. However, the plan does include a discussion of the regional groundwater trend monitoring effort, and provides assurances that many of the trend monitoring components required by the Order's Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) will be provided by the regional group in a later submittal. The Coalition should take steps to ensure that all trend monitoring plan components required by the MRP (e.g., proposed wells for sampling, construction details, selection rationale) will be provided in the upcoming Phase 1 Technical Workplan Submittal, anticipated on or before 16 May 2018.

The following staff recommendation has been provided to the CVGMC, but is also directed to the Coalition in the event updates to the Coalition's individual GQTMP become necessary:

"In general, GAR findings identified areas where groundwater quality exceeded the maximum contaminant level for nitrates and/or pesticides. Detection of any pesticide or pesticide ingredient in groundwater is an indication of vulnerability, and exceedance of a water quality objective is an issue of public health. Agricultural chemicals not currently being assessed by DPR that have the potential to impact groundwater, such as 1,2,3-TCP and DBCP, should be added to the list of constituents to be sampled in the first year of Trend monitoring (2018)."

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (559) 445-6279 or by e-mail at david.sholes@waterboards.ca.gov.



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