NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

REGARDING THE GENERAL NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT FOR CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS WITHIN THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Water Board) staff are currently developing a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit to renew Order R7-2008-0800, General NPDES Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) within the Colorado River Basin Region. Since the Permit expires on June 25, 2013, Regional Water Board staff is drafting a new permit to update it with the latest United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) requirements. In order to bring stakeholders and other interested persons information on the proposed draft Permit, Regional Water Board staff has scheduled a public workshop for May 8, 2013, to discuss the proposed permit and to take oral testimony from workshop participants. It is not expected that any Regional Water Board members will be attending this workshop. However, even if a quorum of Board members does attend, no Board action will be taken at the workshop.

The format of this public workshop will be a Power Point presentation by Regional Water Board staff that will be used to facilitate a general discussion session with workshop participants. Affected stakeholders and other interested persons are encouraged to participate in this workshop. In order to have adequate time for the presentation by Regional Water Board staff, however, comments from the public will be limited to five (5) minutes per person. If the comments may take longer, please let Regional Water Board staff know before speaking so that the commenter can be appropriately scheduled at the workshop. Where speakers can be grouped by affiliation or interest, such groups will be expected to select a spokesperson and not be repetitive. To ensure accuracy of the record, staff requests that any speakers who have prepared written statements for oral presentation at the workshop submit those statements to the staff before or during the workshop.

The workshop is intended to serve several purposes. First and foremost, the workshop will provide a forum for affected stakeholders and other interested persons to discuss general permit implementation concerns about the draft Permit. Second, it will enable Regional Water Board staff to discuss at greater depth the requirements and other relevant aspects (such as monitoring requirements) of the draft Permit. Finally, it will give Regional Water Board staff an opportunity to update affected stakeholders and
other interested persons on the status of the draft Permit and revised USEPA regulations affecting CAFOs.

Regional Water Board staff will accept oral comments from stakeholders and other interested persons at the workshop. A separate 30-day notice will be provided to stakeholders and interested parties for comments on the draft Order following the workshop. For more information, please contact Jose Figueroa-Acevedo by telephone at (760) 352-1464 or by email at jose.figueroa-acevedo@waterboards.ca.gov

This Public Workshop is scheduled as follows:

Date:  May 8, 2013  
Time:  3:00 PM  
Location:  Imperial Valley Farm Bureau  
          1000 Broadway  
          El Centro, CA 92243

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.

Any person who requires special accommodations to participate in this workshop, please contact Jose Figueroa-Acevedo no later than seven (7) days before the scheduled workshop.

JOSE FIGUEROA-ACEVEDO  
Water Resources Control Engineer

File:  Board Order No. R7-2008-0800