



Media Release

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Executive Officer Extends 2004 Agricultural Order and Issues Updated Monitoring and Reporting Program

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Roger Briggs, Executive Officer
805-549-3140

San Luis Obispo: On September 30, 2011, the Executive Officer of the Central Coast Water Board issued Executive Officer Order No. R3-2011-0017 extending the 2004 Agricultural Order until September 30, 2012. The Executive Order also requires dischargers to implement an updated Monitoring and Reporting Program. By law, all waivers of waste discharge requirements must be reviewed, and renewed, revised, or replaced at least every five years. The Central Coast Water Board is currently considering renewal of the 2004 Agricultural Order with modifications.

The Executive Officer Order to Extend the Termination Date of the current 2004 Order does not modify the conditions in that Order, with the exception of the updated Monitoring and Reporting Program (the agricultural industry's own program to monitor surface waters for all growers who choose to use this service). The Executive Order is in the public interest because it continues the conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements to protect water quality. It requires actions by dischargers to control discharges of waste in compliance with water quality standards, continues a monitoring and reporting program, and continues the payment of fees, pending the availability of a quorum of the Central Coast Water Board to adopt a renewed and modified waiver of waste discharge requirements or other order that supersedes the existing order.

For copies of Executive Officer Order No. R3-2011-0017, Agricultural Order R3-2004-0117, and Monitoring and Reporting Program R3-2011-0018 and additional information on what growers need to do to comply with existing requirements, please go to the Water Board's Agricultural Regulatory Program website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml

For additional information on the renewal of the 2004 Agricultural Order go to the Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/ag_order.shtml



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The Central Coast Water Board is responsible for protecting and restoring water quality in the 300-mile-long coastal region from southern San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties to the northern part of Ventura County.