NOTICE OF STAFF WORKSHOP

PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE
“STATEMENT OF POLICY WITH RESPECT TO MAINTAINING HIGH QUALITY OF WATERS IN CALIFORNIA” (ANTI-DEGRADATION POLICY)
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 68-16

Monday, November 17, 2008
Morning Session: Surface Water - 9 a.m.
Afternoon Session: Groundwater - no sooner than 1 p.m.
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board - Board Room
Sacramento Office
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff is requesting comments on the scope of actions the Water Boards should consider in reviewing State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 “STATEMENT OF POLICY WITH RESPECT TO MAINTAINING HIGH QUALITY OF WATERS IN CALIFORNIA” (Anti-degradation Policy) and its implementing guidelines as contained in the Administrative Update 90-004 (APU 90-004), precedential decisions, and legal memoranda.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide a forum for public consultation on the review of Resolution No. 68-16 and its implementation. This consultation will assist the State Water Board in determining the scope and content of any revisions to the Anti-degradation Policy or its implementation procedures, or both.

A quorum of State Water Board members may be present at the workshop. No action will be taken by the State Water Board at the workshop.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Anti-degradation Policy and APU 90-004 may be obtained via the Internet on the State Water Board Web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/. You may also receive a copy by contacting Xochitl Rivera, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 341-5566, or (xrivera@waterboards.ca.gov).

FORMAT OF WORKSHOP

The workshop will be conducted in two sessions. The morning session will focus on the surface water aspects of the Anti-degradation Policy. Staff will present a brief overview of the Anti-
degradation Policy and its implementation guidelines. Following the presentation, staff will accept focused comments. Depending on the number of commenters, time limits may be imposed. Commenters are requested to address the following questions:

- Should the State’s Anti-degradation Policy be revised as it pertains to surface waters? If so, how should it be revised?
- Should the implementation procedures as contained in APU 90-004 be revised? If so, how should they be revised?
- Should the implementation procedures be formally adopted as guidance or regulations by the State Water Board?
- Should the implementation procedures in APU 90-004 be expanded beyond the point source discharge permitting program?

The afternoon session (starting no earlier than 1 p.m.) will focus on groundwater aspects of the Anti-degradation Policy. Staff will present a brief overview of the Anti-degradation Policy and its implementation as it relates to groundwater. Following the presentation, staff will accept focused comments. Depending on the number of commenters, time limits may be imposed. Commenters are requested to address the following questions:

- Should the State’s Anti-degradation Policy be revised as it applies to groundwater?
- If so, why should it be revised, and how should it be revised?

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept both written and oral comments on the board’s proposed review of the State’s Anti-degradation Policy and its implementation. Written comments must be received by 12:00 noon on December 17, 2008 and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comment letters may be submitted by email to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov (if less than 15 megabytes in total size) or by fax at (916) 341-5620. Please indicate the project you are commenting upon in the subject line, “Comment Letter – Anti-degradation Policy (Resolution 68-16).” Electronic submission via e-mail is preferred.

This workshop will not be broadcasted.
PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions and parking information, please refer to:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/about_us/contact_us/sacramento_location.pdf
The facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least five 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.

All visitors are required to sign in and receive a badge prior to attending any meeting in the building. The Visitor Center is located just inside and to the right. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving clearance, and then proceed to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board’s Board Room.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Rik Rasmussen at (916) 341-5549 or RRasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov

October 16, 2008
Date
Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board