



State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FOR THE

DRAFT DOCUMENTS FOR THE STATE WATER BOARD RESOLUTION OF FINDINGS AND WATER QUALITY ORDER APPOINTING TULARE COUNTY, RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AGENCY, AS A FULL-SCOPE ADMINISTRATOR FOR EAST OROSI COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13289.5

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) regarding (1) the State Water Board Draft Resolution of Findings, and (2) the draft Water Quality Order Appointing Tulare County Resources Management Agency as a Full-Scope

Administrator for East Orosi Community Services District.

Members of the public, including representatives of East Orosi CSD, affected ratepayers, renters, and property owners, can submit written questions and comments through **May 30, 2025.**

Email <u>dwq-wdr@waterboards.ca.gov</u> with the subject "**AB805 Administrator**" to receive confirmation that your comments and questions were received.

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS

Written comments may be submitted through May 30, 2025.

EMAIL: dwq-wdr@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject "AB805 Administrator"

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MAIL: Stephanie Torres

State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Water Quality 1001 I Street, Floor 15 Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments or other material may be submitted electronically or by written letter with the subject "AB805 Administrator" and must be received by **12:00 pm (noon) on Friday, May 30, 2025.**

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

Documents will be accessible through the State Water Board website: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/sewer_system_administrators/. If you are unable to access these documents electronically, please contact Stephanie Torres at (916) 341-5572.

E. Joaquin Esquivel, chair | Eric Oppenheimer, executive director

BACKGROUND

Under the Water Code, a "designated sewer system" is a "sewer service provider that serves a disadvantaged community that is either an inadequate sewer service or a sewer system that has a demonstrated history of failure to maintain technical, managerial, or financial capacity to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse." (Water Code section 13288, subdivision (f).) A sewer system may be designated if there is evidence that the sewer system has a demonstrated history of failures to meet regulatory standards for proper wastewater collection, treatment and disposal and may have deficiencies such as infrastructure failure, insufficient capacity or ineffective wastewater treatment. (Water Code section 13288, subdivision (j).) If the State Water Board makes certain findings, based on evidence, it may appoint an administrator to provide full management and control of East Orosi CSD as a designated sewer system.

On February 21, 2025, the State Water Board issued a letter to East Orosi CSD and identified factors that support finding that East Orosi CSD is a designated sewer system and proposed to use its authority in Water Code section 13289.5 (added through Assembly Bill (AB) No. 805) to appoint a sewer system Administrator (as outlined in the State Water Board Administrator Policy Handbook) to help resolve East Orosi CSD's failures to provide adequate sewer service and other deficiencies. On April 17, 2025, the State Water Board conducted a public meeting in East Orosi, CA to receive oral comments and address questions as part of the ongoing written comment period through May 7, 2025 for the East Orosi CSD February 21, 2025 notification letter. The public meeting was available for participation from representatives of East Orosi CSD, affected ratepayers, renters, property owners and the public, consistent with the process outlined in Water Code section 13289.5 and the Administrator Policy Handbook.

NAME OF PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR

Tulare County RMA has been identified as a viable candidate to be appointed as an administrator of the East Orosi Community Services District. Their qualifications include:

- Experience in design, operations, and maintenance of community water and wastewater systems for nearly thirty years.
- Successfully managing several drinking water projects and consolidations.
 Consolidations included connecting small community water systems and private domestic wells to large community water systems.
- Staff include 13 licensed Professional Engineers, three Professional Land Surveyors, and three licensed water distribution operators.

SCOPE OF APPOINTMENT & SERVICES PROVIDED

If appointed, this administrator will be a Full-Scope Administrator as defined in the State Water Board Administrator Policy Handbook available online at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board info/agendas/2025/jan/012225 3 policy.pdf.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest has been identified or reported by Tulare County RMA at this time. An appointed administrator will be required to assure compliance with rules and regulations concerning conflicts of interest.

MORE INFORMATION

Pending significant comments received during the draft documents public comment period through May 30, 2025, these documents will be finalized and signed by the Executive Director to take effect.

Contact Stephanie Torres at (916) 341-5572 or <u>stephanie.torres@waterboards.ca.gov</u> or visit the State Water Board website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/sewer_system_administrators/.

May 19, 2025	Courtney Tyles
Date	Courtney Tyler
	Clerk to the Board