
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

SECOND REVISED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 9 November 2012

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) has released tentative waste discharge requirements (WDRs) and a tentative monitoring and reporting program (MRP) for discharges from irrigated lands within the Eastern San Joaquin River watershed (Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order or tentative Order). The tentative WDRs and MRP rely on the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, Program Environmental Impact Report (Resolution R5-2011-0017) for California Environmental Quality Act compliance.

If a quorum of the Board is present in Bakersfield, the public hearing concerning this matter will be opened in Bakersfield on 30 November 2012, and the hearing will be continued in Rancho Cordova on 7 December 2012 for receipt of additional testimony and comments and consideration of adoption of the tentative WDRs and MRP. If a quorum of the Board is not present in Bakersfield, the Board will hold a public workshop instead of a hearing in Bakersfield on 30 November, and then open the hearing in Rancho Cordova on 7 December for testimony and comments and consideration of adoption of the tentative WDRs and MRP.

Whether the Bakersfield meeting is considered to be a hearing or a workshop:

- All testimony and oral comments in Bakersfield will be recorded and made part of the record of the hearing,
- Concerns expressed in Bakersfield will be summarized for the Board members at the hearing in Rancho Cordova

It is not necessary for those who address the Board in Bakersfield to travel to Rancho Cordova and speak again at the 7 December hearing. However, if a workshop is held, anyone who addresses the Board in Bakersfield is free to speak again at the Rancho Cordova hearing.

The meeting dates and locations are noted below:

Date: Friday, 30 November 2012
Time: 8:00 A.M.
Place: Doubletree Hotel
3100 Camino Del Rio Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Date: Friday, 7 December 2012
Time: 8:30 A.M.
Place: Central Valley Water Board office
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Interested persons may download the available documents in PDF format from the Central Valley Water Board's Internet website:

(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/long_term_program_development/eastern_sanjoaquin_watershed_wdrs/index.shtml). Copies of these documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The board will consider adoption of the tentative WDRs and MRP on December 7, 2012 in Rancho Cordova, which will be the first of the irrigated lands general orders considered for adoption. Although it is planned that each order will be tailored to the needs of the individual watershed area, stakeholders in the Tulare Lake Basin have expressed considerable concern that the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed Order will set precedent for all future orders. The Board has received numerous requests from interested parties in the southern San Joaquin Valley for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed order. The board will therefore conduct a special meeting in Bakersfield to allow stakeholders in the southern San Joaquin Valley to address the Board at a convenient location. Stakeholders include affected members of the community, regulated entities, their representatives, and all other persons who are interested in this matter. The item will be continued to the December 7 meeting in Rancho Cordova where stakeholders may also address the Board. At the December 7 meeting, the Board expects to deliberate and vote on the proposed order. Transcripts and/or audiotapes of both the Bakersfield and Rancho Cordova meetings will be part of the record of the action and will be considered by the Board.

Comments and testimony on the East San Joaquin River Watershed order given at both the Bakersfield and Rancho Cordova meetings will be part of the record of the action and will be considered by the Board. There is no need for stakeholders to repeat comments or testimony at both meetings. Very limited Central Valley Water Board staff presentations will be made at the Bakersfield meeting to maximize the time available for public comments on the proposed order. A full board staff presentation will be made at the Rancho Cordova meeting.

Written comments on this item **were due on 6 August 2012**. Additional written comments will **not** be received on this item. Materials received by 6 August have been included in the administrative record and a response to those comments will be prepared. Written comments shall not be read into the record unless allowed by the Water Board Chair.

Interested persons will be provided the opportunity to present oral comments to the Central Valley Water Board at the meetings. Oral testimony will be limited in time by the Central Valley Water Board Chair. Interested persons may be asked to respond to clarifying questions from Central Valley Water Board members, counsel, staff, or others, at the discretion of the Central Valley Water Board Chair. The Chair may, at his discretion, allow presenters to supplement their oral testimony with slides or other digital media. If you plan to use visual aids such as PowerPoint slides, contact staff prior to the meeting to arrange for equipment set-up. You must provide a printed or electronic copy of any visual aids.

The final meeting agendas will be available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/agendas/ at least ten days before the meetings. The agendas will provide the dates the Central Valley Water Board meeting will be held; indicate the anticipated order of agenda items; include all material related to this agenda item¹; and may include staff revisions.

The procedures governing Central Valley Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the board's website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml or by contacting any one of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

Any questions regarding the proposed action should be directed to Adam Laputz at (916) 464-4848 or AWLaputz@waterboards.ca.gov.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 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.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Joe Karkoski, Chief, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
9 November 2012

¹ The Information Sheet and Response to Comments will be available for the 7 December meeting, but may not be available for the 30 November meeting.