STATE OF CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT: Alyx Karpowicz MEETING DATE: February 14, 2024

ITEM: 7

Amendment to Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for Long-Term Flood Protection Requirements at Oceanfront and Bayfront Municipal Solid Waste Landfills and Industrial Facilities – Amendment to WDRs

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DISCUSSION:

This Revised Tentative Order (Appendix A) would amend the individual waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for 27 oceanfront and Bayfront landfills and industrial facilities to make long-term flood protection planning and reporting requirements consistent among these facilities by updating the requirements for facilities with existing requirements and adding new requirements for those landfills and industrial facilities that do not have such requirements. Most significantly, this Revised Tentative Order would require flood protection planning and reporting to address groundwater rise, which none of the existing WDRs requires. The proposed requirements are consistent with those set forth in Order No. R2-2022-0031, adopted by the Board in October 2022, which amended the individual WDRs for 16 other Bayfront landfills that did not previously have long-term flood protection planning and reporting requirements.

This Revised Tentative Order would require that Long-Term Flood Protection Plans include a climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan, which must identify strategies for the long-term protection from flooding and inundation due to sea level rise, groundwater rise, and extreme climate/weather events. The Long-Term Flood Protection Plans must describe how vulnerable features and infrastructure will be protected, and how building uses, and public access will be protected prior to the projected timing of sea level rise, groundwater rise, and extreme storm event impacts. Long-Term Flood Protection Plans would be required to be updated every five years to consider the best available science at the time.

We did not receive comments on the Tentative Order during the public comment period and expect this item to remain uncontested. We made minor staff-initiated changes to the Tentative Order to update the figures depicting the facilities, to correct a date, and to make minor editorial and formatting changes. The changes are described in Appendix B and reflected in the Revised Tentative Order.

APPENDICES:

- A. Revised Tentative Order
- B. Staff-Initiated Changes

Appendix A Revised Tentative Order Appendix B Staff-Initiated Changes