

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD**

RESOLUTION NO. R3-2017-0014

**AMENDING THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL
BASIN TO UPDATE THE TURBIDITY WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVE
UNITS OF MEASUREMENT FROM JACKSON TURBIDITY UNITS (JTU)
TO NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNITS (NTU)**

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) finds that:

1. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) is the Central Coast Water Board's master water quality control planning document and was first adopted in 1975. It designates beneficial uses and water quality objectives for waters of the state, including surface waters and groundwater. It also includes programs of implementation to achieve water quality objectives. The Basin Plan was duly adopted by the Central Coast Water Board and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), where required.
2. The Basin Plan may be amended in accordance with California Water Code (CWC) section 13240, *et seq.*
3. This Basin Plan amendment makes editorial changes by updating the turbidity units from historic Jackson Turbidity Units (JTU) to the current standard Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU).
4. The Basin Plan amendment is a change without regulatory effect including but not limited to non-substantive revisions to its structure, grammar, and organization (California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 1, section 100, subdivision (a)).
5. The proposed Basin Plan amendment is not a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it will neither cause a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect change. See Public Resources Code section 21065 [defining "project"]; CCR, title 14, section 15378 [defining "project"]. As a result, this amendment is not subject to CEQA, and therefore not subject to the Central Coast Water Board's certified regulatory program regulations for implementing CEQA (CCR, title 23, section 3720, subdivisions (b) and (c)(2)).
6. The Central Coast Water Board has carefully considered all testimony received, including responses thereto, on the Basin Plan amendment, as well as all of the evidence in the administrative record.
7. The Basin Plan amendment does not include a "scientific portion," and does not require an external scientific peer review under California Health and Safety Code section 57004(d).
8. The Basin Plan amendment must be submitted for review and approval by the State Water

Board and OAL. Once approved by the State Water Board, the amendment will be submitted to OAL. The Basin Plan amendment will become effective upon approval by OAL.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Pursuant to CWC section 13240, the Central Coast Water Board, after considering the record, including oral testimony at the hearing, hereby adopts the Basin Plan amendment as set forth in Attachment A to this Resolution.
2. The Executive Officer is directed to forward copies of the Basin Plan amendment to the State Water Board in accordance with the requirements of CWC section 13245.3. The Central Coast Water Board requests that the State Water Board approve the Basin Plan amendment in accordance with the requirements of CWC section 13245 and 13246 and forward it to OAL and USEPA for approval.
3. Since the Basin Plan amendment will involve no potential for adverse effect, either individually or cumulatively, on wildlife, the Executive Officer is directed to sign a CEQA Filing Fee No Effect Determination Form and to submit the exemption in lieu of payment of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife CEQA filing fee.
4. If, during the approval process, Central Coast Water Board staff, the State Water Board, or OAL determines that minor, non-substantive corrections to the language of the amendment are needed for clarity or consistency, the Executive Officer may make such changes, and shall inform the Central Coast Water Board of any such changes.

I, John M. Robertson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, on July 13, 2017.

John M. Robertson
Executive Officer

Attachment: A – Basin Plan Amendment

**California Environmental Protection Agency
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board**

**Basin Plan Amendment
Attachment A to Resolution No. R3-2017-0014**

Amendment to Update the Turbidity Water Quality Objective
Units of Measurement from Jackson Turbidity Units (JTU)
to Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)



ATTACHMENT A TO RESOLUTION NO. R3-2017-0014

Revise Chapter 3, section II.A.2.a of the March 2016 Basin Plan as follows:

Turbidity

Waters shall be free of changes in turbidity that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. Increase in turbidity attributable to controllable water quality factors shall not exceed the following limits:

1. Where natural turbidity is between 0 and 50 ~~Jackson Turbidity Units (JTU)~~ Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU), increases shall not exceed 20 percent.
2. Where natural turbidity is between 50 and 100 ~~JTUNTU~~, increases shall not exceed 10 ~~JTUNTU~~.
3. Where natural turbidity is greater than 100 ~~JTUNTU~~, increases shall not exceed 10 percent.

Allowable zones of dilution within which higher concentrations will be tolerated will be defined for each discharge in discharge permits.