

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN DIEGO REGION

Public Workshop

Tentative Order to Adopt
Conditional Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements
for Low Threat Discharges in the San Diego Region

May 14, 2014

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Groundwater Protection Branch



TOPICS TO COVER

- Present tentative conditional waivers of WDRs
- Responsibilities and authorities
- Issuance and expiration of waivers
- Enrollment requirements
- Pending statewide general orders
- Stakeholder coordination activities



PURPOSE OF TENTATIVE ORDER No. R9-2014-0041

- Waives requirements to submit ROWD and obtain WDRs
- Does not affect otherwise regulated discharges
- Effectively regulate discharges with limited agency resources
- Minimize threat to water quality through required MMs/BMPs



SAN DIEGO WATER BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITIES

California Water Code

- Protect the quality of the waters of the State
- Develop/issue WDRs based on information in ROWD, or
- Waive requirements for ROWD/WDRs provided:
 - Consistent with the Basin Plan
 - In the public interest
 - Discharge complies with waiver conditions



BACKGROUND / HISTORY

- Waivers added to Basin Plan – 1994
- Revised waivers incorporated into Basin Plan – 2002/2003
- Amended waivers incorporated into Basin Plan – 2007
 - Waivers expired – February 2014



DISCHARGE TYPES AND WAIVERS

- Revise/renew waivers adopted in 2007
- Groups (37) discharge types into (12) waivers
 - Supporting Document No. 1 – Technical Report



NEW WAIVERS

- Issues new waivers for:
 - *Discharges from aquatic animal production facilities*
 - *Discharges of winery process water to lined ponds*
 - *Discharges of waste to land at composting facilities*
- Waivers not being renewed are:
 - *Discharges from agricultural and nursery operations*
 - *Discharges of dredge or fill materials nearby or within surface waters*



ENROLLMENT

- Filing of an NOI, if applicable
- Implementation of effective management measures and best management practices
- Payment of an annual fee, if applicable



ANNUAL FEES

- Waivers Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 11, and 12 – no fees
- Waivers Nos. 4, 5, 8, and 10 – lowest applicable fee
- Waiver No. 7 - number/type of animals confined onsite



CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- Prepared an Initial Study/Environmental Checklist
 - Assess potential environmental impacts of the waivers
 - Evaluate potential environmental impacts of the reasonably foreseeable methods of compliance
- Prepared a Negative Declaration
 - Submitted to the State Clearinghouse on April 1, 2014
 - Noticed for public comment on April 1, 2014



STATEWIDE GENERAL ORDERS

- In development by State Water Board
 - Recycled water use
 - Compost facilities
- San Diego Water Board will:
 - Evaluate the discharger enrollment; and
 - Determine discharger eligibility for enrollment in a statewide general order



ORDER DEVELOPMENT AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

- Revision to waivers (February 2012 – April 2014)
- CEQA (October 2012 – April 2014)
- Public Comment Period (April 3, 2014 – May 19, 2014)
- Stakeholder Meeting (April 22, 2014)
- Public Workshop (May 14, 2014)
- Tentative Adoption Hearing (June 26, 2014)



Questions/Comments:

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**Written Comments and Materials MUST be received by 5:00 pm
on May 19, 2014**

