California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400, Oakland, CA 94612

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT AND PUBLIC HEARING
FOR
DISCHARGE PERMIT**

**The Exploratorium
Piers 15 and 17, The Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA 94111, San Francisco County**

Board staff has prepared a draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for the above discharger in accordance with the Clean Water Act and Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

The Exploratorium heating/cooling and desalination systems use approximately 0.5 million gallons per day of filtered Bay water to heat and cool and to provide freshwater for a fog exhibit. Non-contact heating and cooling water, desalination concentrate, and filter backwash are discharged back to the Bay at Piers 15 and 17.

The deadline for receipt of comment on the draft permit is **5:00 p.m. on December 16, 2020**. Comments must be sent to the **attention of Gaurav Mittal**. Persons wishing to file written comments on any aspect of this matter must do so no later than this deadline so that such comments may be considered.

The Board will consider adopting the draft permit during a meeting to commence at 9:00 a.m. on **January 13, 2021**. Interested persons are invited to express their views during this hearing.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations Title 23 section 2050(c), any party who challenges the Board's action through a petition to the State Water Resources Control Board under Water Code section 13320 will be limited to raising only those substantive issues that were raised before the Board at the hearing or in timely submitted correspondence.

All documents related to the draft permit may be inspected at the Board office. The draft permit and developments on this matter are available at www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay. Board staff responses to comments will be posted on that website a week prior to the hearing. Contact **Gaurav Mittal** at **(510) 622-2407** or **gaurav.mittal@waterboards.ca.gov** if you have questions.