NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR AQUIFER STORAGE AND RECOVERY PROJECTS THAT INJECT DRINKING WATER INTO GROUNDWATER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public hearing to receive public comments on proposed General Waste Discharge Requirements for Aquifer Storage and Recovery Projects that Inject Drinking Water into Groundwater (General Order) and an associated Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. The State Water Board may adopt the General Order and Mitigated Negative Declaration at the end of the hearing. The location and time of the public hearing is provided below.

Wednesday, September 19, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.
Joe Serna Jr.-Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

BACKGROUND
Some water agencies treat water to meet drinking water standards at an existing water treatment plant and then pump the treated water through one or more injection wells into an aquifer. The stored water is later extracted from the aquifer as needed, treated again, if necessary, and conveyed to water users through the agency’s distribution system. The purpose of the proposed General Order is to achieve consistent regulation of these aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) projects statewide and to streamline the permitting process.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS
The proposed General Order, Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration are available on the State Water Board’s web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/asr/index.shtml

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS
The State Water Board will accept both written and oral comments on the proposed General Order and Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Written comments must be received by 12:00 noon on September 13, 2012 and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Comment letters may be submitted electronically in pdf text format (if less than 15 megabytes in total size) to the Clerk to the Board via email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, then the comment letter may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Please indicate on the subject line: “Comment Letter – General Waste Discharge Requirements for ASR Projects”. Couriers delivering hard copies of comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Jeanine Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS
At this hearing, there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. At the hearing, participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations. To ensure a productive and efficient hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited. For other presentation recommendations, please go to the State Water Board’s web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml

Questions concerning the hearing may also be directed to Mr. Gordon Innes by telephone at (916) 341-5517 or by email at ginnes@waterboards.ca.gov.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY
For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal/EPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board web site at:

The Cal/EPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5880 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922. An audio broadcast of the meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/. All visitors to the Cal/EPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Please direct all questions regarding the proposed General Order to Ms. Anne Olson by telephone at (916) 464-4740 or by email at aolson@waterboards.ca.gov, or to Mr. Gordon Innes by telephone at (916) 341-5517 or by email at ginnes@waterboards.ca.gov.

August 13, 2012

Date

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board