



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
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State Water Resources Control Board

Executive Office

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED ADOPTION OF PROPOSED WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR ENCLOSED BAYS AND ESTUARIES OF CALIFORNIA, PART 1, SEDIMENT QUALITY OBJECTIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008 – 10 a.m.
Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public hearing to seek comments on the proposed Water Quality Control Plan (Plan) for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California, Part 1, Sediment Quality Objectives. The State Water Board may take final action on the Plan at the conclusion of the hearing, or the State Water Board may defer final action to a subsequent, publicly-noticed board meeting.

BACKGROUND

In 2003, the State Water Board initiated a program to develop sediment quality objectives (SQOs) for toxic pollutants in enclosed bays and estuaries. The proposed SQOs use multiple lines of evidence, which integrate chemistry, toxicity, and the condition of the benthic community to determine sediment quality. The State Water Board held a public hearing on the Plan in November 2007, adopted the Plan on February 19, 2008, and submitted it to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on February 29, 2008. Review by OAL revealed that the statutorily-required newspaper notification of the November 2007 hearing had not occurred. The State Water Board is, therefore, noticing and conducting a new public hearing for the proposed Plan on September 16, 2008.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The draft Staff Report and proposed Plan may be obtained via the Internet on the State Water Board Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/bptcp/sediment.shtml

California Environmental Protection Agency

You may also receive a copy by writing or calling:

Chris Beegan
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100
Phone: (916) 341-5577
Email: cbeegan@waterboards.ca.gov

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

The State Water Board will again accept both written and oral comments on the proposed Plan. Please note that the State Water Board's record for the proposed Plan includes all comment letters that were previously submitted to the State Water Board in a timely manner prior to February 19, 2008. Commenters need not resubmit their prior comments but may simply reference them in any new comment letters.

Interested persons must submit their written comments, technical reports, testimony, and other material concerning this issue no later than **12 noon on September 5, 2008** 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 by email to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov (if less than 15 megabytes in total size) or by fax at (916) 341-5620. For email submittals, please indicate in the subject line: "**Comment Letter – Sediment Quality Objectives.**"

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

There is a parking garage across from the building with entrances on 10th and 11th Streets between "I" and "J" Streets, and metered parking spaces are in the vicinity of the building.

For a map, see our Web site: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/location.htm>.

Please note: All visitors to the Cal/EPA Building are required to sign in and receive a badge at the Visitor Services Center located inside the main entrance. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving clearance before proceeding to the Coastal Hearing Room on the 2nd floor.

The Cal/EPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Catherine Foreman at (916) 341-5881, at least five working days prior to the public meeting date. Persons with hearing or speech impairments can contact us by using the California Relay Service Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD). TDD is reachable only from phones equipped with a TDD Device. HEARING IMPAIRED RELAY SERVICE: TDD to voice 1 800-735-2929; voice to TDD 1-800-735-2922.

July 17, 2008

Date

Jeanine Townsend

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board