
State Water Resources Control Board

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

PROPOSED DRAFT MODEL CRITERIA FOR GROUNDWATER MONITORING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will receive public comments on the proposed draft Model Criteria for Groundwater Monitoring (Model Criteria) in areas of oil and gas well stimulation, as specified in California Water Code section 10783 (Senate Bill 4, Pavley, Statutes of 2013).

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Board will hold a public workshop to provide information and answer questions on the proposed draft Model Criteria. A quorum of the State Water Board Members may attend this workshop. However, the State Water Board will not adopt the Model Criteria at this meeting. Details of the public workshop are provided below.

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 – 9:00 a.m.
Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Model Criteria is to protect waters designated for beneficial uses. The Model Criteria will be used (1) by the State Water Board to implement the regional groundwater monitoring program, and (2) by oil and gas operators and State Water Board staff in the development of groundwater monitoring near well stimulation activities.

Water Code section 10783 requires that the State Water Board adopt final Model Criteria by July 1, 2015. In order to maintain this timeline, we are required to release the proposed draft Model Criteria for public comment by April 29, 2015.

The proposed draft Model Criteria were developed in consultation with the Department of Conservation Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources, Regional Water Boards, public stakeholders, and technical experts. Several stakeholder meetings have been held. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), as the State Water Board's expert, is developing recommendations for the State Water Board to consider for the Model Criteria. The LLNL final recommendations are scheduled to be publicly available June 16, 2015. The proposed final draft Model Criteria will be made available for a 10-day public comment period beginning June 19, 2015.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed Draft Model Criteria and all related documents are available for review online at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/groundwater/sb4/index.shtml.

You may request a paper copy by contacting Ms. Rachael Tadlock at (916) 341-5568 or rachael.tadlock@waterboards.ca.gov.

Additional information on the workshop in Sacramento can be found on the State Water Board web site at www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept both written and oral comments on the draft Model Criteria. Written comments must be received by 12:00 noon on **Friday, May 29, 2015** 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 (less than 15 megabytes in total size), to the Clerk to the Board via e-mail 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 transmittal subject line: **“Comment Letter – Model Criteria for Groundwater Monitoring.”**

Couriers delivering comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At the public meeting there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. Participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations. To ensure a productive and efficient meeting 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

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board web site at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>.

The CalEPA 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. Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (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 CalEPA 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.

FUTURE NOTICES

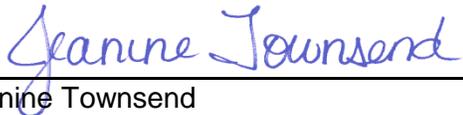
The State Water Board will hold the public comment period and public workshop at the time and place noted above. Any change in the date, time, and place of the public workshop and public comment period will be noticed on the State Water Board electronic mailing list (Lyris list). Any persons desiring to receive future notices concerning the Model Criteria, must sign up for Lyris list, access the E-mail List Subscription form, select "Water Quality" category, check the box for "Oil and Gas Monitoring Operations (SB 4)," and provide the required information. The subscription form is located at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions regarding the Model Criteria for Groundwater Monitoring to Ms. Janice Zinky by telephone at (916) 341-5897 (OilandGas@waterboards.ca.gov).

April 29, 2015
Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board