TO: State Water Resources Control Board Members

FROM: Caren Trgovcich
Chief Deputy Director
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

DATE: April 6, 2015

SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF THE STATEWIDE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COOLING WATER INTAKE STRUCTURES MEETING

This memo is to notify Board Members that the meeting for the Statewide Advisory Committee on Cooling Water Intake Structures (SACCWIS), originally scheduled for March 20, 2015, was postponed to allow for data submissions required to produce a more substantive SACCWIS Report.

The State Water Board adopted the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (Policy) to reduce the harmful effects associated with a coastal power plant’s cooling water intake structures on marine and estuarine life. The SACCWIS was convened by the Executive Director of the State Water Board to advise the State Water Board on the implementation of the Policy, in order to ensure that implementation plans and schedules established by the Policy are realistic and will not cause disruption to the state’s electrical power supply. Section 3.B of the Policy requires the SACCWIS to publicly meet annually by March 31 to provide recommendations to the State Water Board on modifications to the implementation schedule. The intent of the annual SACCWIS meeting is to discuss the current status of all facilities complying with the Policy and whether changes to the implementation schedule are recommended. The SACCWIS approves the information in the form of a report (SACCWIS Report) and presents the findings to the State Water Board by March 31 of each year.

To provide a substantive SACCWIS report, the State Water Board works with SACCWIS members and regulated facilities to compile an assessment of current information. On February 24, 2015, the State Water Board sent letters to the facilities, requesting by May 2015 an update to their implementation plans and outlining their steps toward compliance. It is reasonable to wait for responses in order to create a more current SACCWIS Report for approval at the SACCWIS meeting. As a result, the SACCWIS meeting will be rescheduled once the information requests have been received. State Water Board staff is working with SACCWIS to revise the information gathering process to ensure more timely collection of data in future years.
Should you have any questions, please contact Maria de la Paz Carpio-Obeso, Ocean Standards Unit chief at (916) 341-5858 or at MarielaPaz.Carpio-Obeso@waterboards.ca.gov.