

# State Water Resources Control Board



**Terry Tamminen**  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

## Division of Water Quality

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**Arnold Schwarzenegger**  
Governor

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**TO:** John Van Berkel, Acting Chief  
Office of Environmental Engineering  
California Department of Transportation

**FROM:** Stan Martinson, Chief  
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

**DATE:** JUN 02 2004

**SUBJECT:** WATER QUALITY STANDARDS INVENTORY DATABASE

Under section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is required to develop in 2004 a list of California water bodies not meeting water quality standards. To complete this task in a timely fashion, SWRCB staff, working with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency personnel, will develop a database to:

1. store newly-submitted water quality data;
2. organize data by water body, water quality region, and other characteristics; and
3. compare solicited data with pertinent water quality criteria and objectives.

In the 1990's, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) developed a database inventory of California water quality standards for use by Caltrans storm water permit managers. This inventory, called the Water Quality Standards Inventory Database, was developed in the Microsoft Access database software. Using information gathered from Water Quality Control Plans and the California Ocean Plan, it links water quality standards (i.e., objectives for pollutants of concern and designated beneficial uses) to pertinent water bodies. This existing Caltrans database would be a valuable cost- and time-saving tool for our SWRCB's listing effort.

I would therefore like to request that Caltrans provide SWRCB with a copy of the Water Quality Standards Inventory Database software in order to assist SWRCB in the development of the 2004 CWA section 303(d) list. Any modifications to the original database (e.g., updates to water quality standards) will, in turn, be made readily available to Caltrans.

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

JUN 02 2004

Thank you for consideration of this request. Please call me at (916) 341-5458 if you have any questions about the CWA section 303(d) listing process. You may also contact Melenee Emanuel at (916) 341-5271 or Timothy Stevens (916) 341-5911, the lead staff on this matter.

cc: Peter Kozelka  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Bruce Fujimoto, Chief  
Storm Water Section  
State Water Resources Control Board

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
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June 3, 2004

Mr. Stan Martinson, Chief  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Quality  
P.O. Box 1977  
Sacramento, CA 95812-1977

**Subject: WATER QUALITY STANDARDS INVENTORY DATABASE**

As requested in your letter dated June 2, 2004, attached for your use is a CD ROM, which contains Caltrans' Water Quality Standards Inventory Database posted on the internet. Our files show that a copy of this database previously had been sent to your office on October 7, 1998, soon after it had been completed.

We are happy to assist the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in the development of the 2004 CWA section 303(d) list by providing this database. Since the database was developed several years ago, the data will require updating. We look forward to receiving from the SWRCB any modifications to the original database so that we may update our database as well.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Kuen Tsay at (916) 653-5240, or me at (916) 654-4327.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Van Berkel".

John Van Berkel  
Acting Chief Environmental Engineer  
Division of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure

**DWQ Received  
Chief's Office**

**JUN 3 2004**