



Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
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State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Quality

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Gray Davis
Governor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED REGULATIONS REGARDING ELECTRONIC SUBMITTAL OF INFORMATION FOR GROUNDWATER CLEANUP SITES

Monday, June 16, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.
Sierra Hearing Room – Second Floor
Joe Serna, Jr. Cal/EPA Building
1001 I Street, Sacramento

SUBJECT OF HEARING

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will hold a public hearing to seek statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the proposed regulatory action to adopt electronic submittal of information requirements for groundwater cleanup sites in Chapter 30, Title 23 and Division 3, Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

BACKGROUND

Water Code (WC) section 13196¹ authorizes the SWRCB to establish electronic formats for reporting compliance data and mandates the adoption of a single standard for electronic reporting of analytical data from certified analytical laboratories. The SWRCB adopted emergency regulations on April 26, 2001, requiring electronic submittal to Geotracker of laboratory reports containing soil or water analysis data generated for reports required as part of the Underground Storage Tank (UST) program. Geotracker is an Internet-accessible database system integrated with a geographic information system (GIS). Geotracker was developed in response to AB 592 (Ch. 814, Stats. of 1997) and Senate Bill 1189 (Ch. 815, Stats. of 1997), to allow regulators to prioritize and manage threats to drinking water supplies more effectively and efficiently.

WC section 13198¹ authorizes the SWRCB to adopt regulations to expand the scope of sites for which electronic submittal of information is required. Electronic submittal of information is the only viable method of ensuring that data are consistently and reliably entered. Electronic submittal also allows spatial and temporal trends of groundwater data to be displayed. We are proposing that the regulations be extended to all groundwater cleanup programs at the SWRCB. This will allow the tools now available to the UST program to be used by other programs, greatly enhancing our overall ability to manage groundwater improvement efforts in California. The proposed regulations make permanent the existing electronic submittal requirements for UST cleanup sites, expand information required to be submitted, and extend the scope to include all of the SWRCB's groundwater cleanup program sites.

We are proposing to add new data dictionaries (the format for electronic data submittals) for these regulations to Title 27, CCR, in coordination with existing Cal/EPA Unified Program data dictionaries. We are proposing to move the existing Unified Program data dictionaries from their current location as

¹ Added by Assembly Bill (AB) 2886 (Ch. 727, Stats. of 2000).

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Appendices in Subdivision 4, Division 1 in Title 27, CCR into separate chapters in Subdivision 1 of a new Division 3 in Title 27, CCR. Finally, we are proposing to add the new data dictionaries for electronic submittal as new chapters under Subdivision 2, Division 3 in Title 27, CCR.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the proposed regulations are available either by accessing the SWRCB UST Program Electronic Reporting web page at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/ust/docs/ab2886/index.html> or by writing to:

Attention: Diane Trommer
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality, UST Program
P.O. Box 2231
Sacramento, CA 95812

HEARING ISSUES

The purpose of this hearing is to provide an opportunity for persons to present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the proposed regulatory action.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

This is a public hearing, and a SWRCB member will be present. The proceedings will be recorded and placed into the Rulemaking File. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants, but the Hearing Officer and SWRCB staff may ask clarifying questions. To ensure that all attendees have a chance to participate in the hearing, oral comments may be limited to ten minutes or less.

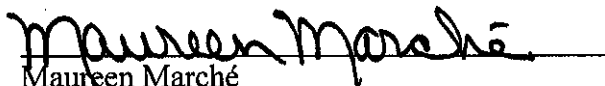
Written comments not presented at the public hearing will be considered by the SWRCB if they are received prior to 5:00 p.m. on June 16, 2003. Submit written comments to:

Attention: Diane Trommer
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality, UST Program
P.O. Box 2231
Sacramento, CA 95812

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

The attached map shows the location of the Joe Serna, Jr. Cal/EPA Headquarters Building and available parking. All visitors are required to sign in and receive a badge prior to attending any meeting. The Visitor and Environmental Services Center is located just inside and to the left of the Cal/EPA Building's public entrance. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level, so please allow 15 minutes for signing in.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Ms. Diane Trommer at (916) 341-5787 or via fax at (916) 341-5808, or via e-mail at trommerd@swrcb.ca.gov.


Maureen Marché
Clerk to the Board

Dated: April 29, 2003

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