
State Water Resources Control Board

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION MEETING**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION APPROVING A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND
EXCEPTIONS TO THE STATEWIDE IMPLEMENTATION POLICY AND THE CALIFORNIA
OCEAN PLAN FOR DRINKING WATER SYSTEM DISCHARGES**

AND

**DRAFT STATEWIDE GENERAL NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION
SYSTEM PERMIT
FOR DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS DISCHARGES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public hearing to receive public comments and testimony on a Draft Resolution: (1) approving a Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act; and (2) granting a regulatory exception from specified state water quality standards for mandatory discharges from drinking water systems that result from compliance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the California Health and Safety Code. The State Water Board will also receive public comments and testimony on a Draft Statewide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for discharges from drinking water systems. The date and location of the public hearing are:

**Tuesday, July 15, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.
Joe Serna, Jr. - Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814**

The State Water Board will subsequently consider adoption of the Draft Resolution and Draft Statewide General NPDES Permit at its regularly scheduled Board meeting on the following date and location:

**Tuesday, August 5, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.
Joe Serna, Jr. - Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814**

BACKGROUND

Water purveyors, including water districts, are responsible for developing water supplies and providing drinking water to their communities and customers in accordance with statutory requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the California Health and Safety Code. Mandatory system-development and system-maintenance activities can result in surface water discharges of drinking and potable water, either via storm drain systems or directly to the ocean, a creek, river, or lake. Clean Water Act section 402 requires that a discharge of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to surface waters that are deemed waters of the United States be regulated by a NPDES permit. The proposed permit would require water purveyors to:

- implement best management practices that are approved by professional associations to minimize erosion and introduction of debris into surface waters,
- implement *in-situ*¹ compliance monitoring,
- demonstrate compliance with chlorine effluent limitations using hand-held monitoring equipment, and/or the presence of a de-chlorination agent in the discharge, and
- implement immediate response activities when made aware of a discharge due to unplanned pipe breaks and/or catastrophic events.

Additionally, a Draft Resolution proposes, per Section 5.3 of the State Water Board's *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy)*, and Section III.J of the *California Ocean Plan*, the granting of a statewide exception to water districts/purveyors from complying with specified requirements, if determined to be necessary to implement control measures for drinking water systems in order to fulfill statutory requirements under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act or the California Health and Safety Code. Such an exception will allow water districts and purveyors to carry out their mandatory responsibilities to protect public health and safety without violating requirements set forth in the State Implementation Policy and the Ocean Plan. The Draft Resolution also proposes the approval of a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration, prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, for the proposed granting of the above-described exceptions.

The State Water Board is seeking comments on the Draft Resolution and the Draft Statewide General NPDES Permit for Drinking Water System Discharges prior to consideration of adoption at its meeting on August 5, 2014.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Draft Resolution and Draft Statewide General NPDES Permit for Drinking Water Systems Discharges may be viewed and downloaded from the State Water Board's Web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/npdes/drinkingwatersystems.shtml

You may request a paper copy by contacting Mr. Renan Jauregui at (916) 341-5505 or by emailing your request to rjauregui@waterboards.ca.gov.

¹ In the natural or original position or place.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Interested persons must submit written comments and any additional evidence (e.g. photographs, data, testimony) no later than **12:00 noon on July 8, 2014**, 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 (if less than 15 megabytes in total size), to the Clerk to the Board via email 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 the subject line: **“Comment Letter – Draft Drinking Water Systems General Permit and Resolution”**

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

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At the public hearing, participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written material 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. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the Draft Resolution and/or the Draft Statewide General NPDES Permit for Drinking Water Systems Discharges must sign up for the Lyris email list. Interested persons are encouraged to subscribe to an email list serve for future notices about the General NPDES Permit for Drinking Water System Discharges at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml, (select *Discharges from Drinking Water Systems* under the *Water Quality Topics* category). The email list serve will be the primary method for providing future notices related to the implementation of a newly issued Resolution and Permit. Persons without access to email may request paper copies of future notices by mailing such request to the above address.

EX PARTE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR PENDING GENERAL ORDERES

This item is subject to the ex parte communication disclosure requirements of Water Code section 13287, as explained in http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/exparte.pdf. Any communications between interested persons and board members (other than at a noticed board meeting or submitted as a comment letter in compliance with the public notice) must be disclosed by the interested person within seven days of the communication. Sample disclosure forms are available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/swrcb_godf_fillin.pdf.

Beginning **Tuesday, July 22, 2014**, ex parte communications between interested persons and board members concerning this item are prohibited.

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 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 Joe Serna Jr. - Cal/EPA Headquarters 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 second floor.

The Joe Serna Jr. - Cal/EPA Headquarters Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5880, at least five working days prior to the 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 (800) 735-2929; voice to TDD (800) 735-2922.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Mr. Renan Jauregui at (916) 341-5505 or rjauregui@waterboards.ca.gov.

Date June 6, 2014



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board