



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

**STATEWIDE MERCURY POLICY
and
MERCURY CONTROL PROGRAM FOR RESERVOIRS**

**Notice of California Environmental Quality Act
Public Scoping Meetings
March 2012**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that staff of the State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (State Water Boards) have scheduled California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) public meetings to discuss and solicit comments and suggestions from the public on a proposed Statewide Mercury Control Policy and a Mercury Control Program for Reservoirs (Statewide Mercury Policy and Control Program). While not part of the scoping effort, a brief program update will also be provided at each meeting on the Statewide Fish Tissue Objectives Project, a closely related project to develop methylmercury fish tissue objectives. These public meetings will be held at four locations around the state in early March 2012. Interested members of the public are invited to attend the meetings or view the meeting held in Sacramento via webcast.

At the meetings, State Water Board staff will seek comments from the public on the scope, content, and potential environmental effects of the proposed Policy and Control Program. Public comments will assist the State Water Boards in developing these new regulatory programs.

SACRAMENTO

Monday, March 5, 2012, 1:00 p.m.
State Water Resources Control Board
Coastal Hearing Room (2nd Floor)
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Directions:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>

This meeting will be webcast and available on the internet. See

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>

REDDING

Thursday, March 8, 2012, 2:00 p.m.
Caltrans Office
Lassen Training Room/Conf Room/
D-2-West Venture
1031 Butte Street
Redding, CA 96001

OAKLAND

Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 1:00 p.m.
San Francisco Bay Water Board
Auditorium (ground floor)
1515 Clay Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Directions:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/about_us/directions.shtml

RIVERSIDE

Monday, March 12, 2012, 1:00 p.m.
Santa Ana Water Board
Highgrove Room (2nd Floor)
3737 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501-3348

Directions:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/about_us/office_location_map.shtml

CHARLES R. HOPPIN, CHAIRMAN | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

Although a quorum of State Water Board members may be present, the Board will not take any action at these meetings. Recipients of this notice are encouraged to inform others who are interested in mercury issues about this new program and the upcoming meetings.

AVAILABLE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Supporting documents are available on the State Water Board website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/mercury.

You may also receive a paper copy of scoping materials by contacting Rik Rasmussen, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 341-5549; or at rrasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov. Other questions should also be addressed to Mr. Rasmussen.

Persons interested in receiving notice of public meetings about the Statewide Mercury Policy and Control Program may subscribe to the State Water Board's electronic mailing list (check the box next to "Mercury - Statewide Control Program for Reservoirs") at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml#quality.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT AND SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Pursuant to CEQA, appropriate documentation will be prepared to analyze any potential adverse environmental effects associated with the proposed Statewide Mercury Policy and Control Program. The public meetings also serve as CEQA scoping meetings to solicit public input on the scope of the environmental analysis to be included in the CEQA document. Comments should be limited to assisting the State Water Boards to identify the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and potential significant environmental effects to be analyzed in the project environmental document and to eliminate issues that do not need to be evaluated in depth.

Oral comments received at the public meetings regarding the environmental analysis will be considered when preparing the CEQA document.

Interested persons are encouraged to submit written comments electronically. 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. Written comments **must be received by 12:00 noon on Friday, March 30, 2012** and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless the State Water Board determines otherwise. Please also indicate in the subject line, "**Comment Letter - Statewide Mercury Policy – CEQA Scoping Comments.**"

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

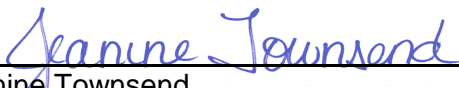
ACCESSIBILITY

All meeting locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require special accommodations, please call Michele Villados (916) 341-5881 at least five working days prior to the meeting date. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service (800) 735-2929; or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

All visitors to the CalEPA building in Sacramento (where the March 5 meeting will be held) are required to sign in and receive a badge prior to attending any meeting in the building. The Visitor and Environmental Services Center is located just inside and to the left of the public entrance. Valid picture identification may be required due to security requirements. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving clearance, and then proceed to the Coastal Hearing Room.

February 15, 2012

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board