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State Water Resources Control Board

**NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED DATE FOR PUBLIC MEETING AND  
CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION**

**SECOND REVISED PROPOSED FINAL PART 3 OF THE WATER QUALITY  
CONTROL PLAN FOR INLAND SURFACE WATERS, ENCLOSED BAYS, AND  
ESTUARIES OF CALIFORNIA—BACTERIA PROVISIONS AND A WATER QUALITY  
STANDARDS VARIANCE POLICY; AND**

**SECOND REVISED PROPOSED FINAL AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY  
CONTROL PLAN FOR OCEAN WATERS OF CALIFORNIA—BACTERIA  
PROVISIONS AND A WATER QUALITY STANDARDS VARIANCE POLICY**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public meeting to consider: (1) adoption of the Second Revised Proposed Final Part 3 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California—Bacteria Provisions and a Water Quality Standards Variance Policy (Part 3 of the ISWEBE), and the Second Revised Proposed Final Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California—Bacteria Provisions and a Water Quality Standards Variance Policy (Ocean Plan Amendment) (Part 3 of the ISWEBE and the Ocean Plan Amendment are hereafter collectively referred to as the Bacteria Provisions), and (2) approval of the Second Proposed Final Staff Report, Including Substitute Environmental Documentation, for the Bacteria Provisions (hereafter Staff Report). Interested persons may provide oral comments at the public meeting. The date, time, and location of the public meeting is:

**Tuesday, August 7, 2018, 9:30 a.m.**  
Joe Serna Jr. – CalEPA Headquarters Bldg.  
Coastal Hearing Room  
1001 I Street, Second Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**THE BACTERIA PROVISIONS**

The Bacteria Provisions, if adopted, would apply to fresh, estuarine, and ocean waters and establish updated bacteria water quality objectives for the protection of the primary contact recreation (REC-1) beneficial use based on a risk protection level of 32 illnesses per 1,000 recreators. The Bacteria Provisions would establish: *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) as the indicator of pathogens in freshwater; enterococci as the indicator for saline inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries; and enterococci as an indicator in ocean waters. Unlike the previously distributed documents, the Ocean Plan Amendment would retain the fecal coliform objective contained in the existing California Ocean Plan because recent California-specific epidemiological studies demonstrate that fecal coliform is a good indicator of fecal

contamination and is a better indicator than enterococci of gastrointestinal illness during certain types of water exposure and environmental conditions. The Bacteria Provisions will supersede numeric, but not narrative, water quality objectives for bacteria for the REC-1 beneficial use in the water quality control plans established by the Regional Water Quality Control Boards prior to the effective date of the Bacteria Provisions.

The Bacteria Provisions would also establish implementation approaches for bacteria control including reference beach and natural source exclusion approaches that may only be applied within the context of a total maximum daily load. Additionally, Part 3 of the ISWEBE (and not the Ocean Plan Amendment) describes implementation approaches that could be utilized to reflect the attainability of REC-1 beneficial use designations, including a temporary high-flow suspension and a seasonal suspension of the REC-1 beneficial use, a definition for the limited water contact recreation (LREC-1) beneficial use, and the designation of the LREC-1 beneficial use.

The Bacteria Provisions also identify an existing mechanism under 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 131.14 for adopting water quality standards variances for any pollutant, not only bacteria.

#### **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

The Bacteria Provisions, Staff Report, and other information were initially made available on the State Water Board's website on June 30, 2017 at:

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>. The Bacteria Provisions, Staff Report, and the responses to the previously submitted timely written comments have been revised subsequent to the last time they were distributed to the public. Those revised documents are expected to be posted to the same website on or before July 6, 2018. Notice will be provided concerning the date on which the revised documents are available on the State Water Board's website.

#### **PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

At the August 7, 2018 public meeting, at which the State Water Board will consider adopting the Bacteria Provisions and approving the Staff Report, interested persons will have an opportunity to comment orally on the Bacteria Provisions and Staff Report. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions.

To ensure a productive and efficient meeting in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited. For other presentation recommendations go to: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/meetings/board\\_presentations.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml).

#### **WEBCAST INFORMATION**

Video and audio broadcasts of the public meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.

#### **PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY**

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board website:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5254 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10<sup>th</sup> Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

**FUTURE NOTICE**

The State Water Board public meeting will be at the time and place noted above. Any change in the date, time, and place of the public meeting will be posted on the webpage:

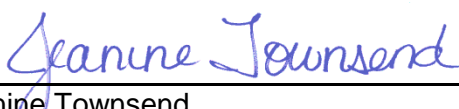
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>. Any change will also be noticed on the e-mail list serve. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the Bacteria Provisions, including any changes to the notice of public meeting, must sign up for the e-mail list serve. To sign up for the e-mail list serve, access the email List Subscription Form at the web address listed below, at the "Water Quality" tab, by checking either the box for "Freshwater Plans and Policies" or the box for "California Ocean Plan (COP)":

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/swrcb\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please direct questions about this notice to Lori Webber at (916) 341-5736 or via email at [Lori.Webber@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Lori.Webber@waterboards.ca.gov).

June 22, 2018  
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Date

  
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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board