



State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION

**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
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 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 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 Proposed Final Staff Report, Including Substitute Environmental Documentation, for the Bacteria Provisions (hereafter Staff Report). Revisions to the Bacteria Provisions and Staff Report originally circulated on June 30, 2017, will be made available to the public no later than November 22, 2017, at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>. Interested persons may provide oral comments at the public meeting. The date, time, and location of the public meeting is:

Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 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 marine waters; include *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) as the indicator of pathogens in freshwater and enterococci as the indicator for estuarine waters and ocean waters; establish a risk protection level of 32 illnesses per 1,000 recreators (except for Lake Tahoe); and include new bacteria water quality objectives for the protection of the water contact recreation (REC-1) beneficial use. The Bacteria Provisions also include several implementation approaches the State Water Board or the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (collectively, Water Boards) may utilize to achieve the bacteria water quality objectives or to reflect whether the REC-1 beneficial use is appropriately

designated, The Bacteria Provisions provide that when the Water Boards develop a TMDL to achieve the bacteria water quality objectives, a reference system/antidegradation approach or a natural source exclusion approach may be utilized to account for natural sources of bacteria. Part 3 of the ISWEBE (and not the Ocean Plan Amendment) contains a temporary high-flow suspension approach and a seasonal suspension approach the Water Boards may utilize to reflect the attainability of REC-1 beneficial use designations; and Part 3 of the ISWEBE (and not the Ocean Plan Amendment) contains a definition for the limited water contact recreation (LREC-1) beneficial use and provides that a Water Board may designate a water body or a waterbody segment in a water quality control plan with the LREC-1 beneficial use. In addition, the Bacteria Provisions identify the existing federal regulatory mechanism for adopting water quality standards variances for pollutants and waterbodies.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The draft Bacteria Provisions, draft Staff Report, and other information were made available on the State Water Board's website on June 30, 2017 at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>. The Proposed Final Bacteria Provisions and Proposed Final Staff Report, which contain revisions, along with the written responses to timely written comments submitted, will be posted to the same website on or before November 22, 2017.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At the December 5th 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.

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 (10th 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:

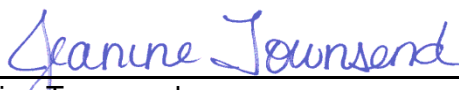
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>. Any change will also be noticed on the e-mail list serve. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the Bacteria Provisions, including any changes to the notice of public meeting, must sign up for the e-mail list serve. To sign up for 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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Nick Martorano at (916) 341-5290 or via email at Nicholas.Martorano@waterboards.ca.gov.

November 1, 2017
Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board