

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

EX PARTE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR PENDING GENERAL PERMITS

The prohibition against ex parte communications no longer applies to general waste discharge requirements (including NPDES permits), general waivers and general Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certifications. A “general order” does not name specific dischargers, but instead allows eligible dischargers to enroll. The following information will help the public comply with statutory disclosure requirements. For more information, see Water Code section 13287 and http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/exparte.pdf.

Must I disclose ex parte communications with board members regarding pending general orders?

You must provide written disclosure if you are in one of these categories:

- Potential enrollees (including their representatives or employees)
- Persons with a financial interest (including their representatives or employees). For a definition of “financial interest,” consult the Political Reform Act (Gov. Code, § 87100 et seq.) and implementing regulations (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 2, § 18700 et seq.), or the Fair Political Practices Commission website (<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=51>).
- Representatives acting on behalf of any formally organized civic, environmental, neighborhood, business, labor, trade, or similar association

What must I disclose?

The attached form lists the information that must be disclosed to document a meeting, telephone call or other conversation. For written communications, a complete copy of the letter or email with all attachments is adequate.

When is the disclosure due?

Water Board staff must receive the disclosure within 7 working days after the board member receives the communication (generally, the date of a phone call or meeting with a board member).

Who must receive my disclosure documents?

Unless the board member(s) provided you with a different contact person, please send your materials to:

Hugh Marley, Assistant Executive Officer

hugh.marley@waterboards.ca.gov

(213) 576-6607

or

Jenny Newman, Assistant Executive Officer

jenny.newman@waterboards.ca.gov

(213) 576-6609

What will the Water Board do with my disclosure?

The Water Board is required to post the disclosure on its website and to distribute it via any electronic distribution list for the proposed order. There is no requirement to distribute the disclosure to board members or to prepare responses. If you want to submit written comments or evidence on a proposed general order, you must provide the comments or evidence following the procedure and timelines provided in the notice for the board’s proceeding.

May other interested persons respond to a disclosure notice?

The Water Code does not require that interested persons be allowed to respond to disclosure notices. Any such responses should be included in formal comments submitted during the order's written comment period, included in oral comments at the hearing, or both.

LOS ANGELES REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

DISCLOSURE FORM
EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING PENDING GENERAL ORDERS

Note: This form is intended to assist the public in providing the disclosure required by law. It is designed to document meetings and phone calls. Written communications may be disclosed by providing a complete copy of the written document, with attachments. Unless the board member(s) provided you with a different contact person, please send your materials to: deborah.smith@waterboards.ca.gov or paula.rasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov

Use of this form is not mandatory.

1. Pending General Order that the communication concerned:
2. Name, title and contact information of person completing this form:
Note: Contact information is not mandatory, but will allow the Water Board to assist you if additional information is required. If your contact information includes your personal residence address, personal telephone number or personal email address, please use a separate sheet of paper if you do not want that information posted on our website. However, this information may be provided to members of the public under the Public Records Act.
3. Date of meeting, phone call or other communication: Time:
Location:
4. Type of communication (written, oral or both):
5. Names of all participants in the communication, including all board members who participated:
6. Name of person(s) who initiated the communication:
7. Describe the communication and the content of the communication. *Include a brief list or summary of topics discussed at the meeting, any legal or policy positions advocated at the meeting, any factual matters discussed, and any other disclosure you believe relevant. The Office of Chief Counsel recommends that any persons requesting an ex parte meeting prepare an agenda to make it easier to document the discussion properly. Attach additional pages, if necessary.*
8. **Attach a copy of handouts, PowerPoint presentations and other materials any person used or distributed at the meeting. If you have electronic copies, please email them to facilitate web posting.**

1. Pending General Order that the communication concerned:

Pending Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Agricultural Lands within the Los Angeles Region

2. Name, title and contact information of person completing this form:

Note: Contact information is not mandatory, but will allow the Water Board to assist you if additional information is required. If your contact information includes your personal residence address, personal telephone number or personal email address, please use a separate sheet of paper if you do not want that information posted on our website. However, this information may be provided to members of the public under the Public Records Act.

Jodi Switzer, Farm Bureau of Ventura County, Water Program Director
Jodi@farmbureauvc.com

3. Date of meeting, phone call or other communication: June 23, 2022

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Raspberry field on Wood Road, Oxnard, CA

Row vegetable field on Laguna Road, Oxnard, CA

Citrus and avocado orchard on Casitas Vista Road, Ventura, CA

4. Type of communication (written, oral or both):

Oral

5. Names of all participants in the communication, including all board members who participated:

Board Member Norma Camacho
Jodi Switzer (Farm Bureau of Ventura County)
Maureen McGuire (Farm Bureau of Ventura County)
Jenny Newman (Regional Board staff)
LB Nye (Regional Board staff)
Anna Bellini (Regional Board staff)
Luis Calderon (Reiter Bros.)
Danny Pereira (Rio Farms)
Will Pidduck (Finch Fams)

6. Name of person(s) who initiated the communication:

Maureen McGuire

7. Describe the communication and the content of the communication.

Include a brief list or summary of topics discussed at the meeting, any legal or policy positions advocated at the meeting, any factual matters discussed, and any other disclosure you believe relevant. The Office of Chief Counsel recommends that any persons requesting an ex parte meeting prepare an agenda to make it easier to document the discussion properly. Attach additional pages, if necessary.

A Ventura County Irrigated Lands Snapshot Tour was conducted to provide an in-the-field introduction to Ventura County agriculture. Three tour stops were visited to tour a raspberry

field, pepper field, and an avocado and lemon orchard. The grower of each of the operations were present to talk about their operation and answer questions.

- 8. *Attach a copy of handouts, PowerPoint presentations and other materials any person used or distributed at the meeting. If you have electronic copies, please email them to facilitate web posting.***

An itinerary of the farm tour is attached.

Ventura County Irrigated Lands Snapshot Tour June 23rd

9:00 am Meet up at: 1540 Wood Rd. Oxnard, CA.



Lost? Call: (805) 310-3620

9:10 am Raspberries 101: Reiter Affiliated Companies
9:50 am Drive to next location
10:00 am Row Vegetables 101: Rio Farms
10:45 am Drive to next location
11:15 am Citrus and Avocado 101: Finch Farms
12:00 pm Depart

FBVC Board of Directors

Luis Calderon ● Jason Cole ● Ted Grether ● Hank Laubacher Jr.
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