

State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

STAFF WORKSHOP REVIEW OF MODEL CRITERIA FOR GROUNDWATER MONITORING IN AREAS OF OIL AND GAS WELL STIMULATION DEFINITION OF “PROTECTED WATER”

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a Staff Workshop for interested persons to provide valuable input to staff related to the definition of “protected water” under the Model Criteria for Groundwater Monitoring in areas of Oil and Gas Well Stimulation (Model Criteria). While a quorum of the State Water Board members may be present, this will be an informational workshop only, and as such, the State Water Board will not take any formal action.

Friday, May 10, 2019, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Headquarters Building
Klamath Training Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

BACKGROUND

The California Water Code was amended in 2014 as a result of Senate Bill 4 (Pavley, statutes of 2013). Pursuant to Water Code section (§) 10783, the State Water Board adopted the Model Criteria in July 2015. The Model Criteria requires groundwater monitoring in areas where “protected water” is present (see Water Code § 10783, subdivisions (g)(2) and (j)).

“Protected water” is defined as:

- Water with less than 10,000 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of total dissolved solids (TDS) (based on the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s definition of an underground source of drinking water as containing less than 10,000 mg/L TDS), and
- Outside an exempt aquifer (meeting the criteria of the Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, part 146.4).

A staff workshop will be held in accordance with Water Code § 10783(k)(2), which provides that, “The use of the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s definition of an Underground Source of Drinking Water as containing less than 10,000 milligrams per liter total dissolved solids in groundwater (40 C.F.R. 144.3) and whether exempt aquifers pursuant to Section 146.4 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations shall be subject to groundwater monitoring shall be reviewed by the state board through a public process on or before January 1, 2020.”

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This staff workshop will include presentations from State Water Board staff, United States Geological Survey staff, industry representatives, and non-governmental organizations. The presentations will be followed by a facilitated public discussion.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

Related documents and information are available on the State Water Board's web site at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/groundwater/sb4/additional_resources/

Additional information on the May 10, 2019, Staff Workshop in Sacramento can be found at the State Water Board's web site at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/#05-2019.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Following the conclusion of the presentations during the May 10, 2019 Staff Workshop there will be a facilitated public discussion where both written and oral questions may be submitted. For those that would like to participate remotely, the workshop will be webcast and can be accessed at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>. Remote attendees may ask questions or make comments during the meeting by emailing WB-DWQ-OilandGas@waterboards.ca.gov.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board Web site: <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) 341-5261 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 NOTICES


The State Water Board will hold the informal staff public workshop at the time and place noted above. Any change in the date, time, and place of the informal staff public workshop will be noticed through the Lyris e-mail distribution list. Any person desiring to receive future notices, including any changes to this notice of public meeting, must sign up for the Lyris e-mail distribution list. To sign up for the Lyris distribution email list, access the E-mail List Subscription form, select the box for 'Oil & Gas Groundwater Monitoring (SB4)' (located within the section entitled 'Water Quality'), and provide the required information. The subscription form is located at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to Karen Kramer at (916) 341-5689 (Karen.Kramer@waterboards.ca.gov).

February 21, 2019
Date


Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board