
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

DRAFT AMENDMENT TO STATEWIDE GENERAL NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT FOR RESIDUAL AQUATIC PESTICIDE DISCHARGES TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM ALGAE AND AQUATIC WEED CONTROL APPLICATIONS¹

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Executive Director is proposing to amend the existing Statewide General NPDES Permit for Residual Aquatic Pesticide Discharges to Waters of the United States from Algae and Aquatic Weed Control Applications, (Aquatic Weed Control Permit).

BACKGROUND

The State Water Board adopted the Aquatic Weed Control Permit on March 5, 2013. The Permit was later amended by Order WQ 2014-0078-DWQ on May 20, 2014, Order WQ 2015-0029-DWQ on March 3, 2015, and Order WQ 2016-0073-EXEC on June 30, 2016. Section III.B of the Aquatic Weed Control Permit provides delegation authority from the State Water Board to the Executive Director to: (1) amend the Permit to add new active ingredients currently registered by DPR for the control of aquatic weeds, and, (2) grant a regulatory exception to Dischargers from complying with receiving water limitations for pesticide active ingredients that are priority pollutants in accordance with section 5.3 of the State Water Board *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California* (SIP). Prior to being considered for such an exception, a Discharger must satisfactorily conduct the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

This item proposes to amend the Aquatic Weed Control Permit by adding South San Joaquin Irrigation District (District) and Madera-Chowchilla Water & Power Authority (Authority) to Attachment G of the Permit - the list of dischargers excepted from complying with receiving water limitations for acrolein and copper in accordance with SIP section 5.3. The District has satisfactorily completed the required CEQA process to obtain a California Toxic Rule exception for copper and acrolein. The Authority has satisfactorily completed the required CEQA process to obtain a California Toxic Rule exception for copper.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed amendments and related documents will be available to view or download on the State Water Board's website on June 21, 2017 at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/npdes/pesticides/weed_control.shtml

¹ Water Quality Order WQ 2013-0002-DWQ (as amended by Orders WQ 2014-0078-DWQ, 2015-0029-DWQ, and 2016-0073-EXEC); General permit No. CAG990005

You may request a paper copy by contacting Mr. Gil Vazquez at (916) 322-1400 or Gil.Vazquez@waterboards.ca.gov.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

Persons interested in the proposed Amendment are encouraged to submit comments electronically. Comment letters **must be received by 12:00 noon on July 24, 2017**. Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless the Executive Officer determines otherwise. Send comments to Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the State Water Board, by email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov (must be no more than 15 megabytes); or by mail at:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 (mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

Please indicate in the subject line, **“Comment Letter – Draft Amendment to Statewide Aquatic Weed Control Permit.”**


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

Any person wishing to request a public hearing on this matter may submit the request in writing to the above contact, with a subject line indicating: **“Request for Public Hearing – Draft Amendment to Statewide Aquatic Weed Control Permit.”**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Mr. Gil Vazquez at (916) 322-1400 or Gil.Vazquez@waterboards.ca.gov.

June 21, 2017
Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board