
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO WATER QUALITY PETITION REGULATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public hearing to receive comments on proposed amendments to regulations governing review by the State Water Board of action or failure to act by regional water quality control boards.

The State Water Board may adopt the proposed amendments at the end of the hearing. The location and time of the public hearing is provided below.

Tuesday, October 7, 2014 - 9:00 a.m.
Joe Serna Jr. - Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

BACKGROUND

Water Code section 13320 provides that within 30 days of a regional water board's action or failure to act under specified sections of the Water Code, an aggrieved person may petition the State Water Board to review that action or failure to act. Existing regulations provide that a petition will be deemed dismissed by operation of law unless the State Water Board acts on a petition within 270 days of mailing a notification that interested persons have 30 days to file responses to the petition and the regional water board has 30 days to file the administrative record and a response to the petition. However, neither the Water Code nor the State Water Board regulations specify how long the State Water Board may take to determine whether to mail the notification. The proposed amendments will specify that the State Water Board must either mail the notification within 90 days of receipt of the petition, or the petition will be deemed dismissed by operation of law unless the petition is being held in abeyance.

For petitions received by the State Water Board before the effective date of the proposed amendments that are not being held in abeyance and for which the State Water Board has not mailed the notification, the proposed amendments provide either 120 days, 240 days, or one year from the effective date of the proposed amendments to mail the notification, depending on when the State Water Board received the petition. If the State Water Board does not mail the notification within the 120 day, 240 day, or one year period, the proposed amendments provide that the petition will be deemed dismissed by operation of law.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The full text of the proposed amendments to the water quality petition regulations is available at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/wqpetitionregs2014feb.pdf. Additional information about the proposed amendments, including the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and the Initial Statement of Reasons, is available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/#ccramd. For those without Internet access, please contact Jeannette Bashaw at (916) 341-5155 to obtain the documents.

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

At the hearing the State Water Board will accept oral comments on the proposed amendments to the water quality petition regulations. Written comments will not be accepted. The deadline for submittal of written comments was April 30, 2014. The State Water Board received 12 comment letters. Those comment letters may be viewed at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/comments/index.shtml. The State Water Board is not proposing to make any revisions to its proposed amendments in response to the comment letters.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

To ensure a productive and efficient hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited. For other presentation recommendations, please go to the State Water Board's web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal/EPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board web site at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>.

The Cal/EPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5880 at least five 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.

An audio broadcast of the meeting will be available via the Internet and can be accessed at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>.

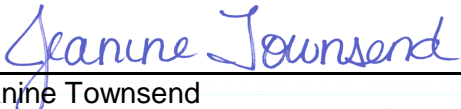
All visitors to the Cal/EPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct all questions regarding the proposed amendments to the water quality petition regulations to Tim Regan by telephone at (916) 341-5172 or by email at tim.regan@waterboards.ca.gov.

September 22, 2014

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board