
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA OCEAN PLAN REGARDING DESIGNATING STATE WATER QUALITY PROTECTION AREAS TO PROTECT MARINE PROTECTED AREAS AND THE DRAFT SUBSTITUTE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA OCEAN PLAN REGARDING MODEL MONITORING, CONTROL OF COMMERCIAL VESSEL DISCHARGES, AND NON- SUBSTANTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES AND THE DRAFT SUBSTITUTE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Wednesday, August 22, 2012 – 1:00 p.m.
Joe Serna Jr.-Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public workshop to provide information about the proposed amendments to the *Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California* (Ocean Plan) for designating State Water Quality Protection Areas to protect Marine Protected Areas, Model Monitoring, Vessel Waste Discharges, and non-substantive amendments.

The purpose of this meeting is to present the revisions to the proposed amendments in response to the previous public comments. A quorum of the State Water Board may be present; however, no Board action will be taken. The location and time of the public hearing is provided above.

BACKGROUND

The Ocean Plan establishes water quality standards for California's ocean waters and provides the basis for regulation of wastes discharged into the state's near-coastal ocean waters. The Ocean Plan applies to point and nonpoint source discharges. Section 13170.2 of the California Water Code directs the State Water Board to formulate and adopt a water quality control plan for ocean waters of California. The current 2009 Ocean Plan is available from the State Water Board's Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/index.shtml.

The State Water Board adopted the Ocean Plan Triennial Review Workplan for 2011-2013 by [Resolution 2011-0013](#) on March 15, 2011. The Workplan identifies numerous issues for which

further action is needed. Issue 1, which was given very high priority, relates to the proposed State Water Quality Protection Areas amendment. Issues 2 and 3, which were given very high priority, relate to the proposed Model Monitoring and Control of Commercial Vessel Discharges and Invasive Species amendments to the California Ocean Plan. Issue 25, which was given high priority, relates to the proposed Non-substantive Administrative Changes proposed to the California Ocean Plan. The Ocean Plan Triennial Review Workplan 2011-2013 is available from the State Water Board's Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/index.shtml

For the proposed Model Monitoring, Vessel Waste Discharges, and non-substantive changes amendments, the State Water Board held a public hearing on November 1, 2011, to receive public input and comments on the proposed amendment. Twenty-four public comments were received and addressed by staff. Revisions were made to the draft staff report and substitute environmental documentation in response to State Water Board direction and public comments. Furthermore, measurement quality objectives (MQOs) for marine waters, for comparability to the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), have been posted at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/index.shtml. These SWAMP MQOs for marine waters have been developed through a stakeholder process. The draft Model Monitoring amendments would require SWAMP comparability for discharge self-monitoring in ambient waters.

For the proposed State Water Quality Protection Areas amendment, on July 8, 2011, the State Water Board held a public scoping meeting to seek input on the proposed amendment to the Ocean Plan. On May 1, 2012, The State Water Board held a public hearing to receive public input and comments on the proposed amendment. Twenty-four public comments were received and addressed by staff. Revisions were made to the draft staff report and substitute environmental documentation in response to State Water Board direction and public comments.

The State Water Board is planning for an adoption meeting for all these Ocean Plan amendments in October 2012.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed amendments to the Ocean Plan and the Draft Substitute Environmental Documentation for the Marine Protection Areas and Model Monitoring are available on the State Water Board's Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/index.shtml.

To subscribe to an email list for future notifications about the proposed non-substantive amendments, go to the State Water Board's Lyris Subscription Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml and choose "California Ocean Plan (COP)".

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

Written comments must be limited to only changes from the previously circulated draft amendments. Staff will only respond to those comments addressing changes from the previous draft amendments. Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on August 31, 2012** and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comment letters may be submitted electronically, in pdf text format (if less than 15 megabytes in total size), to the Clerk to the Board via email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, then the comment letter may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Please indicate the subject line for the respective proposed amendment: **“Comment Letter – California Ocean Plan SWQPA Amendments”** or **“Comment Letter – California Ocean Plan Model Monitoring Amendments.”**

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

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At this hearing, there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. At the workshop, participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations. 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, go to:

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: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>.

The Joe Serna, Jr.-Cal/EPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5880 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.

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 Joe Serna, Jr.-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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Ms. Johanna Weston at (916) 327-8117 (JWeston@waterboards.ca.gov) or Ms. Emily Siegel at (916) 341-7338 (esiegel@waterboards.ca.gov).

July 31, 2012

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board