

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

ITEM 3

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO AMEND CONTRACT PROVIDING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

DISCUSSION

Assembly Bill 885 (Statutes of 2000) added Sections 13290 to 13291.5 to the California Water Code. The law requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to set minimum statewide standards for onsite sewage or wastewater treatment systems (OWTS). Approximately 3.5 million Californians use OWTS (e.g. septic systems). Discharges from OWTS can cause water quality impacts and human health concerns. OWTS commonly discharge to groundwater nitrate, pathogens such as bacteria and viruses, and other man-made chemicals.

The statewide minimum standards are being codified as regulations, and require completion of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. The State Water Board established a contract with EDAW for environmental consulting and technical services for assistance in complying with CEQA.

The complexity and level of interest in the draft regulations require a more exhaustive effort to perform the analysis than originally anticipated. In addition, the State Water Board has planned for additional public workshops to ensure that those parties that may be most affected by the rulemaking will have an opportunity to express their thoughts on the proposed rule. Therefore, additional assistance will be needed to complete this task and ensure compliance with CEQA and other State requirements. The additional assistance requires an increase in the budget and amendment of the contract. A contract amendment is proposed for an amount not to exceed \$231,000, for a total contract amount of \$1,330,708.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to amend Contract No. 01-263-250 in an amount not to exceed \$231,000 for a total contract amount of \$1,330,708?

FISCAL IMPACT

This requires up to \$231,000 from the existing allocation from the Waste Discharge Permit Fund.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

No

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board adopt a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to amend Contract No. 01-263-250 in an amount not to exceed \$231,000 for a total contract amount of \$1,330,708.

D R A F T

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2008-

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO AMEND THE CONTRACT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to California Water Code sections 13290 to 13291.5 (AB 885, 2000), the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is charged with setting statewide standards or regulations for onsite sewage or wastewater treatment systems (OWTS).
2. The State Water Board needs assistance with technical and procedural activities necessary to comply with other State statutes and regulations, including the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. The State Water Board established Contract No. 01-263-250 for such services. Since establishing that contract, the level of interest and complexity of the project requires more exhaustive analysis and associated additional public outreach.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Resources Control Board authorizes the Executive Director to amend Contract No. 01-263-250 in an amount not to exceed \$231,000 for a total contract amount of \$1,330,708.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on February 19, 2008.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board