



News Advisory

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD | 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P. O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov

Two Public Meetings Set to Discuss Process for Proposed Statewide Septic Tank Policy

For Immediate Release
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WHAT: Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (Septic Systems) CEQA scoping meetings May 2 (Sacramento) May 5 (Riverside)

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is drafting a new policy to meet the legal mandate requiring the State Water Board to develop statewide standards for septic systems, also known as onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS). The State Water Board has completed an OWTS California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Policy Scoping Document for public review (see link below): http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/docs/proposed_scopingdocument0411.pdf

WHERE & WHEN:

Monday, May 2, 2011 – 1 to 5 pm

Byron Sher Auditorium
Joe Serna Jr. – Cal/EPA Building
1001 I Street 4080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Thursday, May 5, 2011 – 1 to 5 pm

Riverside County Supervisor Chambers
County Administration Center
Lemon Street
Riverside, CA 92501

BACKGROUND The public CEQA policy scoping meetings deal **only** with the CEQA process. The State Water Board will hold several public workshops later this year at yet-to-be determined locations throughout California for public comment on proposed statewide septic standards. This process is the result of feedback generated at public workshops on standards that were originally proposed in 2008. As a result of public feedback, the State Water Board went back to the drawing board with the goal of developing standards that meet the need to protect surface and groundwater quality while impacting the minimum number of OWTS owners. Although the draft proposed policy is still being developed, it is expected that the majority of OWTS owners in the state will not be affected by the new standards. These CEQA * policy scoping meetings are part of the process, and feedback from these meetings will be considered in finalizing a draft set of standards.

For more information please visit the Septic Tank policy resource page: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/index.shtml

**These public scoping meetings are designed to gather input from public agencies and interested persons on the scope and content of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) substitute environmental documentation that will be prepared for the proposed OWTS policy.*