

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM UPDATE

November 2016

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program update provides a summary of significant activities of the State Water Board and the Central Valley Water Board. Next month's report will present activities of the North Coast, San Francisco Bay, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Colorado River, Lahontan, Santa Ana, and San Diego Water Boards.

STATE WATER BOARD:

In November 2016, staff participated in various meetings with outside groups. On November 1st and 2nd, staff participated in the California BioResources Alliance annual symposium held in West Sacramento. The symposium focused on management of organic residuals in California including manure, biosolids, food waste, agricultural wastes, green waste, and wood waste. The California BioResources Alliance includes representatives from the US EPA Region 9, Natural Resources Conservation Service, California Air Resources Board, State Water Board, Central Valley Water Board, University of California Davis, California Association of Sanitation Agencies, and Association of Compost Producers.

From November 14th to 18th, program staff participated in the California Association of Pest Control and Certified Crop Advisers nutrient management plan workshop in Ontario, the Sustainable Ag Expo in San Luis Obispo, and California Resource Conservation District workshop.

On November 18th, staff held a second workshop for the Eastern San Joaquin Agricultural Order petition draft response. The purpose of the workshop was to allow staff to ask parties and representatives of stakeholder groups detailed questions about specific comments submitted on the draft order that was released on February 8, 2016, and to allow for in-depth dialogue on several issues raised in comment letters and oral comments to the Board.

On November 30th, program staff participated in the California Roundtable on Agriculture and the Environment to discuss a draft of their biomass findings report, the upcoming summit, and assess issues related to the intersection of agriculture and the environment.

CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD:

Central Valley Water Board staff holds quarterly stakeholder meetings to provide an open forum for communication between staff, agricultural coalitions, environmental justice groups, and other interested parties in Central Valley Region. The October stakeholder meeting focused on the San Joaquin/Sacramento Coalitions' Group Management Practices Evaluation Program.

On October 16th, Central Valley Water Board staff participated in meetings with representatives of agricultural coalitions and environmental groups to discuss issues raised during the staff workshops regarding the Eastern San Joaquin Agricultural Order petition draft response. Central Valley Water Board staff also participated in the State Water Board staff workshop for the Eastern San Joaquin Agricultural Order petition draft response on October 19th and November 18th, which included an in-depth discussion on several issues raised in comment letters and oral comments to the State Water Board.

Central Valley Water Board staff concentrated compliance, outreach, and enforcement efforts on the following areas: agricultural parcel inspections; Water Code section 13260 Directives;

Notices of Violation for failure to respond to a Water Code section 13260 Directive and failure to comply with Orders; Pre-Administrative Civil Liability Notification Letters; and Administrative Civil Liability Complaints.

On November 3rd and 4th, the Central Valley Water Board held enforcement panel hearings to consider imposing administrative civil liabilities on dischargers for failure to enroll in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program or failure to provide reports in accordance with a General Order. The panel made recommendations on draft Administrative Civil Liability Orders with liability amounts up to \$70,980. The panel recommendations will be considered by the full Board at a future meeting.

Additional information can be found at the following link:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/index.shtml