

Dear Stakeholders,

You are invited to attend an informational meeting on April 18, 2011 to discuss a future Ocean Plan amendment addressing desalination facilities and brine disposal. The meeting will be held from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in Training Room 1 located on the first floor of the CalEPA Building at 1001 I Street in Sacramento. The main purpose of the meeting is information exchange, following a brief presentation. The meeting will be a staff-level meeting, not one held by or before the State Water Board.

Desalination facilities and brine disposal was discussed as Issue No. 4 in the 2011-2013 Triennial Review Workplan for the California Ocean Plan. The issue has been identified as very high priority for the State Water Board to address through an amendment to the Ocean Plan, because several new desalination facilities have been planned along the California coast, which would discharge brine into ocean waters. The Ocean Plan does not currently have an objective for elevated salinity concentrations, nor does it specifically describe how brine is to be regulated and controlled, leading to permitting uncertainty and possible delays. Neither does the Ocean Plan currently address impacts to marine life from possible intakes for these facilities.

The 2009 Ocean Plan, the Triennial Workplan and supporting documents are available on the State Water Board's Web site at:

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

Directions to the CalEPA Headquarters Building can be found at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/location.htm>. Note that all visitors must check in at the visitor center in the lobby as they enter the building.

We apologize for any cross listings that you may receive. If you received this message via the California Ocean Plan list serve, then no further action is required to continue to get messages on this subject. However, if you received this message via the once-through cooling list serve, and you are interested in receiving further email notifications on this subject, please subscribe online to the "*California Ocean Plan*" email list, found under "*Water Quality*" issues on the State Water Board's Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Joanna Jensen at (916) 341-5582 (jjensen@waterboards.ca.gov) or Dominic Gregorio, Chief of the Ocean Unit, at (916) 341-5488 (dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

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