

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-0061**

APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE  
SACRAMENTO RIVER AND SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASINS (BASIN PLAN)  
TO REVISE WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR pH AND TURBIDITY

WHEREAS:

1. On October 25, 2007, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) adopted [Resolution No. R5-2007-0136](#) amending the Basin Plan to revise water quality objectives for pH and turbidity.
2. The current water quality objectives for pH and turbidity, which are not supported by current science regarding the effects of pH and low-level turbidity on beneficial uses, create regulatory compliance problems for some municipal wastewater treatment plants.
3. The Central Valley Water Board has prepared amendments, which resolve the regulatory problem and are consistent with current science and with federal and State criteria and policies.
4. The Central Valley Water Board found that the scientific portions of the Basin Plan amendment are based on sound scientific knowledge, methods, and practices in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 57004.
5. The Central Valley Water Board found that the analysis contained in the staff report, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) checklist, notice of public hearing, and notice of filing prepared by Central Valley Water Board staff comply with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) certified regulatory CEQA process, as set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 23, section 3775 et seq.
6. The Central Valley Water Board found that the amendment is consistent with State Water Board [Resolution No. 68-16](#), in that the changes to water quality objectives (i) consider maximum benefit to the people of the State, (ii) will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of waters, and (iii) will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in policies, and the amendment is consistent with the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 Code of Federal Regulations part 131.12). The amendment is based on studies and criteria for requirements that protect aquatic life and other beneficial uses. The amendment is of maximum benefit to the people of the State and will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses nor result in water quality less than described in applicable policies because the amendment is intended to result in compliance with water quality objectives. The actions to be taken are not expected to cause other impacts on water quality.
7. The State Water Board finds that the Basin Plan amendment is in conformance with Water Code section 13240, which specifies that Regional Water Quality Control Boards may revise Basin Plans, section 13241, which authorizes Regional Water Quality Control Boards to establish water quality objectives, and section 13244 which requires Regional Water Quality Control Boards to provide a published, public notice to all interested persons of any public hearing.

8. Based on the record as a whole, including the draft Basin Plan amendment, the environmental document, accompanying written documentation, and public comments received, the Central Valley Water Board concurred with staff's conclusion that the amendment will not result in adverse effects on fish, wildlife, or the environment, and therefore no mitigation measures are proposed.
9. A Basin Plan amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and until the regulatory provisions are approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). The water quality objectives must also be approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves the amendment to the Basin Plan adopted under Central Valley Water Board Resolution No. R5-2007-0136.
2. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to submit the amendment adopted under Central Valley Water Board Resolution No. R5-2007-0136, as approved, and the administrative record for this action to OAL and the water quality objectives to U.S. EPA for approval.

#### 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 Board held on September 2, 2008

AYE: Chair Tam M. Doduc  
Vice Chair Gary Wolff, P.E., Ph.D  
Arthur G. Baggett, Jr.  
Frances Spivy-Weber

NAY: None

ABSENT: Charles R. Hoppin

ABSTAIN: None

  
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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board