STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2025-0009

AUTHORIZING THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OR DESIGNEE TO APPROVE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT FUNDS AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS AND AMENDMENTS FOR SEWER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR PROJECTS

WHEREAS:

- 1. On September 24, 2024, Assembly Bill 805 (AB 805) was approved by Governor Newsom and filed with the Secretary of State. Among other things, AB 805 amended Water Code sections 13288 and 13442, and added section 13289.5, requiring the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to develop standards, terms, and procedures that apply to the selection and duties of appointed Administrators for designated sewer systems, to be incorporated in the Administrator Policy Handbook (Policy).
- 2. In <u>Resolution No. 2025-0004</u>, the State Water Board adopted changes to the Policy to incorporate standards terms, and procedures for the selection and duties of Administrators for designated sewer systems.
- 3. In Resolution No. 2018-0056, the State Water Board adopted the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) Funding Program Guidelines (Guidelines) which establish criteria for the allocation and administration of CAA funding for eligible projects.
- 4. Under AB 805 the State Water Board is authorized to use moneys from the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) in the State Water Quality Control Fund to provide grants to Administrators of designated sewer systems for the purposes described in Water Code section 13289.5, including, among others, to provide administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services to a sewer service provider. The State Water Board is not authorized to expend CAA funds for these purposes for costs incurred after December 31, 2029.
- 5. The CAA is established by Water Code sections 13440-13443 and is funded by several sources.

- 6. The funding sources include moneys appropriated by the Legislature; collected as part of criminal penalties or civil proceedings brought pursuant to Division 7 of the Water Code; collected or recovered by the State Water Board or a Regional Water Quality Control Board under Chapter 6.7 of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code; and repaid by loan recipients, including principal, interest, and fees.
- 7. In some instances, a court judgement or settlement agreement specifies how collected funds are to be spent and those funds may be set aside in the CAA for that identified purpose, consistent with statutes governing uses of the CAA.
- 8. The CAA is also used to pay various administrative fees and to pay for Regional Water Board staff oversight costs incurred to manage the Site Cleanup Program (SCP).
- 9. After accounting for these needs and other prior encumbrances, remaining CAA funds may be utilized for the purposes allowed by the statute, including funding projects that cleanup waste and/or abate the effects of waste on waters of the State, projects that address urgent drinking water needs, and Administrators for designated sewer systems pursuant to Water Code section 13289.5.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

- 1. Delegates the authority to approve CAA funds for Administrator projects for Designated Sewer Systems to the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) or his or her designee(s).
- 2. Authorizes the Deputy Director of DFA or his or her designee(s) to negotiate and execute grant agreements and amendments and to perform other actions necessary to administer CAA funds for Administrator projects for Designated Sewer Systems.
- 3. Authorizes the Deputy Director of DFA or his or her designee(s) to withdraw a funding award if the applicant is nonresponsive or the DFA has exhausted reasonable efforts to resolve issues that prevent the execution of a funding agreement.

4. Authorizes the Deputy Director of DFA or his or her designee(s) to terminate a funding agreement where there is a violation of a material provision of the agreement by the recipient.

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 April 2, 2025.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel

Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo Board Member Sean Maguire Board Member Laurel Firestone Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

> Courtney Tyler Clerk to the Board