

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
JUNE 3, 2014**

ITEM 3

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND A FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 319(H) GRANT AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION AND AMENDMENT OF CONTRACTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM

DISCUSSION

Federal Clean Water Act section 319(h) provides grants to states to implement Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management Programs. Approximately \$8,200,000 will be available to California under Clean Water Act 319(h) for federal Fiscal Year 2014. The 2014 Clean Water Act 319(h) funds will be used to implement NPS projects and support NPS contracts and activities managed and performed by staff of the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards), State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), and the California Coastal Commission.

Approximately \$4,100,000 is used to support State Water Board and Regional Water Boards staff with the remainder directed to NPS planning and implementation projects using a competitive solicitation process. The 2014 Clean Water Act 319(h) NPS Grant Program solicitation consisted of a two-step process. On August 5, 2013, a notice for the NPS Grant Program was released to initiate the solicitation process for Clean Water Act 319(h) for projects totaling approximately \$4,100,000. In the first step, applicants submitted brief Concept Proposals using the State Water Board's on-line Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool. These proposals were reviewed and scored by a technical review committee (Selection Panel) composed of staff from the State Water Board, nine Regional Water Boards, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Applicants with the highest-ranking proposals were invited to submit a Full Proposal by January 16, 2014. The Selection Panel convened on March 5 - 6, 2014 to review and score the final proposals and developed the recommended funding list for the NPS Grant Program. The funding list was presented to and approved by the State Water Board Executive Director on April 4, 2014.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board authorize the Executive Director to apply for, accept, and amend, as necessary, a federal fiscal year 2014 Clean Water Act 319(h) grant for an amount up to \$8,200,000 for support of the NPS Program.

FISCAL IMPACT

Existing NPS Program budget authority is currently adequate to accommodate the anticipated grant.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

Existing NPS Program budget authority is currently adequate to accommodate the anticipated grant.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The State Water Board should authorize the Executive Director to apply for, accept, and amend, as necessary, a federal fiscal year 2014 Clean Water Act 319(h) grant for an amount up to \$8,200,000 for support of the NPS Program.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in implementing Priority 1 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to protect and restore surface water quality. In particular, approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective 1.1 by supporting implementation of total maximum daily loads for water bodies contained on the 2006 Clean Water Act 303(d) list and Objective 1.3 by supporting appropriate enforcement actions and innovative approaches as needed to protect and restore surface waters.

DRAFT

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2014-

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND A FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 319(H) GRANT AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND AMENDMENT OF CONTRACTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS:

1. The federal Clean Water Act section 319(h) provides grant funds for states to implement Nonpoint Source (NPS) Programs.
2. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is the designated state agency in California to administer the NPS Program.
3. On December 14, 1999 and January 11, 2000, the State Water Board and the California Coastal Commission, respectively, approved the Plan for California's NPS Pollution Control Program (NPS Program Plan), which includes activities the state will undertake to control NPS pollution.
4. On July 11, 2000, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration approved California's NPS Program Plan.
5. U.S. EPA has notified the State Water Board that the federal fiscal year 2014 CWA 319(h) grant allocation of approximately \$8,200,000 will be available to the state.
6. On August 5, 2013, a solicitation notice for the NPS Grant Program was released to initiate the solicitation process for the 2014 Clean Water Act 319(h) for projects totaling approximately \$4,100,000.
7. On April 4, 2014, the State Water Board Executive Director approved projects to be funded with the 2014 Clean Water Act 319(h) grant funds.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Executive Director to apply for, accept, and amend, as necessary, an federal fiscal year 2014 CWA section 319(h) grant for an amount up to \$8,200,000 for support of the NPS Program.
2. Authorizes the Executive Director to negotiate and approve program workplans.
3. Authorizes the issuance of grants, contracts, and amendments that support the NPS Program.

D R A F T

4. Authorizes the issuance of grants, contracts, and amendments to implement the NPS proposals presented to and approved by the State Water Board Executive Director on April 4, 2014, once the grant is received.

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 June 3, 2014.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board