

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
NOVEMBER 18, 2014**

**ITEM 12**

**SUBJECT**

PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL STUDIES THAT INVESTIGATE ALTERNATIVES FOR THE NUCLEAR-FUELED POWER PLANTS TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY ON THE USE OF COASTAL AND ESTUARINE WATERS FOR POWER PLANT COOLING

**DISCUSSION**

This is a presentation of the results of the special studies required by the Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (OTC) Policy. The OTC Policy establishes uniform, technology-based standards to implement federal Clean Water Act section 316(b) at coastal power plants, with the goal of reducing harmful effects associated with cooling water intake structures on marine and estuarine life. The OTC Policy provisions require the owner or operator of a nuclear facility to undertake special studies to investigate alternatives to meet OTC Policy requirements. The OTC Policy established a review committee to oversee the special studies, and to investigate facility's ability, alternatives, and cost of compliance. The review committee includes representatives from affected state agencies including energy agencies, as well as the environmental community, Pacific Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison, and staff members of the State Water Resources Control Board and appropriate regional water boards. The State Water Resources Control Board will consider the results of the special studies and evaluate the need to modify the OTC Policy. Unless otherwise directed by the State Water Board, presentation of the results of the special studies, together with any comments provided by the review committee members, meets the requirements set forth in OTC Policy section 3.D. Absent any request for further review by the State Water Board, the committee members' service is completed.

**POLICY ISSUE**

None.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

No staff recommendation.

<p>State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 6 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012. In particular, approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective 6.2 by targeting consistency improvements in program delivery identified through past input, and solicit input to identify consistency issues as they arise.</p>
---