

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD WORKSHOP SESSION – DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER  
JULY 20, 2016**

**ITEM 10**

**SUBJECT**

PUBLIC WORKSHOP REGARDING MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) DEVELOPMENT AND PRELIMINARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR A 1,2,3-TRICHLOROPROPANE (1,2,3-TCP) MCL

**DISCUSSION**

All public water systems are subject to regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) under the California Safe Drinking Water Act (Health & Saf. Code, div. 104, pt. 12, ch. 4, §116270 et seq.). The State Water Board is responsible for adopting primary drinking water standards, which include Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Health and Safety Code section 116365 requires the State Water Board to set the MCL as close to the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)-published public health goal (PHG) as is technically and economically feasible, placing primary emphasis on the protection of public health.

The State Water Board is in the process of developing an MCL for 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, or 1,2,3-TCP. In 2009, OEHHA established a PHG for 1,2,3-TCP of 0.7 parts per trillion (ppt) that is based on cancer risk. 1,2,3-TCP has been detected in numerous drinking water sources in California. The State Water Board has information that indicates that some public water systems are currently supplying water to their customers containing concentrations of 1,2,3-TCP that exceed the PHG. The most impacted counties are Kern, Fresno, Tulare, Merced, and Los Angeles. 1,2,3-TCP has been found by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to likely be carcinogenic in humans. There is no federal drinking water standard for 1,2,3-TCP.

It appears at present that the proposed regulations for 1,2,3-TCP will include five primary provisions:

- Establish an MCL for 1,2,3-TCP;
- Amend the regulations to allow for limited “grandfathering” of results for any organic chemical sample collected prior to the adoption of a regulation;
- Establish a detection limit for the purposes of reporting (DLR) for 1,2,3-TCP;
- Establish a best available technology (BAT) for the treatment of 1,2,3-TCP; and
- Incorporate information on the health effects of 1,2,3-TCP contamination into public notification regulations.

**WORKSHOP OVERVIEW**

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss the MCL development for 1,2,3-TCP and solicit input on the preliminary staff recommendation for a 1,2,3-TCP MCL. The workshop will include a staff presentation with background information on 1,2,3-TCP, a summary of potential health concerns associated with 1,2,3-TCP, and an overview on the MCL development process for 1,2,3-TCP and a preliminary staff recommendation for an MCL. The staff presentation will be

followed by an opportunity for the public to ask questions and participate in the discussion. The State Water Board is interested in including all interested parties including residents, business owners, local government representatives, public water systems and other stakeholders in the discussion.

While a quorum of the State Water Board may be present, the Board will not take formal action at the workshop. The State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions.

The State Water Board intends to publish the notice of proposed rulemaking, including the proposed regulations, for public comment later in 2016, and to hold a public hearing at the close of the comment period as will be set forth in the notice of proposed rulemaking. The staff expects to submit the final regulations to the State Water Board for adoption in early 2017.

More information on the development of an MCL for 1,2,3-TCP can be found here:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/123TCP.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/123TCP.shtml)

**POLICY ISSUE**

None – Workshop only, no decisions will be made.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None – Workshop only, no decisions will be made.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None – Workshop only, no decisions will be made.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

None – Workshop only, no decisions will be made.