

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
JUNE 21, 2016**

**ITEM 2**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF A 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 AND GRANTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM

**DISCUSSION**

Federal Clean Water Act section 319(h) (CWA 319[h]) provides grants to states to implement Nonpoint Source (NPS) Management Programs. Approximately \$8,400,000 will be available to California under CWA 319(h) for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2016. These funds will be used to implement NPS projects and support the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) and State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) NPS program staff.

Approximately half of the state's CWA 319(h) grant funds are directed toward NPS projects through a competitive solicitation process. The 2016 CWA 319(h) NPS Grant Program (NPS Grant Program) solicitation consisted of a two-step process. On August 10, 2015, a solicitation notice for the NPS Grant Program was released to initiate the process for determining projects totaling approximately \$4,300,000 to be funded through the NPS Grant Program. In the first step, applicants submitted brief concept proposals using the State Water Board's online Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool. On October 27 and 28, 2015 these proposals were reviewed and scored by a technical review committee composed of staff from the State Water Board, nine Regional Water Boards, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (selection panel). Applicants with the highest-ranking proposals were invited to submit a full project proposal by January 21, 2016. The selection panel convened on March 1 and 2, 2016 to review and score the final project proposals and develop 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 26, 2016.

**POLICY ISSUE**

Should the State Water Board adopt a resolution:

1. Authorizing the Executive Director to apply for, accept, and amend, as necessary, a FFY 2016 CWA 319(h) grant for an amount up to \$8,400,000 for support of the NPS Program.
2. Authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and approve program workplans.
3. Authorizing the issuance of contracts, grants, and amendments to implement the project proposals in the funding list presented to and approved by the State Water Board Executive Director on April 26, 2016 once the grant is received.

## **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:

1. Authorize the Executive Director to apply for, accept, and amend, as necessary, a FFY 2016 CWA 319(h) grant for an amount up to \$8,400,000 for support of the NPS Program.
2. Authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and approve program workplans.
3. Authorize the issuance of contracts, grants, and amendments to implement the project proposals in the funding list presented to and approved by the State Water Board Executive Director on April 26, 2016, once the grant is received.

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 CWA 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. 2016-

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 AND GRANTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM

### WHEREAS:

1. The federal Clean Water Act section 319(h) (CWA 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. In August 2015, State Water Board and California Coastal Commission staff, approved the 2014 – 2020 Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (NPS Program Plan), which includes activities the state will undertake to control NPS pollution.
4. On August 12, 2015, 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 (FFY) 2016 CWA 319(h) grant allocation of approximately \$8,400,000 will be available to the state.
6. On August 10, 2015, a solicitation notice for the 2016 319(h) NPS Grant Program was released to initiate the solicitation process for CWA 319(h) for projects totaling approximately \$4,300,000.
7. On April 26, 2016, the State Water Board Executive Director approved projects to be funded with the 2016 CWA 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 FFY 2016 CWA section 319(h) grant for an amount up to \$8,400,000 for support of the NPS Program.
2. Authorizes the Executive Director to negotiate and approve program workplans.

## **D R A F T**

3. Authorizes the issuance of contracts, grants, and amendments to implement the project proposals presented to and approved by the State Water Board Executive Director on April 26, 2016 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 21, 2016.

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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board