

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

**SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 10, 2009**

Prepared on June 24, 2009

**ITEM NUMBER: 19**

**SUBJECT: EO Report – Information Item on Environmental Justice Issues**

**DISCUSSION**

The Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) will make a presentation to the Water Board on environmental justice and water quality issues in the Central Coast Region. EJCW has made similar presentations to other Water Boards and the Water Quality Coordinating Committee. EJCW would like to help policy-makers become more familiar with the basic concepts and principles of environmental justice, and then use local case studies and examples to highlight the concepts and principles. The Executive Officer invited the EJCW to attend this Board meeting because we are addressing many serious water quality issues that include important environmental justice consequences. For example, we have significant nitrate concentrations in many of our aquifers, with many wells exceeding drinking water standards (10 mg/l NO<sub>3</sub> as Nitrogen or 45 mg/l NO<sub>3</sub> as Nitrate). Unfortunately, wells with single residential connections, or wells with bootlegged multiple connections, are not regulated or tested by any public agency. Consequently, individuals using such wells slip through this regulatory crack and may be drinking water that exceeds public health standards.