STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2025-0011

AMENDING THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN TO INCORPORATE APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF STATEWIDE PLANS AND POLICIES

WHEREAS:

- On June 21, 2024, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) adopted Resolution No. R3-2024-0003 to amend the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) to incorporate applicable provisions of statewide plans and policies, correct typographical errors and punctuation, and comply with web accessibility requirements in Government Code sections 7405 and 11135.
- 2. The Central Coast Water Board found that the amendments are non-regulatory because they are editorial in nature or incorporate applicable provisions that were adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and are already in effect statewide. The amendments are changes that do not materially alter any requirement, right, responsibility, condition, prescription, or other regulatory element of the Basin Plan, and are therefore without regulatory effect under California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 1, section 100, subdivision (a). Rather, the revisions improve and clarify the application and implementation of the Basin Plan.
- 3. The Central Coast Water Board determined that the action to amend the Basin Plan is not a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it will cause neither a direct physical change in the environment nor a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment (Public Resources Code, section 21065; CCR, title 14, section 15378; Public Resources Code, section 21080.1). As a result, the non-regulatory Basin Plan amendments are not subject to CEQA and, therefore, are not subject to the State Water Board's certified regulatory program regulations for implementing CEQA (CCR, title 23, section 3720, subdivisions (b) and (c)(2)).
- 4. The Central Coast Water Board found the Basin Plan amendments are consistent with the Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California (State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16) and the federal Antidegradation Policy (Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 131.12), in that it does not allow degradation of water quality, but requires attainment of water quality standards.
- 5. The State Water Board finds that the Basin Plan amendments are in conformance with California Water Code section 13240, which specifies that regional water quality control boards may revise basin plans.

6. A Basin Plan amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and until the amendments are approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Although this Basin Plan amendment does not contain any new or revised water quality standards, OAL may submit these Basin Plan amendments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for review as a courtesy and any necessary approval.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

- 1. Approves the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Central Coast Water Board Resolution No. R3-2024-0003.
- 2. Authorizes and directs the Executive Director or designee to submit the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Central Coast Water Board Resolution No. R3-2024-0003 to OAL for approval of the regulatory provisions and to U.S. EPA as a courtesy, and for any necessary approval.
- 3. If, during the approval process, State Water Board staff, the Executive Officer of the Central Coast Water Board, or the Office of Administrative Law determines that minor, non-substantive modifications to the Basin Plan Amendment are needed for clarity or consistency, the State Water Board Executive Director or designee may make such changes and shall inform the State Water Board of any such changes.

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 April 15, 2025.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel

> Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo Board Member Sean Maguire Board Member Laurel Firestone Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

> ney Tyler Clerk to the Board