

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
1685 "E" Street
Fresno, CA 93706

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
concerning
TENTATIVE ORDER
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MADERA 41 SOUTH EXPRESSWAY: PHASE 1 EA 06-0R040
MADERA COUNTY

A tentative Waste Discharge Requirements Order (Order) is proposed for the California Department of Transportation (Permittee), Madera 41 South Expressway: Phase 1 EA 06-0R040 (Project) in Madera County. The Project consists of a divided four-lane expressway extension from the current divided four-lane freeway south of Avenue 11 to north of Avenue 15 on State Route 41. Work includes widening shoulders to current standards, replacing and adding culverts, constructing two water detention basins to the east of State Route 41, grading the right-of-way to create v-ditches to direct water flows, constructing sound walls, upgrading metal beam guardrails, and raising the profile as needed. The Project will result in temporary impacts and permanent fill in vernal pools, wetlands, and stream channels. All impacted waters are reportedly deemed by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be outside of federal jurisdiction.

The tentative Order provides details of the proposed Project activities, including compensatory mitigation measures planned to compensate for the permanent loss of waters of the state and requiring avoidance and minimization measures to reduce on-site impacts during construction activities. The tentative Order describes technical conditions required to be met throughout the implementation of construction activities to ensure compliance with Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers Basin Plan objectives and other regulatory requirements.

Public Hearing Date and Location

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 21-22 August 2025
TIME: To Be Determined
PLACE: 11020 Sun Center Dr #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114 and
Remote Meeting Option Via Video Teleconference

The [final meeting agenda](#)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) will be available at least **10 days** before the meeting. The agenda will provide the anticipated date the hearing will be held for this item and anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the tentative Order.

Nature and Purpose of Hearing

At the hearing, the Central Valley Water Board will hear testimony and oral comments regarding the tentative Order. This proceeding will be a formal adjudicatory proceeding. The [procedures governing Central Valley Water Board adjudicatory hearings](#) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found at California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648 et seq. and are available upon request.

Prehearing Submission of Written Comments and Evidence

The **Permittee** is a party to this proceeding and may present evidence, including oral testimony. As a party, the Permittee must submit written evidence or comments, if any, for the Board to consider no later than **5:00 p.m. on 20 June 2025** via email to centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov and copy Olivia.Ilsley@waterboards.ca.gov.

Interested persons include any non-party that is interested in the outcome of the hearing. Interested persons wishing to comment in writing on the tentative Order shall submit comments no later than **5:00 p.m. on 20 June 2025** via email to centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov and copy Olivia.Ilsley@waterboards.ca.gov.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.4, the Board Chair may refuse to admit written evidence or comments that are not submitted in accordance with this Notice and shall refuse to do so when there is a showing of prejudice to the Permittee or the Board. Excluded material will not be considered by the Board.

Visual Presentations

Hearing participants may use PowerPoint or other visual presentations at the hearing, but the presentation content shall not exceed the scope of previously submitted written material. Presentations, if any, must be provided to the Central Valley Water Board by **12:00 p.m. on 19 August 2025**. Please contact Olivia Ilsley at Olivia.Ilsley@waterboards.ca.gov.

Hearing Procedure and Time Limits

The hearing on the tentative Order will be conducted in the general order listed under California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 648.5, except that the Board Chair may modify the order for good cause.

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The Permittee and any other designated Party will be advised in advance of the hearing of the total amount of time allocated for their presentation, including any witness examination, and closing statement. The Permittee and any other designated Party are invited to contact staff in advance of the hearing to discuss how much time they believe is necessary.

Interested persons may speak at the hearing and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals, if any. Each interested person will have three minutes to present oral comments. Additional time may be provided, upon request, at the discretion of the Board Chair.

Hearing Accommodations

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an e-mail to agenda5@waterboards.ca.gov or calling (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Availability of Documents

A copy of the tentative Order and related documents are available on the Central Valley Water Board's website [Tentative Orders Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). Copies of these documents may also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 1685 E Street, Fresno, California 93706-2007 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Scheduling an appointment to review the file by contacting the below Central Valley Water Board Contact in advance is not required but calling ahead will help ensure timely access to these documents. A copy of the tentative Order and related documents are also available upon request by contacting Olivia Ilsley by email at Olivia.Ilsley@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 464-4673.

Central Valley Water Board Contact

Anyone having questions regarding this hearing item should contact Olivia Ilsley by email at Olivia.Ilsley@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 464-4673.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original signed by Alex S. Mushegan
Alexander Mushegan, Supervising Engineer