



State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND NOTICE OF MEETING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION

Consideration of an Order to Issue Combined Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Quality Certification to the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) for a road Grading Project on Interstate 40.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will receive public comments on the consideration of an Order to issue combined Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Quality Certification to the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) for a road grading project on Interstate 40 in San Bernardino County. Information on how to submit comments is provided below.

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Board will hold a public meeting to receive public input and consider adoption of an Order to issue combined Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Quality Certification to the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) for a road grading project on Interstate 40 in San Bernardino County.

The public meeting will be:

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Headquarters Bldg.
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Additional information on the meeting in Sacramento can be found at the State Water Board's web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/.

BACKGROUND

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) received an application requesting Federal Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification and Waste Discharge Requirements for activities related to the I-40 Median Regrade and Recontour Project (Project), from the California Department of Transportation (Applicant). The application indicates proposed activities and impacts within the jurisdiction of more than one Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Colorado River and Lahontan Regions; therefore, the State Water Board has jurisdiction over the Project. The application was deemed complete on June 21, 2017.

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 | Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 | www.waterboards.ca.gov



The purpose of this project is to improve the safety of the traveling public on Interstate 40 (I-40) by regrading from the existing (>1:6) median cross slopes to flatter (<1:10) slopes.

This project consists primarily of regrading the median cross slopes on I-40 from Post Mile (PM) 50.0 to PM 75.0. Cross slopes will be regraded from existing 1:6 or steeper slopes to 1:10 or flatter. Drainage modifications and improvements in the median and improvement of the existing California Highway Patrol crossovers will also be included as part of the Project.

Proposed work will include: Work off the paved roadway - regrade median cross slopes, drainage modifications (by extending and preserving drain paths while the median is filled), improvements to the existing California Highway Patrol Crossovers, removal and installation of metal beam guard rails; Trenching, grading, or other ground disturbance actions including removal of vegetation; No additional Right-of-Way will be required because the work will be performed entirely within the median; Work will be performed using imported borrow and some roadway excavation to flatten slopes in the median areas.

Permanent impacts to waters of the state are 1.11 acres and 6,166 linear feet of ephemeral stream channel. Temporary impacts to waters of the state are 0.22 acres and 447 linear feet. These impacts are associated with extending existing culverts to accommodate the new flatter cross slopes.

Caltrans will provide compensatory mitigation for all impacts (permanent and temporary) in the form of preservation at a 3:1 ratio.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The draft Order is available on the State Water Board's web site at:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/comments/index.shtml.

You may request a paper copy of the proposed Provisions by calling Brendan Reed at (916) 341-5462 or via email at brendan.reed@waterboards.ca.gov.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

State Water Board staff will also accept input and recommendations through written comments. Written comments must be received no later than **12:00 noon on November 20, 2017** and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 (mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand-delivery)

Comment letters may be submitted electronically, in pdf text format (if less than 15 megabytes in total size), to the Clerk to the Board via e-mail at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, then the comment letter may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Please indicate in the subject line: **"I-40 Regrade WDRs."**

Couriers delivering hard copies of comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

WEBCAST INFORMATION

Video and audio broadcasts of the public meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The Project meets the exemption criteria under California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15301(c) Existing Facilities, and no exceptions to the CEQA exemption apply. The State Water Board intends to file a Notice of Exemption pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15062, within five working days from the issuance of the Order.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board website: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5880 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

FUTURE NOTICES

The State Water Board public meeting will be at the time and place noted above. Any change in the date, time, and place of the public meeting will be noticed on the Lyris e-mail list. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the proposed Order, including any changes to the notice of public comment period or public meeting, must sign up for a Lyris e-mail list. To sign up for a Lyris list, access the email List Subscription Form at the web address listed below, at the "Water Quality" tab, by checking the box for "CWA401 – Certification and Wetlands Program": http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Brendan Reed at (916) 341-5462 or via email at brendan.reed@waterboards.ca.gov.

Date October 18, 2017



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board