



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Opportunity for Public Comment on Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for a Waste Discharge Regulatory Program for Irrigated Lands within the Central Valley Region

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board), as the lead agency, has released a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for a waste discharge regulatory program for irrigated lands within the Central Valley Region. **The public review and comment period for the Draft PEIR is from July 28th until September 27th, 2010.** During the review period, the Central Valley Water Board will hold four public meetings to receive comments on the Draft PEIR.

Background

The Central Valley Water Board's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) was initiated in 2003 with the adoption of the *Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands within the Central Valley Region* (Conditional Waiver). A revised Conditional Waiver was adopted in July 2006, and a workgroup assembled to develop alternatives to the ILRP for environmental analysis. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Draft PEIR analyzes a full range of suggested alternatives to determine the potential environmental impacts of each.

The ILRP will involve the adoption of one or more general Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), Conditional Waivers of WDRs, and/or Prohibitions of Discharge to regulate the discharge of waste to ground and surface waters of the State from irrigated agricultural operations, managed wetlands, and nursery operations.

Significant Environmental Effects

The Draft PEIR evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the ILRP, identifies those impacts that could be significant, and presents mitigation measures, which, if adopted by the Central Valley Water Board or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Draft PEIR identifies significant and unavoidable impacts in the areas of climate change, from potential increase of greenhouse gas emissions; and agriculture resources, from potential loss of farmland due to increased regulatory costs. Based on information known to date, the Project site(s) are not listed toxic sites.

Document Availability

Hard copies of the Draft PEIR are available for review at the following locations:

Central Valley Water Board 415 Knollcrest Drive Redding, CA 96002	CSU Chico, Meriam Library 400 West First Street Chico, CA 95929	CSU Bakersfield, Stiern Library 9001 Stockdale Highway Bakersfield, CA 93311
Central Valley Water Board 11020 Sun Center Drive, Ste 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670	UC Davis, Shields Library 100 NW Quad Davis, CA 95616	

California Environmental Protection Agency



Central Valley Water Board 1685 E Street, Suite 200 Fresno, CA 93706	UC Merced Library 5200 North Lake Road Merced, CA 95343	
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Electronic copies of the Draft PEIR can be downloaded in PDF format from the Central Valley Water Board website at: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/long_term_program_development

Public Workshops

Four public workshops will be held to take comments on the Draft PEIR. One or more members of the Central Valley Water Board may be present at the workshops; however, no Board action will be taken. Meeting dates and locations are as follows:*

September 8, 5pm-8pm Southern California Edison Agricultural Technology Application Center Learning Center 4175 S Laspina Street, Tulare, CA 93274	September 9, 6pm-9pm Stanislaus County Agricultural Center Harvest Hall 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto, CA 95358
September 10, 9:30am-12:30pm Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board 11020 Sun Center Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670	September 10, 5pm-8pm Chico Holiday Inn and Conference Center 685 Manzanita Ct., Chico, CA 95926

*Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Adam Laputz, (916) 464-4848, at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Submission of Comments

Public comments on the Draft PEIR must be received by September 27, 2010. Comments may be sent via mail, e-mail or fax (email comments are preferred) to:

ILRP Comments Ms. Megan Smith 630 K Street, Suite 400 Sacramento, CA 95814	Email: ILRPcomments@icfi.com FAX: (916) 456-6724
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If you are interested in receiving future notices on the PEIR, you may sign up on the e-mail subscription list (check the box for Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program) at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg5_subscribe.shtml, or call (916) 464-4611 to request to receive hard copy notices.

Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding this notice, contact Adam Laputz at (916) 464-4848. For more information on this notice or the Draft PEIR, please visit the project website at: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands.

Draft

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

Program Environmental Impact Report

JULY 2010



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DRAFT

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

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July 2010



ICF International. 2010. *Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Program Environmental Impact Report*. Draft. July. (ICF 05508.05.) Sacramento, CA. Prepared for Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Sacramento, CA.

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Development Staff Report—July 2010**

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

°C	degrees Celsius
°F	degrees Fahrenheit
µg/m ³	micrograms per cubic meter
µS/cm	microsiemens per centimeter
AB	Assembly Bill
ARB	California Air Resources Board
BA	biological assessment
BAAQMD	Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Basin Plan	<i>Central Valley Water Board Water Quality Control Plan (Central Valley Water Board 2009)</i>
BAU	business-as-usual
BMPs	best management practices
BO	Biological Opinion
B.P.	Before Present
BPS	Best Performance Standards
Bulletin 118	<i>California's Groundwater: Bulletin 118 – Update 2003 (DWR 2003)</i>
CAA	federal Clean Air Act
CAAA	1990 amendments to the federal Clean Air Act
CAAQS	California ambient air quality standards
CAC	county agricultural commissioner
CCAA	California Clean Air Act
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CEC	California Energy Commission
Central Valley Water Board	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFGC	California Fish and Game Code
cfs	cubic feet per second
CH ₄	methane
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
CHWP	California Waterfowl Habitat Program
cm	centimeter
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNEL	community noise equivalent level
CNPPA	California Native Plant Protection Act
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	carbon monoxide

CO ₂	carbon dioxide
CO ₂ e	carbon dioxide equivalent
Conditional Waiver	Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CVP	Central Valley Project
CVMP	Central Valley Production Model
CV-SALTS	Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability
CWA	federal Clean Water Act
CZARA	Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
Delta	Sacramento–San Joaquin River Delta
DO	dissolved oxygen
DPH	California Department of Public Health
DPM	diesel particulate matter
DPR	California Department of Pesticide Regulation
DPS	distinct population segment
Draft ILRP Economics Report	Draft <i>Technical Memorandum Concerning the Economic Analysis of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program</i> (ICF International 2010)
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EC	electrical conductivity
ECR	<i>Existing Conditions Report</i> (ICF Jones & Stokes 2008)
EEC	estimated environmental concentration
EFH	essential fish habitat
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	federal Endangered Species Act
ESPP	Endangered Species Protection Program
ESU	evolutionarily significant unit
FC	Federal Candidate
FE	Federal Endangered
FIFRA	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended
FMMP	Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
FMP	Fishery Management Plan
FMWT	Fall Midwater Trawl
FP	Federal Proposed
FP	Fully Protected
FR	Federal Register
FREP	Fertilizer Research and Education Program

FSoC	Federal Species of Concern
FT	Federal Threatened
FWQMP	farm water quality management plan
GAMA	Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment
GBVAB	Great Basin Valley Air Basin
GCID	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
General Construction Permit	NPDES General Permit for Construction Activities
GHG	greenhouse gas
GMA	groundwater management area
GQMP	groundwater quality management plan
GtCO ₂ e	gigatons of CO ₂ e
GWP	global warming potential
GWPA	groundwater protection area
HAP	hazardous air pollutant
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HFC	hydrofluorocarbon
HGWPG	high global warming potential gases
HR	hydrologic region
Hz	Hertz
ILRP	Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ITP	incidental take permit
LCAB	Lake County Air Basin
LCFS	low carbon fuel standards
L _{dn}	day-night level
L _{eq}	equivalent sound level
L _{max}	maximum sound level
L _{min}	minimum sound level
L _{xx}	percentile-exceeded sound level
Magnuson-Stevens Act	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
MBPM-2	Migratory Bird Permit Memorandum
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MCAB	Mountain Counties Air Basin
MCL	maximum contaminant level
MDAB	Mojave Desert Air Basin
mg/L	milligrams per liter
mm	millimeter
MLD	most likely descendant

MMTCO _{2e}	million metric tons of CO _{2e}
MOU	memorandum of understanding
mph	miles per hour
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization
N ₂ O	nitrous oxide
NAAQS	national ambient air quality standards
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NAWQA	National Water Quality Assessment
NCCAB	North Central Coast Air Basin
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NO ₂	nitrogen dioxide
NOA	naturally occurring asbestos
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NO _x	oxides of nitrogen
NPAB	Northeast Plateau Air Basin
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NPS	nonpoint source
NPS Implementation and Enforcement Policy	Policy for Implementation and Enforcement of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program
NPS Program Plan	<i>Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program</i> (State Water Board 1999)
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSR	New Source Review
NWP	nationwide permit
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
OHP	California State Office of Historic Preservation
OHWM	ordinary high water mark
OPP	Office of Pesticide Programs
OPR	Office of Planning and Research
PAM	polyacrylamides
Peak Velocity or PPV	peak particle velocity
PEIR	Program Environmental Impact Report
PFC	perfluorocarbon
PM ₁₀	particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter
PM _{2.5}	particulate matter 2.5 microns or less in diameter
POD	Pelagic Organism Decline

Porter-Cologne Act	Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
ppb	parts per billion
ppm	parts per million
ppt	parts per thousand
PRC	Public Resources Code
RBDD	Red Bluff Diversion Dam
RCD	Resource Conservation District
Reclamation	U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
Regional Water Board	Regional Water Quality Control Board
ROG	reactive organic gases
SAA	streambed alteration agreement
SB	Senate Bill
SC	State Candidate
SCAB	South Coast Air Basin
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCCAB	South Central Coast Air Basin
SE	State Endangered
SF ₆	sulfur hexafluoride
SFBAAB	San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SJVAB	San Joaquin Valley Air Basin
SJVAPCD	San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
SMAQMD	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
SO ₂	sulfur dioxide
SPRR	Southern Pacific Railroad
SSC	Species of Special Concern
ST	State Threatened
Staff Report	<i>Draft Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Long-Term Program Development Staff Report (CalEPA and Central Valley Water Board 2010)</i>
State Water Board	State Water Resources Control Board
SVAB	Sacramento Valley Air Basin
SWANCC	Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. United States Army Corps of Engineers (121 S. Ct. 675 [2001])
SWPPP	stormwater pollution prevention plan
TAC	toxic air contaminant
TCM	transportation control measure
TCP	traditional cultural property
TDS	total dissolved solid
the Basin Plan	Central Valley Water Board Water Quality Control Plan

TMDL	total maximum daily load
TNS	Townet Survey
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
Water Code	California Water Code
WDRs	waste discharge requirements
Workgroup	Stakeholder Advisory Workgroup
YOY	young-of-the year