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## Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

May 9, 2024

### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT: DRAFT RACIAL EQUITY RESOLUTION AND STAFF REPORT**

Dear Interested Party,

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) invites you to comment on the *Draft Resolution Condemning Racism, Xenophobia, Bigotry, and Racial Injustice and Strengthening Commitment to Racial Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Access, and Anti-Racism in the Lahontan Region* (Draft Racial Equity Resolution) and Staff Report on the Draft Racial Equity Resolution for the Lahontan Region (Staff Report). The Lahontan Water Board is the California state agency responsible for water quality protection in the [Lahontan Region](#) (Region 6), which extends from the Oregon border south through the Mojave Desert and east of the Sierra Nevada crest.

Racial equity occurs when race can no longer be used to predict life outcomes and when outcomes for all groups are improved. Join the Water Boards as we work toward a future where we preserve, protect, and restore drinking water and water resources for all Californians, and where race is not a predictor of professional outcomes for Water Boards employees.

#### **PARTICIPATION OPTIONS**

##### Review the Available Documents

Review the Draft Racial Equity Resolution and Staff Report at the following website:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water\\_issues/programs/racial-equity/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/programs/racial-equity/)

Physical copies of the available documents may be mailed to you upon request by calling (760) 243-4261.

##### Submit Comments

Please email your written comments to [Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov) and include "Draft Racial Equity Resolution" in the subject line. If you do not have access to the Internet, please submit your written comments to:

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Attention: Anna Garcia  
15095 Amargosa Rd building 2 suite 210  
Victorville, CA 92394

DR. AMY HORNE, CHAIR | MICHAEL R. PLAZIAK, PG, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Comments on the Draft Racial Equity Resolution are due by June 24, 2024.**

Comments received after this date may not be considered by the Lahontan Water Board.

The Lahontan Water Board is scheduled to review and consider adoption of the Draft Racial Equity Resolution at the August 21-22, 2024, Board Meeting.

Stay Involved

Subscribe to receive email notifications about racial equity and environmental justice efforts at the Lahontan Water Board, including meeting schedules, draft and proposed documents, Board hearing information, and environmental analysis.

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/reg6\\_subscribe.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg6_subscribe.html)

Fill in your email and name and click the **Racial Equity & Environmental Justice** box, and then select the submit button.

**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the Draft Racial Equity Resolution is to accept responsibility for confronting structural and institutional racism and advancing racial equity within the Lahontan Water Board's purview, and to align with the [State Water Resources Control Board's ongoing racial equity efforts](#). The Water Boards envision a California where 1) race no longer predicts the access to, or quality of, water resources; 2) Water Boards employees at all organizational levels reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of California; and 3) a racial equity lens is consistently applied to Water Boards' decision-making processes.

Following the State Water Resource Control Board's adoption of a State Water Board Racial Equity Resolution and development of the State Water Board Racial Equity Action Plan, the Lahontan Water Board created a Racial Equity Working Group to increase employee awareness, conduct internal and external engagement to identify and prioritize opportunities to advance racial equity, and develop a Racial Equity Resolution and a Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Action Plan (Action Plan). Please see the Draft Racial Equity Resolution and Staff Report for more information.

**NEXT STEPS**

The Lahontan Water Board will consider all comments received during the public comment process before finalizing the Draft Racial Equity Resolution and bringing it to the Lahontan Water Board for consideration at the August 21-22, 2024, Board Meeting.

Pending adoption of the Racial Equity Resolution, the Lahontan Water Board anticipates increasing efforts to develop the Action Plan. The Action Plan may contain proposed actions the Lahontan Water Board will take to make progress towards its racial equity and environmental justice goals. It may also contain supporting ideas and measurements of success, including metrics, milestones, data, and other indicators that can be used to indicate successful completion of actions or to track progress toward actions over time.

The Lahontan Water Board will collaborate with the public to create the Action Plan through listening sessions, public workshops, and meetings. Once the Action Plan has

been drafted it will be made available for public review and comment prior to Board consideration.

Please share the above information with anyone you know to be interested in this matter. Any questions regarding this notice should be directed to Anna Garcia, Equity and Justice Coordinator, at [Anna.Garcia@Waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Anna.Garcia@Waterboards.ca.gov) or (760) 243-4261.

Thank you,

Lahontan Water Board Racial Equity Working Group