

**ITEM: 7**

**Resolution to Identify and Consider Regulatory Mechanisms to Extend Compliance Schedules for Nutrient Effluent Limitations – Adoption of Resolution**

**DISCUSSION**

This proposed resolution (Appendix A) would direct Water Board staff to evaluate and pursue options for Board consideration that would provide more time for municipal wastewater treatment agencies (dischargers) to comply with final numeric effluent limitations in the NPDES permit for discharges of nutrients from municipal wastewater treatment plants to San Francisco Bay (Nutrients Watershed Permit). The Board will consider reissuance of the Nutrients Watershed Permit in the preceding agenda item, which would establish and provide a ten-year compliance schedule for numeric limitations for discharges of nitrogen to San Francisco Bay. Ten years is the longest duration allowed by the State Water Resources Control Board *Policy for Compliance Schedules in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits* (Resolution 2008-0025). However, it may be difficult for some dischargers to comply with limits within ten years through implementation of multi-benefit solutions, such as nature-based treatment or wastewater recycling, or innovative technologies that may require pilot testing before full-scale operation.

The proposed resolution would direct staff to (1) report on discharger efforts and progress to reduce nutrient discharges; (2) report findings of the Nutrient Science Program; (3) consider how new information could affect interpretation of the biostimulatory substances water quality objective, which was the basis of the proposed final numeric effluent limitations in the Nutrients Watershed Permit; (4) evaluate and identify regulatory mechanisms to provide more time for dischargers, as warranted; and (5) work with other state and federal agencies to encourage and facilitate investments in multi-benefit projects and permit them.

**APPENDIX**

A. Proposed Resolution

# Appendix A

## Resolution