

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

Notice Date: August 18, 2020

NOTICE OF FILING, NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT, AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN, SAN FRANCISCO BAY BASIN, AND DRAFT SUBSTITUTE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) has filed a draft substitute environmental document supporting a proposed amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) to:

Add Chlorine Water Quality Objectives and Establish Total Residual Chlorine Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations for Wastewater Discharges in the San Francisco Bay Region

The proposed Basin Plan amendment would adopt chlorine water quality objectives for the protection of aquatic life beneficial uses in marine, estuarine, and freshwaters within the San Francisco Bay region, and replace the existing total residual chlorine technology-based effluent limitation with new water quality-based effluent limitations to be implemented in the region's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits. The Basin Plan amendment would also make three minor editorial changes to the Basin Plan to correct past errors and to make the Basin Plan consistent with the recently adopted statewide mercury objectives. The Water Board is considering the Basin Plan amendment in accordance with a certified regulatory program exempt under section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act. (Pub. Res. Code, §§ 21000 et seq.) The draft staff report serves as the substitute environmental documentation required under the Water Board's certified regulatory program (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, §§ 3775 et seq.) and includes the required environmental analyses of the proposed Basin Plan amendment.

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that the Water Board will receive public comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft staff report in accordance with this notice.

MICHAEL MONTGOMERY, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1515 Clay St., Suite 1400, Oakland, CA 94612 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that the Water Board will hold a public hearing to receive public comments on and consider adoption of the proposed amendment and draft staff report. The hearing will be held as follows:

DATE: **November 18, 2020**

TIME: 9:00 a.m. (approximate)

LOCATION: Virtual meeting via Zoom. Please check the Water Board's Covid-19 webpage: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/board_info/remote_meeting/index.html to find out more about how to participate in San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board Meetings during the COVID-19 Emergency.

STAFF CONTACT: Tong Yin
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612
Tong.Yin@waterboards.ca.gov

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The proposed Basin Plan amendment and supporting draft staff report will be available online at the Water Board's public notice page: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/public_notices/.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS: The Water Board will accept written comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft staff report. Written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 2, 2020 to be considered in the revised Basin Plan amendment or draft staff report and be included in the written response to comments before the Board hearing. Please send all written comments to the staff contact identified above. Additionally, all evidence, testimony, and exhibits to be offered at the hearing must be submitted in writing by this date to the above staff contact. Non-evidentiary policy statements to be made at the hearing need not be submitted in advance. Due to Covid-19 and telework, we encourage you to email a copy of your written comments to the staff contact by the same deadline.

One week before the Board hearing date, any proposed changes to the proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft staff report, along with written responses to all comments received during the public comment period, will be posted at the Board Meeting agenda page: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/board_info/agenda.html.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS: The Water Board will receive oral public testimony on the proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft staff report at the hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board will consider adoption of the proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft staff report, including changes to the proposed Basin Plan amendment that are consistent with the general purpose of the proposed amendment and are a logical outgrowth of the comments received.

The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 649.3. To ensure a productive, efficient and fair hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to be heard, oral comments will generally be limited to five minutes. Participants with similar comments are strongly encouraged to make joint presentations.

The meeting will be held virtually. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Executive Assistant Guy Gutterman, (510) 622-2399, Guy.Gutterman@Waterboards.ca.gov, at least five (5) working days before a meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Future Notices: Any changes in the date of the hearing, the availability of responses to comments or any other updates will be noticed by the Lyris e-mail list. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the proposed Basin Plan amendment and substitute environmental document must sign up for the Lyris e-mail list. To sign up, access the E-mail List Subscription form at the Lyris subscription page: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg2_subscribe.html, and select the box for “ALL Basin Planning/TMDL Notices and Information” option.