



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Executive Office

Charles R. Hoppin, Chairman
1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5603
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100
Fax (916) 341-5621 • <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

REVISED
(Comment Deadline Extended)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA OCEAN PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public hearing to receive comments and to consider adopting proposed non-substantive amendments to the California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan). The State Water Board may take final action on the Ocean Plan at the conclusion of the hearing or may defer final action to a subsequent, publicly-noticed board meeting. The location and time of the hearing are provided below.

Tuesday, September 15, 2009 – 9:00 a.m.
Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

BACKGROUND

The Ocean Plan establishes water quality standards for California's ocean waters and provides the basis for regulation of wastes discharged into the State's near-coastal ocean waters. The Ocean Plan applies to point and nonpoint source discharges.

Section 13170.2 of the California Water Code directs the State Water Board to formulate and adopt a water quality control plan for ocean waters of California. The State Water Board first adopted the Ocean Plan in 1972. The current 2005 Ocean Plan is available from the State Water Board's Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/index.shtml.

On June 26, 2007, the State Water Board held a public scoping meeting to seek input on proposed amendments to the Ocean Plan. Public comments were received and reviewed prior to development of the proposed non-substantive amendments that are scheduled for consideration by the State Water Board at the September 15, 2009 hearing.

State Water Board staff proposes the following non-substantive amendments to the 2005 Ocean Plan:

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1. Clarify that metals are expressed as total recoverable metals;
2. Remove Section III (F)(1) on compliance schedules, which is outdated and unnecessary;
3. Correct toxicity definitions and references in Appendix 1;
4. Include maps of California's ocean waters, bays, and estuaries; and
5. Update the list of exceptions in Appendix VII in order to include:
 - a. exceptions for discharges to Area(s) of Special Biological Significance, which were approved after the adoption of the 2005 Ocean Plan;
 - b. the 1979 conditional exception for untreated wet weather discharges from the City and County of San Francisco's combined storm and wastewater collection system, which was inadvertently omitted from the 2005 Ocean Plan; and
 - c. the 1988 exceptions for total chlorine residual for nine coastal power plant discharges, which were also inadvertently omitted.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed amendments to the Ocean Plan and supporting documents are available on the State Water Board's Web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/index.shtml. Alternatively, you may receive a paper copy in the mail by contacting Dominic Gregorio, Division of Water Quality, at (916) 341-5488 (dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov). To subscribe to an email list for future notifications about the proposed non-substantive amendments, go to the State Water Board's Lyris Subscription Web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml and choose "California Ocean Plan (COP)".

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board welcomes both written and oral comments on the proposed amendments. Previous comments received are already in the public record and do not need to be re-sent. Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on August 31, 2009** and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Electronic submission of comments, evidence, and other material is preferred. Comment letters may be submitted to the Clerk to the Board by email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov (if less than 15 megabytes in total size) or by fax at (916) 341-5620. Please also indicate in the subject line, "**Comment Letter - California Ocean Plan Amendments**".

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PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At this hearing, there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. At the hearing, participants will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations. To ensure a productive and efficient hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited. For other presentation recommendations, go to:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml at the State Water Board's Web site. Questions concerning the hearing may also be directed to Dominic Gregorio at (916) 341-5488.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (Cal/EPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board Web site: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm>. The Cal/EPA 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. An audio broadcast of the meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>.

All visitors to the Cal/EPA 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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Dominic Gregorio at (916) 341-5488 (dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov).

Date July 9, 2009

Jeanine Townsend
Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

