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State Water Resources Control Board

**UPDATED NOTICE OF DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

**PROPOSED FINAL PART 3 OF THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR  
INLAND SURFACE WATERS, ENCLOSED BAYS, AND ESTUARIES OF  
CALIFORNIA—BACTERIA PROVISIONS AND A WATER QUALITY STANDARDS  
VARIANCE POLICY**

**AND**

**PROPOSED FINAL AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR  
OCEAN WATERS OF CALIFORNIA—BACTERIA PROVISIONS AND A WATER  
QUALITY STANDARDS VARIANCE POLICY**

Notice was previously provided that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public meeting on February 6, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. to consider: (1) adoption of the Proposed Final Part 3 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California—Bacteria Provisions and a Water Quality Standards Variance Policy (Part 3 of the ISWEBE), and the Proposed Final Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California—Bacteria Provisions and a Water Quality Standards Variance Policy (Ocean Plan Amendment) (Part 3 of the ISWEBE and the Ocean Plan Amendment are hereafter collectively referred to as the Bacteria Provisions), and (2) approval of the Proposed Final Staff Report, Including Substitute Environmental Documentation, for the Bacteria Provisions (hereafter Staff Report).

**THE BACTERIA PROVISIONS**

The Bacteria Provisions, if adopted, would apply to fresh, estuarine, and marine waters; include *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) as the indicator of pathogens in freshwater and enterococci as the indicator for estuarine waters and ocean waters; establish a risk protection level of 32 illnesses per 1,000 recreators; and include new bacteria water quality objectives for the protection of the water contact recreation (REC-1) beneficial use. The Bacteria Provisions also include several implementation approaches the State Water Board or the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (collectively, Water Boards) may utilize to achieve the bacteria water quality objectives or to reflect whether the REC-1 beneficial use is appropriately designated. The Bacteria Provisions provide that when the Water Boards develop a TMDL to achieve the bacteria water quality objectives, a reference system/antidegradation approach or a natural source exclusion approach may be utilized to account for natural sources of bacteria. Part 3 of the ISWEBE (and not the Ocean Plan Amendment) contains a temporary high-flow suspension approach and a seasonal suspension approach the Water Boards may utilize to reflect the attainability of REC-1 beneficial use designations; a definition for the limited water contact recreation (LREC-1) beneficial use; and provides that a Water Board may designate a water body or a waterbody segment in a water quality control plan with the LREC-1 beneficial use. In addition, the Bacteria Provisions identify the existing federal regulatory mechanism for adopting water quality standards variances for pollutants and waterbodies.

## **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

Notice was previously provided that the Proposed Final Bacteria Provisions, Proposed Final Staff Report, and responses to comments would be posted at the State Water Board's website on or before January 26, 2018. The Proposed Final Bacteria Provisions and Staff Report, which contain revisions, along with the written responses to timely written comments submitted, are available as of January 18, 2018, on the State Water Board's website at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>. The draft Bacteria Provisions, draft Staff Report, and other information are available on the same website.

## **PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

At the February 6, 2018 public meeting, the State Water Board will consider adopting the Bacteria Provisions and approving the Staff Report and interested persons will have an opportunity to comment orally on the Bacteria Provisions and Staff Report. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions.

To ensure a productive and efficient meeting 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](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml).

## **WEBCAST INFORMATION**

Video and audio broadcasts of the public meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.

## **PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY**

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board website: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5254 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.

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10<sup>th</sup> Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

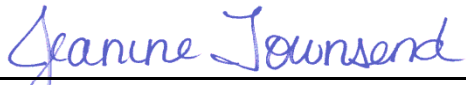
## **FUTURE NOTICE**

The State Water Board public meeting will be at the time and place noted above. Any change in the date, time, and place of the public meeting will be posted on the webpage: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>. Any change will also be noticed on the e-mail list serve. Any person desiring to receive future notices concerning the Bacteria Provisions, including any changes to the notice of public meeting, must sign up for the e-mail list serve. To sign up for the e-mail list serve, access the email List Subscription Form at the web address listed below, at the "Water Quality" tab, by checking either the box for "Freshwater Plans and Policies" or the box for "California Ocean Plan (COP)": [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/swrcb\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please direct questions about this notice to Stephanie Rose at (916) 341-5574 or via email at [Stephanie.Rose@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Rose@waterboards.ca.gov).

January 18, 2018  
Date

  
Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board