

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-0004**

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OR  
THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES TO  
ENTER INTO A CONTRACT, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, FOR  
COMPUTER-BASED TESTING EXAMINATIONS FOR THE WASTEWATER AND  
DRINKING WATER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

WHEREAS:

1. The State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resources allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.
2. Chapter 9 of division 7 of the Water Code designates the State Water Board as responsible for the administration of the Wastewater Operator Certification Program, which certifies wastewater treatment plant operators.
3. Article 3 of chapter 4 of part 1 of division 104 of the Health and Safety Code designates the State Water Board as responsible for the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program, which certifies water treatment and water distribution operators.
4. Examination and certification of wastewater treatment plant, water treatment, and water distribution operators is imperative to ensure the essential functions of safe and effective operation of wastewater treatment plants, water treatment plants, and water distribution systems can continue, thereby protecting public health, safety, and the environment.
5. The Operator Certification Programs traditionally conducted approximately 11,500 in-person paper examinations per year.
6. As a result of the Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) emergency and restrictions on in-person gatherings, the State Water Board cancelled the 2020 operator certification examinations.
7. In January 2021, the State Water Board entered into an emergency contract that expires on June 30, 2022, for administering computer-based operator certification examinations for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, and safety by ensuring that there are sufficient certified operators to safely run wastewater treatment plants, water treatment plants, and water distribution systems.
8. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present a threat to the public, and with ensuing CDC guidelines, and State and local mandates, in-person paper examinations cannot be conducted in a practical manner.

9. Computer-based testing centers can provide testing services that address COVID-19 safety measures and computer-based testing increases the availability of testing opportunities, thereby allowing operator certification examinations to continue and ensuring that there are sufficient certified operators to safely run wastewater treatment plants, water treatment plants, and water distribution systems.
10. The Division of Administrative Services ensures that the State Water Board conducts its contracting activities in compliance with State's contracting laws, regulations, policies, and procedures.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. The State Water Board hereby authorizes the Executive Director, the Chief Deputy Director, or the Deputy Director of the Division of Administrative Services to enter into a contract, and any amendments thereto, not to extend beyond June 30, 2027, for the administration of computer-based operator certification testing for the Wastewater and Drinking Water Operator Certification Programs.
2. Except as otherwise specifically provided by the State Water Board, the Executive Director, or the Executive Director's designee, shall be the duly authorized representative of the State Water Board for the purpose of making a final determination of any dispute arising under or relating to the performance of any contracts to which the State Water Board is a party.
3. This authorization shall remain in full force and effect until modified or revoked by the State Water Board.

### CERTIFICATION


The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on January 19, 2022.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel  
 Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo  
 Board Member Sean Maguire  
 Board Member Laurel Firestone  
 Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

  
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 Jeanine Townsend  
 Clerk to the Board