

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-0004**

**AMENDMENT TO THE ADMINISTRATOR POLICY HANDBOOK TO
INCORPORATE PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 805 (2024)
FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATORS TO INADEQUATE SEWER
SERVICES**

WHEREAS:

1. In September 2019, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted the Administrator Policy Handbook (Policy) for the State Water Board's implementation of Assembly Bill 2501 (AB 2501). AB 2501 amended section 116686 of the Health and Safety Code, which pertains to the State Water Board's selection and use of contracted or grant-funded administrators for designated drinking water systems. Administrators are appointed to support drinking water systems struggling to provide adequate, safe, and affordable drinking water due to Technical, Managerial, and/or Financial (TMF) issues.
2. The Policy provides further direction to the State Water Board staff and appointed administrators of designated water systems as authorized by AB 2501.
3. In March 2023, the State Water Board adopted changes to the Policy to award funds to an administrator on behalf of a designated water system.
4. In [Resolution No. 2023-0026](#), the State Water Board approved a comprehensive update to the Policy to clarify and improve expectations of appointed limited scope, full-scope, and/or regional administrators to bring designated water systems to compliance with drinking water regulations, facilitate projects, and provide an adequate supply of safe and affordable drinking water to disadvantaged communities experiencing TMF issues.
5. On September 24, 2024, Assembly Bill 805 (AB 805) was approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State. Among other things, AB 805 amended Water Code sections 13288 and 13442, and added section 13289.5, requiring the State Water Board to develop standards, terms, and procedures that apply to the selection and duties of appointed Administrators for designated sewer systems, to be incorporated in the Policy.

6. There is a need to amend the Policy to provide direction to the State Water Board staff and appointed administrators of designated sewer systems as authorized by Water Code section 13289.5
7. The proposed changes to the Policy will continue to meet the statutory requirements and intent of AB 2501.
8. Under AB 805, the State Water Board shall not identify a designated sewer system or make findings that a sewer system provider has an inadequate sewer service or require a sewer service provider to contract with an administrator pursuant to Water Code section 13289.5 on or after January 1, 2029. All other authorizations and requirements pursuant to Water Code section 13289.5 remain in effect until December 31, 2029.
9. As directed by the State Water Board in [Resolution No. 2016-0010](#), the proposed action will continue to support the human right to water by providing administrative and technical assistance to improve access to, and the quality of, drinking water in disadvantaged communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Adopts the updated Administrator Policy Handbook and orders that it be posted on the State Water Board's website.
2. Authorizes the Executive Director or his or her designee to perform all acts and to do all things necessary and convenient to facilitate the implementation of the State Water Board's authorities under Water Code section 13289.5.
3. Directs the Executive Director or his or her designee to present to the State Water Board, at a regularly scheduled meeting after the first use of the authorities to appoint an Administrator to a designated sewer system, a summary of lessons learned and any potential changes to the Administrator Policy Handbook, prior to using the authorities to appoint an Administrator to a second failing sewer system.

4. Directs staff to engage with stakeholders and provide notice and opportunity for public comment at least 30 days before bringing to the State Water Board for consideration any potential changes to the Administrator Policy Handbook.

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 22, 2025.

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



Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board