

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
APRIL 21, 2015**

ITEM 3

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND A FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT SECTION 1443(A) GRANT; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND AMENDMENT OF CONTRACTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION PROGRAM

DISCUSSION

Section 1443(a) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) authorizes the appropriation of monies for federal grants to assist states in administering their Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) programs. Prior to the transition of the drinking water program to the State Water Board, the California Department of Public Health annually filed an application with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for a continuing annual grant under the SDWA section 1443(a) to support implementation of California's PWSS program to enforce the requirements of the SDWA and ensure that public water systems comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations. As of July 1, 2014, the State Water Board is responsible for administering the PWSS program.

The U.S. EPA has indicated that the FYs 2013-2016 grant allocation for California will not exceed a total of approximately \$40,000,000 in SDWA section 1443(a) grant funds for the State Water Board's PWSS program. Funds will be used for activities including: adopting regulations to meet Federal Rules, implement a capacity development and operator certification program to ensure public water systems comply with drinking water regulations, maintain a quality assurance management plan and lab certification program, conduct inspections and issue enforcement actions for non-compliant systems, and maintain an emergency plan for providing safe drinking water under emergency circumstances. Staff and contract resources from the section 1443(a) grant will contribute significantly to meeting these needs.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board authorize the Executive Director or his designee to apply for and accept a FYs 2013-2016 SDWA 1443(a) PWSS grant funds and to negotiate, approve, and/or amend the grants and associated workplans and contracts?

FISCAL IMPACT

The PWSS Grant funds approximately 27% of Drinking Water Program expenditures. Drinking Water Program revenues are not currently sufficient to support the Program without these funds.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The State Water Board should adopt the proposed resolution.

Goal 4 of the State Water Board's strategic plan is to, "Comprehensively address water quality protection and restoration, and the relationship between water supply and water quality..." A key implementation element to achieving this goal is to develop comprehensive regulations, update regulations in a timely fashion to keep them current, and incorporate stakeholder interests as an integral part of the regulation development process. Funding from this grant will help achieve this goal.

DRAFT

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2015-

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND A FEDERAL SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT SECTION 1443(A) GRANT; AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND AMENDMENT OF CONTRACTS FOR SUPPORT OF THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION PROGRAM

WHEREAS:

1. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region 9, has indicated that the FYs 2013-2016 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) section 1443(a) Public Water System Supervision (PWSS) Grant allocation for California will not exceed approximately \$40,000,000;
2. The SDWA section 1443(a) Grant assists the State Water Resources Control Board in funding the PWSS Program to enforce the requirements of the SDWA and ensure that water systems comply with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to apply for, accept, and amend as necessary, a FYs 2013-2016 SDWA section 1443(a) grant for an amount up to \$40,000,000 for support of the Drinking Water PWSS Program;
2. Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to negotiate, approve, and/or amend the grant and associated workplan; and
3. Authorizes the Executive Director to execute contracts and amendments that support the PWSS Program.
4. This resolution shall become operative and supersede Board [Resolution No. 2014-0050](#) upon its effective date.

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 April 21, 2015.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board