

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT October 22, 2026

DRAFT TIME SCHEDULE ORDERS R3-2026-0070 AND R3-2027-0002, MONTEREY ONE WATER REGIONAL TREATMENT PLANT AND ADVANCED WATER PURIFICATION FACILITY AND CALIFORNIA AMERICAN WATER COMPANY MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT DESALINATION PLANT, MONTEREY COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) will accept comments on draft Time Schedule Order R3-2026-0070 and draft Time Schedule Order R3-2027-0002. You may download the draft orders from our website at the following address:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/

The Monterey One Water (M1W) Regional Treatment Plant (RTP) and Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF) discharge secondary-treated waste, hauled saline waste, and reverse osmosis concentrate to the Pacific Ocean at Monterey Bay (Salinas River to Pt. Piños), and produce advanced treated recycled water. The M1W RTP and AWPF are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order R3-2024-0045, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit CA0048551 (2024 Order), which replaced the previous order, R3-2018-0017 (2018 Order).

On July 31, 2026, the Central Coast Water Board requested comments on draft Waste Discharge Requirements Order R3-2026-0057 (2026 Order), intended to replace the 2024 Order and incorporate the California American Water Company (Cal-Am) Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Company (MPWSP) Desalination Plant brine discharge. M1W and Cal-Am are referred to collectively as the Dischargers, and the RTP, AWPF, and MPWSP Desalination Plant are referred to collectively as the Facilities.

M1W is unable to consistently comply with the final effluent limitations for fecal coliform and enterococcus in the 2024 Order, which are more stringent than the effluent limitations in the prior 2018 Order. The Dischargers will also be unable to comply with new effluent limitations for total coliform, fecal coliform, and enterococcus in the 2026 Order, which were not effluent limitations in the 2024 Order. M1W requested that the Central Coast Water Board provide additional time to allow time for the development and implementation of improvements to comply with the modified effluent limitations.

JANE GRAY, CHAIR | RYAN E. LODGE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Two time schedule orders (TSOs) are proposed: TSO R3-2026-0070 corresponds to the effluent limitation modifications between the 2018 and 2024 Orders, and TSO R3-2027-0002 corresponds to the effluent limitation modifications between the 2024 and 2026 Orders. The two TSOs require identical schedules of actions over a five-year period to comply with the requirements prescribed in the 2024 and 2026 Orders. The TSOs require M1W to implement a pollution prevention plan, perform a disinfection alternatives analysis, and update the master plan for upgrading their RTP. M1W must then design and construct treatment technologies, depending on the selected disinfection alternative. The TSOs also include interim effluent limitations for total coliform, fecal coliform, and enterococcus, based on current treatment performance.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS. Interested persons are invited to submit comments in writing to the Central Coast Water Board no later than **November 23, 2026**. Comments may be submitted by email to the Central Coast Water Board's NPDES inbox at rb3-npdes@waterboards.ca.gov. Written comments can also be mailed or delivered to:

NPDES Unit
Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Comment letters received after the deadline will not be accepted unless the Central Coast Water Board determines otherwise.

Please direct any questions about this notice to Drew Friedrichs at (805) 549-3333 or drew.friedrichs@waterboards.ca.gov or Arwen Wyatt-Mair at (805) 542-4695 or arwen.wyattmair@waterboards.ca.gov.

Attachments:

1. Draft TSO R3-2026-0070
2. Draft TSO R3-2027-0002

cc w/ attachments:

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