

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 31, 2014 – AUGUST 1, 2014

Prepared on July 7, 2014

ITEM NUMBER: 18

**SUBJECT: STATUS OF THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT
SYSTEMS**

DISCUSSION

The State Water Resources Control Board adopted a policy that establishes siting, design, operation, and maintenance criteria for Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) on June 19, 2012. The Central Coast Water Board subsequently amended our Basin Plan to incorporate the policy. The policy divides the regulation of OWTS into multiple tiers, as follows:

Tier	Description
0	Existing OWTS
1	Low-Risk New or Replacement OWTS
2	Local Agency Management Programs (LAMP) for New or Replacement OWTS
3	OWTS Requirements in Impaired Areas
4	OWTS Requiring Corrective Action

The policy allows for local agencies such as counties and cities to adopt programs to manage OWTS within their jurisdictions. As such, Santa Barbara County has worked with Central Coast Water Board staff as well as a local advisory committee stakeholder group to develop a draft Local Agency Management Program (LAMP) pursuant to the Tier 2 requirements of the policy.

Pursuant to Section 9 of the OWTS Policy, LAMPs approved by regional water boards under Tier 2 can provide alternatives to Tier 1 standards to achieve the same policy purpose, which is to protect water quality and public health. In the current draft LAMP, the County proposes a few alternatives to Tier 1 criteria, however; County staff continues to publicly vet and fine tune the LAMP.

Central Coast Water Board staff reviewed Santa Barbara County's draft LAMP and provided comments on July 9, 2014 (see Attachment 1). County staff continues to receive comments from the advisory group and will augment the LAMP as needed.

Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services staff will be present at the Board meeting to provide the following information for discussion:

1. Historical Background on the LAMP process
2. Advisory Committee Group Process
3. LAMP Development and Approval Process
4. Funding Consideration Strategies

ATTACHMENT

1. Central Coast Water Board staff comment letter dated July 9, 2014.

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