

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

**Proposed Resolution **R3-2026-XXXX****

**AMENDMENTS TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE  
CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN TO ESTABLISH WATER QUALITY  
OBJECTIVES FOR DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND DISINFECTANT  
RESIDUALS**

**WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board), finds:**

1. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) is the Central Coast Water Board's main water quality control planning document and was first adopted in 1975. The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses and water quality objectives for waters of the state, including surface waters and groundwaters. It also includes programs of implementation to achieve water quality objectives. The Basin Plan was duly adopted by the Central Coast Water Board and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), where required.
2. The Basin Plan may be amended in accordance with California Water Code (CWC) section 13240 et seq. The current Basin Plan is the June 2024 Edition.<sup>1</sup>
3. Attachment A to this Resolution is the Project Report that describes the proposed Basin Plan amendments, including specifications on physical placement in the Basin Plan.
4. The Project Report includes regulatory and non-regulatory amendments. The regulatory amendments incorporate California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 22, maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for disinfection byproducts and maximum residual disinfectant levels (MRDLs) for disinfectant residuals, or, where more protective, MCL goals (MCLGs) and MRDL goals (MRDLGs) from title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (40 CFR), as water quality objectives for surface waters and groundwaters designated with the Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) beneficial use. The non-regulatory amendments make editorial corrections and clarifications (e.g., correcting typos, updating information, and following the Central Coast Water Board writing style) to the Basin Plan for improved accuracy and clarity.

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<sup>1</sup> June 2024 Basin Plan:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water\\_issues/programs/basin\\_plan/docs/2024\\_basin\\_plan\\_r3.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/docs/2024_basin_plan_r3.pdf)

5. Pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) section 21080.5, the Secretary of Natural Resources has certified the Central Coast Water Board's basin planning process as a "certified regulatory program" that adequately satisfies the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (PRC, section 21000 et seq.) to prepare environmental documents (CCR, title 14, section 15251, subdivision (g)). CCR, title 23, sections 3775-3781, prescribe alternative procedural requirements for environmental review of regulatory basin planning actions, including requirements for preparation of a Substitute Environmental Document (SED). This Resolution is accompanied by a SED, which includes the Staff Report, environmental checklist and analyses, comments and responses to comments, and the Basin Plan amendments language. In preparing the SED, the Central Coast Water Board considered the requirements of PRC section 21159 and CCR, title 14, section 15187, and the Board intends the SED to serve as a programmatic review.
6. The non-regulatory amendments do not materially alter any requirement, right, responsibility, condition, prescription, or other regulatory element of the Basin Plan, and are therefore without regulatory effect under CCR, title 1, section 100, subdivision (a). The non-regulatory amendments are editorial in nature and, therefore, not subject to CEQA or the alternative environmental review process prescribed in CCR title 23.
7. Pursuant to CCR, title 23, section 3775.5, on December 4, 2026, the Central Coast Water Board held a public workshop and CEQA scoping meeting to solicit input from public agencies and interested persons on the scope of the environmental analysis for the proposed Basin Plan amendments. Public comments on scope and content of the environmental information to be included in a draft SED were accepted through January 9, 2026.
8. On April 15, 2026, the Central Coast Water Board made available a draft Project Report, including the draft SED (CCR, title 23, section 3779), for public review. Interested persons had an opportunity to submit written comments during the 45-day comment period that extended from April 15 to June 3, 2026.
9. On [month day, year] the Central Coast Water Board held a public hearing to receive oral comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendments. Notice of the public hearing was given to interested persons and published in accordance with CWC section 13244. Notice of updated public hearing information was given to interested persons in accordance with Government Code section 11125.
10. The Central Coast Water Board has carefully considered all comments and testimony received, including responses thereto, on the Basin Plan amendments, as well as all the evidence in the administrative record.
11. In accordance with CWC section 13241, the Central Coast Water Board considered applicable factors in establishing water quality objectives for surface waters and groundwaters designated with the MUN beneficial use, as discussed more fully in the Staff Report.

12. California Health and Safety Code section 57004, subdivision (d), requires an external scientific peer review for the scientific portion of a proposed rule. The proposed Basin Plan amendments, however, do not include a “scientific portion,” and thus do not require a scientific peer review. The proposed regulatory amendments incorporate MCLs and MRDLs from the CCR, title 22, or MCLGs and MRDLGs from 40 CFR that underwent scientific peer review prior to their adoption.<sup>2,3</sup> The proposed non-regulatory amendments are editorial in nature, without regulatory effect. According to the 1998 Unified California Environmental Protection Agency Policy and Guiding Principles for External Scientific Peer Review document (Cal/EPA 1998), no peer review is necessary when the “work product is a new application of an adequately peer reviewed work product [which] does not depart significantly from its scientific approach.” No scientific methodologies or evaluations were conducted in the development of this Basin Plan amendment. For these reasons, no peer review is necessary for this Basin Plan amendment.
13. The Basin Plan amendments must be submitted for approval by the State Water Board and OAL. The Basin Plan amendments will become effective upon approval by OAL. After being approved by OAL, the Basin Plan amendments will be submitted to USEPA for review and approval.
14. Pursuant to CWC section 13149.2, which became effective on January 1, 2023, the Central Coast Water Board reviewed readily available information and information raised to the Board by interested persons concerning anticipated water quality impacts in disadvantaged or Tribal communities resulting from adoption of these Basin Plan amendments. The Central Coast Water Board considered environmental justice concerns within the Board’s authority and raised by interested persons with regard to those impacts. Central Coast Water Board staff have determined that the Basin Plan amendments will not have disproportionate impacts on water quality in disadvantaged communities, as defined in CWC section 189.7 and 13149.2, or Tribal communities. The proposed Basin Plan amendments do not incorporate implementation plans; instead, the Basin Plan amendments only incorporate water quality objectives. Nonetheless, the Central Coast Water Board has satisfied the outreach requirements set forth in CWC section 189.7 and 13149.2 by conducting outreach in affected disadvantaged and Tribal communities.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Pursuant to CWC section 13240, the Central Coast Water Board, after considering the record, including oral testimony at the hearing, hereby adopts the Basin Plan amendments as set forth in Attachment A to this Resolution R3-2026-XXXX.

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<sup>2</sup> USEPA Occurrence Assessment for the Final Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule: <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi?Dockey=P1005ED2.txt>

<sup>3</sup> USEPA National Primary Drinking Water Regulations: Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts (Federal Register, Volume 63, Number 241, 1998): <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-1998-12-16/pdf/98-32887.pdf#page=1>

2. The Executive Officer is directed to forward copies of the Basin Plan amendments to the State Water Board in accordance with the requirement of CWC section 13245.5. The Central Coast Water Board requests that the State Water Board approve the Basin Plan amendments in accordance with the requirements of CWC sections 13245 and 13246 and forward the Basin Plan amendments to OAL and to USEPA for approval.
3. Since the Basin Plan amendments will involve no potential for adverse effect, either individually or cumulatively, on the environment, the Executive Officer is directed to sign a CEQA Filing Fee - No Effect Determination Form and to submit the exemption in lieu of payment of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife CEQA filing fee.
4. If, during the approval process, Central Coast Water Board staff, the State Water Board, or OAL determines that minor, non-regulatory corrections to the language of the amendments are needed for clarity or consistency, the Executive Officer or their designee may make such changes and shall inform the Central Coast Water Board of any such changes.

I, Ryan E. Lodge, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, on [month day, year].

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Ryan E. Lodge  
Executive Officer

Attachment A – Project Report and CEQA Environmental Checklist