

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

**Evaluation of Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) and Agricultural Supply (AGR)
Beneficial Uses of Groundwater within Proximity of the McKittrick 1-1 and McKittrick 1 &
1-3 Oil Fields Wastewater Disposal Facilities, Kern County –
Notice of In-Person and Online Public Workshop and
California Environmental Quality Act Public (CEQA) Scoping Meeting**

**25 May 2023
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

In-person, Video and Teleconference Meeting

How to Attend This Meeting:

DATE: 25 May 2023
TIME: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
LOCATION: Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District
556 Milo Ave.
Buttonwillow, CA 93206

REMOTE MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

Control click on the following links to get instructions on how to join meeting via computer or phone:

[Joining Meeting Via Computer](#)

(<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>)

[Joining Meeting via Phone](#)

(<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663-Joining-a-meeting-by-phone>)



TO COMMUNICATE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING (VIA ZOOM):

If you need to participate and communicate with the meeting facilitator or need an enhanced video/audio connection during the meeting, please email:

McKittrickBPAComments@waterboards.ca.gov

for further instructions on how to obtain a Zoom Meeting ID and Password.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that staff from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) will hold a public workshop and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping meeting to discuss and solicit comments and suggestions from the public regarding a proposal to:

- Evaluate the appropriate designation of the Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) beneficial use and application of the State Water Resources Control Board Sources of Drinking Water Policy (Resolution 88-63) in determining the appropriateness of the MUN beneficial use of groundwater in an Area Surrounding the McKittrick 1-1 and McKittrick 1 & 1-3 Oil Fields Wastewater Disposal Facilities and Adjacent to the Administrative Boundaries of the South Belridge, Monument and Cymric Oilfields in Kern County (Study Area);
- Evaluate the appropriate designation of the Agricultural Supply (AGR) beneficial use and application of various maximum salinity threshold concentrations used for AGR beneficial uses to determine the appropriateness of the AGR beneficial use designation of groundwater in the Study Area; and
- Amend the Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin (Tulare Lake Basin Plan) as appropriate for MUN and AGR beneficial uses for groundwater in the Study Area.

This MUN and AGR beneficial use evaluation is one phase of a larger effort to develop a systematic procedure for addressing the appropriate protection of all applicable beneficial uses in the areas of the Central Valley Water Board's Basin Plans.

BACKGROUND:

Groundwater within the Tulare Lake Basin is designated to have both MUN and AGR beneficial uses, unless specifically exempted within the Tulare Lake Basin Plan. All changes to any beneficial use in the Tulare Lake Basin Plan (either designation or de-designation) must occur through a Basin Plan Amendment (BPA). The Central Valley Water Board recognized the need for evaluating appropriate MUN and other beneficial uses, such as AGR, during its February 2021 Joint Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plans for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins and Tulare Lake Basin. In addition, the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative also identified the need to evaluate the appropriate level of protection of the MUN and AGR beneficial uses as an essential activity towards finding solutions to the salt water quality issues in the Central Valley.

Valley Water Management Company (Valley Water) operates three unlined, oil field-produced wastewater disposal facilities named the McKittrick 1-1 and McKittrick 1 & 1-3 Facilities (together referred to as Facilities) within the proposed Study Area. The Facilities receive produced wastewater from oil and gas producers in adjacent oil fields. Discharge of produced wastewater to the Facilities is regulated by the Central Valley Water Board under Resolution 69-199 Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs). The Central Valley Water Board is reviewing the MUN and AGR beneficial uses in an approximately 14-square mile area surrounding the

Facilities and adjacent to the administrative boundaries of the South Belridge, Monument and Cymric Oil Fields.

Additional information regarding this evaluation and study is presented in Attachment 1 and on the [Central Valley Water Board's Internet website](#) at:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/mckittrick/).

PUBLIC SCOPING/EARLY CONSULTATION MEETING PURPOSE:

This meeting will provide participants with: (1) Background on previous work conducted on evaluating appropriate beneficial uses; (2) application of Resolution 88-63 and the Tulare Lake Basin Plan with regards to the MUN beneficial use designation; (3) background on evaluating the AGR beneficial use designation in the Tulare Lake Basin based on existing groundwater quality and the maximum salinity concentrations in literature shown to be appropriate for the various AGR uses; (4) an overview of conditions in the evaluation and Study Areas; (5) the opportunity to comment, including but not limited to the potential alternatives that have been identified to evaluate the MUN and AGR beneficial uses in the groundwater within the evaluation and Study Areas, other potential alternatives, significant impacts, and mitigation measures; and (6) an opportunity to comment on the appropriate scope and content of the proposed amendment and environmental documents to be prepared pursuant to CEQA (Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.) and the Central Valley Water Board's certified regulatory program for basin planning (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15251, subdivision (g); and Title 23, section 3775 et seq.).

Written comments should be submitted no later than 12:00 PM, 24 May 2023 to Glenn Meeks (contact information provided below) or during this meeting to:

McKittrickBPAComments@waterboards.ca.gov.

Written comments and comments provided at the workshop will be reviewed and considered in drafting the Basin Plan Amendment and staff report for the Central Valley Water Board's consideration. All comments will be included in the final administrative record.

IN-PERSON AND ONLINE CEQA SCOPING MEETING TIME AND LOCATIONS:

Public Workshop and CEQA Scoping Meeting

25 May 2023,

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Buttonwillow Recreation and Park District

556 Milo Ave.

Buttonwillow, CA 93206

Zoom Meeting Link:

(<https://waterboards.zoom.us/j/96792453083?pwd=bVF0SGpkWVplQmIBNzlxNTNkVTVnQT09>)

Individuals requiring special accommodations or language translation services are requested to contact Glenn Meeks at (916) 464-4701 **at least 14 working days prior to the meeting.**

TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Questions regarding this issue should be directed to Glenn Meeks at (916) 464-4701 or glenn.meeks@waterboards.ca.gov. To continue receiving notifications regarding this Basin Plan amendment, you must subscribe to the “Valley Water Company MUN and AGR Beneficial Use Evaluation” mailing list through our webpage or complete the attached form and return it to:

Glenn Meeks
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Persons wishing to subscribe to the electronic mailing list can do so through our website by clicking on the “Subscribe” button on the right side of our [webpage](#) at:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/mckittrick/)

This Notification only applies to the issue described in the enclosed notice. If you are not interested in this issue, do nothing and you will remain on the Basin Plan mailing list for future amendments. If you do not have email, you can fill in the following form, detach it from this notification and mail it to the above address to be included in future notifications related to this project.

Name:

Affiliation:

Address:

Phone Number(s):

E-mail:

- Please send notifications to my postal address.
- Please send notifications to my e-mail address.
- Please remove duplicates from your database, I have received multiple paper notifications.
- You can send notifications to my e-mail address.
- Continue sending notifications to my postal address.
- No, I am not interested in Basin Plan Amendments; please remove me from this mailing list.

Please bring the above information to the attention of those who may be interested.

Adam Laputz  Digitally signed by Adam Laputz
Date: 2023.04.10 13:43:26 -07'00'

Adam Laputz, Assistant Executive Officer

Attachment 1
CEQA Information Document