

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
JUNE 5, 2012**

**ITEM 4**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTING REVISIONS TO THE CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE (CBI) GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES (GUIDELINES)

**DISCUSSION**

On November 7, 2006, voters approved the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Pub. Resources Code, § 75001 et seq.) (Proposition 84) authorizing the issuance of bonds to fund a variety of water quality improvement projects, including projects for protecting beaches and coastal waters from pollution and toxic contamination pursuant to the Clean Beaches Program. Additional funds for CBI grants are available from Proposition 13 (Wat. Code, § 79000 et seq.), Proposition 40 (Pub. Resources Code, § 5096.600 et seq.), and Proposition 50 (Wat. Code, § 79500 et seq.). The Guidelines establish the process and criteria that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Financial Assistance (Division) will use to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants for the CBI Grant Program.

The Guidelines were previously approved by the State Water Board on September 16, 2008, in [Resolution No. 2008-0065](#). Following adoption of the Guidelines, Division staff initiated a solicitation for proposals. The solicitation was stopped when the state suspended bond projects in December 2008. Since that time, Senate Bill 790 (Stats. 2009, Ch. 690) amended the Clean Beaches Program statute to add eligible project types.

Division staff recently met with the Clean Beaches Task Force (CBTF) to get its input and approval on proposed revisions to the Guidelines in preparation to reinstate a solicitation. The CBTF approved proposed revisions to priority beaches, and to project and research priorities.

Propositions 50 and 84 specify that the CBI Program grant funds must be implemented according to the requirements of Proposition 13 Coastal Nonpoint Source Control Program (Wat. Code § 79148 et seq.) and Proposition 40 Clean Beaches Program (Pub. Resources Code, § 30915 et seq.), respectively. Propositions 13 and 50 allow for projects that provide comprehensive capability for monitoring, collecting, and analyzing ambient water quality, including monitoring technology that can be entered into a statewide information database (Wat. Code, § 79148.8, subd. (a)(2)). As a result, a portion of the available Proposition 13 and 50 funds will be dedicated to funding eligible statewide research projects that address the identified CBTF research priorities.

The Guidelines contain an overview of the grant process, eligibility requirements, program priorities, proposal solicitation, review and selection process, and general requirements. Information that will be required for submittal of proposals and the proposal evaluation criteria will be posted on the State Water Board's website. They propose a two-step proposal solicitation process. Applicants will submit Concept Proposals through the State Water Board on-line Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool. There will be two Concept Proposals applications, one for implementation projects, and one for research projects. The solicitation will be continuous. Periodically the solicitation will be closed to allow a review of submitted applications, and then will be re-opened after the Concept Proposals are processed to allow new applications to be submitted. This process will continue until the funds are exhausted. The CBTF will review the implementation and research Concept Proposals separately and recommend the proposals to be invited to submit a detailed application.

The applicants invited to submit detailed applications will be assigned a Division staff person to assist them in the detailed application process. Division staff, in consultation with the CBTF, will determine when a detailed application is complete and approvable. CBI staff will prepare a preliminary funding commitment and post it on the internet for public comment. The Deputy Director of the Division will issue the funding award.

In addition, the Guidelines include a provision that authorizes the Deputy Director of the Division to utilize funds from projects that are withdrawn or completed under budget, to fund additional projects recommended by the CBTF, or augment the scope of work and budget of projects previously awarded.

## **POLICY ISSUES**

Should the State Water Board:

1. Adopt revisions to the CBI Grant Program Guidelines?
2. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division to approve proposed projects, and execute grants agreements and amendments to implement the proposed projects?
3. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division to utilize funds from projects which are withdrawn or completed under budget to fund additional projects recommended by the CBTF, or augment the scope of work and budget of projects previously awarded?
4. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division to withdraw grant awards if applicants are non-responsive?

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Proposition 84 authorized \$90 million with the purpose of matching grants for protecting beaches and coastal waters from pollution and toxic contamination pursuant to the Clean Beaches Program. Of this amount, \$27.4 million is available for the CBI Grant Program. Funds are also available from Propositions 13, 40 and 50 from projects that withdrew or were completed under budget. Staff costs will be funded by a five-percent administrative set-aside.

## **REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS IMPACT**

Yes, all Coastal Regional Water Boards.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the State Water Board:

1. Adopt revisions to the CBI Grant Program Guidelines;
2. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division to approve proposed projects, and execute Grants and Amendments to implement the proposed projects;
3. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division to utilize funds from projects, which are withdrawn or completed under budget, to fund additional projects recommended by the CBTF, or augment the scope of and budget of projects previously awarded.
4. Authorize the Deputy Director of the Division to withdraw grant awards if applicants are non-responsive

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to implement strategies to fully support the beneficial uses for all 2006 listed water bodies by 2030. Approval of this item will: (1) manage urban runoff volume to reduce pollutant loadings, (2) reduce wet weather beach postings, and (3) eliminate dry weather beach closures and postings.

# DRAFT

## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2012-

### ADOPTING REVISIONS TO THE CLEAN BEACHES INITIATIVE (CBI) GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES (GUIDELINES)

#### WHEREAS:

1. The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) authorizes \$90 million with the purpose of matching grants for protecting beaches and coastal waters from pollution and toxic contamination pursuant to the Clean Beaches Program. Of this amount, approximately \$27.4 million remains available for the Clean Beaches Initiative (CBI) Grant Program;
2. Additional funds are also available from Propositions 13, 40 and 50 from projects that withdrew or were completed under budget. Approximately \$17.2 million remains available from Propositions 13 and 50 for monitoring/research or implementation projects, and approximately \$10.3 million remains available from Proposition 40 for implementation projects.
3. The Guidelines establish the CBI Grant Program criteria, and the review and selection process for obtaining CBI grant funds; and
4. The CBI Guidelines were previously adopted by the State Water Board on September 16, 2008. Division staff proposed revisions to the CBI Guidelines to address amendments to the Public Resources Code and the Water Code related to the CBI program, and to update program priorities. Division staff discussed proposed revisions with the Clean Beaches Task Force (CBTF). Comments received have been taken into consideration in the proposed revisions to the Guidelines ([Attachment A, as shown in redline/strikeout](#)).

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

##### The State Water Board:

1. Adopts the revised CBI Grant Program Guidelines;
2. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the Division to approve proposed projects, and execute grant agreements and amendments to implement the proposed projects;
3. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the Division to utilize funds from projects which are withdrawn or completed under budget to fund additional projects recommended by the CBTF, or augment the scope of and budget of projects previously awarded; and

# **D R A F T**

4. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the Division to withdraw grant awards if applicants are non-responsive.

## **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 Board held on June 5, 2012.

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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board