

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 5 – 6, 2013

Prepared on October 22, 2013

ITEM NUMBER: 6

SUBJECT: **Approve Revisions to Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands Order No. R3-2012-0011, Condition 65 – Public Disclosure of Well Location**

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KEY INFORMATION:

Location: Regionwide
Type of Discharge: Irrigated Lands runoff and leaching to groundwater
Existing Orders: Order No. RB3-2012-0011 and WQ 2013-0101

THIS ACTION: **Approve Revisions to Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements-** Condition 65 of Agricultural Order No. R3-2012-0011, Tier 1 Monitoring Reporting Program - Part 3 (A2), Tier 2 Monitoring Reporting Program - Part 5 (A2), and Tier 3 Monitoring Reporting Program - Part 8 (A2).

DISCUSSION

Per the Central Coast Water Board's July 11, 2013 Approval of Central Coast Cooperative Groundwater Program (enclosed), and in response to concerns related to public health and safety, the Executive Officer agreed to recommend to the Central Coast Water Board specific revisions to Agricultural Order No. R3-2012-0011 and associated Monitoring and Reporting Programs (MRPs). See page 6, No. 18 of Attachment 1.

The recommended revision changes the public disclosure of groundwater well location and data so that it is referenced within a one-mile square of the actual well location instead of a one-half mile radius of the actual well location. This revision is consistent with the same protocol and standard care implemented to protect locations of public drinking water supply wells regulated by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The revision would affect the public disclosure of any groundwater well location reported to the Central Coast Water Board in compliance with the Agricultural Order, including public disclosures related to a Public Records Act Request (PRAR), report, or presentation.

These revisions are in addition to modifications required by the State Water Resources Control Board's Order WQ 2013- adopted on September 24, 2013, resolving several petitions received on the Agricultural Order and associated MRPs.

CHANGES FROM THE EXISTING ORDER

The Executive Officer recommends the following specific language changes to the specified sections of the Agricultural Order and MRPs, as follows:

Agricultural Order [Page 27, Part D. Submittal of Technical Reports for All Dischargers – Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3; Condition No. 65]

MRP -01 [Page 12, Part 3.A.2], MRP -02 [Page 16, Part 5.A.2], and MRP -03 [Page 23, Part 8.A.2]:

“...In the interest of public health and safety, the Central Coast Water Board will not make available for public inspection, the precise location of any groundwater well monitored in compliance with this Order. Consistent with the ~~reporting of groundwater wells~~ display of public supply wells regulated by CDPH on GeoTracker, groundwater well location and data will only be referenced within a ~~one-half mile radius~~ one mile square of the actual well location.”

COMMENTS

Public notice of these proposed revisions was provided to interested parties on October 22, 2013. Interested parties must provide written comments by November 22, 2013.

RECOMMENDATION

Revise Order No. R3-2012-0011, Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands and Monitoring and Reporting Program Order Nos. R3-2012-0011-01; -02; and -03, proposed.

ATTACHMENT

1. July 11, 2013 Groundwater Cooperative Work Plan approval letter, titled “Agricultural Regulatory Program - Approval of Central Coast Cooperative Groundwater Program (CCCGP).”