



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region



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Edmund G. Brown Jr.  
Governor

Si necesita ayuda en español llame al (805) 549-3881.

July 8, 2011

如果協助必要用中文，請叫 (805) 542-4648.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
WRITTEN COMMENT OPPORTUNITY AND  
HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF  
DRAFT ORDER, MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM,  
AND SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE REGULATION OF WASTE  
DISCHARGES FROM IRRIGATED LANDS**

**Date:** September 1, 2011

**Time:** 8:15 AM

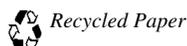
**Address:** 895 Aerovista Place, San Luis Obispo, CA 95076. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Cyndee Jones at (805) 549-3372 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) staff has proposed that the Water Board renew the current "Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Irrigated Lands," with revisions, (Draft Order) to control the discharges of wastes, including nitrate, pesticides, and sediment, to surface or groundwater and to protect beneficial uses of these waters and has proposed a revised monitoring and reporting program (MRP). The Water Board provided an opportunity for written comments on the Draft Order, the MRP, a subsequent environmental impact report (SEIR), and the Staff Report. The written comment deadline was January 3, 2011. A panel of Water Board members held a public hearing on March 17, 2011 and May 4, 2011, where it received oral comments on the Draft Order, MRP, and SEIR.

At the May 4, 2011 hearing, the Water Board Chair accepted into the record for this matter specifically identified documents submitted by the California Farm Bureau Federation, on behalf of agricultural entities (Ag Group) after the close of the January 3, 2011 comment period (extra documents), and directed staff to prepare an addendum to the Staff Report comparing the Ag Group proposal to the Draft Order with recommendations to the Water Board. The Addendum to the Staff Report and the Ag Group's extra documents are now available for public comment. The Water Board is now providing an opportunity for interested persons to submit written comments on the addendum to the Staff Report and the Ag Group extra documents. The Water Board will not accept additional written comments on the Draft Order, MRP, SEIR, or Staff Report. Written comments must be submitted by **5:00 pm on August 1, 2011**. Late comments will not be accepted into the record for this matter, unless approved by the Water Board Chair.

If there is a quorum of Board members at the September 1 hearing, the Water Board may consider adoption of the Draft Order and Monitoring and Reporting Program, and certification of the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report. If there is no quorum, the Water Board panel will hear comments and can provide further direction to staff.

*California Environmental Protection Agency*



Interested persons will have an opportunity to make oral comments at the hearing. Persons speaking to the Water Board are expected to summarize their written comments. Oral comments should focus on the Addendum to the Staff Report and the Ag Group extra documents. In order to give everyone an opportunity to be heard, oral comments are limited to **two minutes**. The Water Board Chair may adjust the time allocated to individual speakers for the orderly conduct of the hearing. Requests for extended speaking times along with brief justification, must be submitted to the Executive Officer (rbriggs@waterboards.ca.gov) as soon as possible, but no later than **August 8, 2011**. The Water Board Chair will decide whether to grant such requests, and staff will let the speakers know if the Water Board Chair granted the request.

#### KEY INFORMATION

<b>Scope of comments:</b>	<b>Written comments will only be accepted on the Addendum to the Staff Report evaluating the Agricultural Proposal</b>
<b>Written Comments due:</b>	<b>5:00 pm, August 1, 2011</b>
<b>Oral Comments at hearing:</b>	<b>Two minutes</b>
<b>Extra time requests due:</b>	<b>5:00 pm, August 8, 2011</b>

The Draft Order and MRP would require owners and operators of irrigated agricultural lands and facilities to, in summary, (1) control the discharges of waste by implementing management practices or operational changes so they do not violate water quality standards, (2) report on progress and effectiveness of practices or operational changes, and (3) monitor to verify compliance with the terms of the Draft Order.

The Draft Order, MRP, Final SEIR, and staff reports, including the Addendum to the Staff Report and Ag Group extra documents, for the September 1, 2011 hearing, are posted at the website below. Hardcopy documents are also available by request at the office of the Central Coast Water Board. [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water\\_issues/programs/ag\\_waivers/ag\\_order.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/ag_order.shtml)

#### **TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGRICULTURAL ORDER**

To receive Agricultural Order Renewal information, please subscribe to the Agricultural Discharges electronic mailing list at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/reg3\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg3_subscribe.shtml)

Interested persons may also request to have Agricultural Order information hardcopies via U. S. mail by contacting Barbara Brooks at [bbrooks@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:bbrooks@waterboards.ca.gov). Persons who subscribe to the electronic mailing list or who request a hard copy of information will be included in the Interested Persons List and will receive future notices of Water Board activities; those that do not make such a request will not be included on the list.

Questions regarding the Draft Order, MRP, SEIR, and Staff Report should be sent to [agorder@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:agorder@waterboards.ca.gov) or directed to Angela Schroeter, Agricultural Regulatory Program Manager, at (805) 542-4644 or Lisa McCann, Watershed Protection Section Manager, at (805) 549-3132.

cc: Enrolled Dischargers and Interested Parties List Agricultural Order  
File: Agricultural Order

