

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 576-2220

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO CONSIDER MODIFICATIONS OF
CEASE AND DESIST ORDER NO. R1-2004-0102
AND
TIME SCHEDULE ORDER NO. R1-2004-0103

IN THE MATTER OF
OCCIDENTAL COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT
AND
THE SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Sonoma County

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (Regional Water Board), proposes to revise Cease and Desist Order No. R1-2004-0102 and Time Schedule Order No. R1-2004-0103 issued to the Occidental County Sanitation District (CSD) and the Sonoma County Water Agency on November 29, 2004.

The enforcement orders have been revised to change: (1) the capital improvement project that will be completed by the Dischargers; (2) the time schedule for completion of the capital improvement project; and (3) the interim compliance project that must be completed by June 30, 2008, and to increase the frequency for submittal of progress reports from semi-annual to quarterly. The Dischargers presented an oral update to the Regional Water Board on June 21, 2005 and submitted a letter to the Regional Water Board on July 29, 2005 requesting modification of CDO No. R1-2004-0102 and TSO No. R1-2004-0103. The Dischargers have stated that the modifications are necessary on the basis that the combined Occidental/Camp Meeker project identified in the two Orders is no longer feasible due to the fact that anticipated grant funding is not available for Camp Meeker and has been significantly cut back for Occidental and the capital and annual costs would be too high for Occidental to fund alone. The Dischargers have proposed to upgrade the Occidental collection system by October 30, 2007 and to complete construction of the final capital improvement project by June 30, 2010.

A public hearing to consider comments and objections to the proposed order has been scheduled for October 12, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as practicable. The hearing will be held in the Regional Water Quality Control Board Hearing Room, located at 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California.

The Regional Water Board's staff, the dischargers, and other interested persons will be given an opportunity to present evidence in this matter at the hearing. Copies of the tentative Orders will be available for public review on September 28, 2005 or soon thereafter.

Interested persons should submit to the Regional Water Board office at 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California, 95403 written copies of all technical reports, testimony, and other evidentiary material concerning this issue by 5:00 p.m. on September 16, 2005. Written material received by the September 16, 2005 deadline will be submitted to the Regional Water Board members and all interested persons along with the full agenda materials.

Written material received after the above date will not be accepted except at the discretion of the Regional Water Board Chair. Untimely written material will not be accepted or incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice a party. The Chair may choose to modify this rule upon a showing of severe hardship (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Sections 648.1 and 648.4.).

All interested persons may speak at the hearing for this item. The time constraints for oral testimony or comments will be set by Regional Water Board Chair and usually allow no more than 10 minutes for each party and three minutes for other interested persons. A timer may be used and speakers are expected to honor the time limits. Where speakers can be grouped by affiliation or interest, such groups will be expected to select a spokesperson and not be repetitive.

Persons submitting written testimony and documentary evidence should be present at the hearing and available for cross-examination. Testimony at the hearing should be limited to a summary of the written evidence and testimony, provided, however, that upon a proper showing that evidence is available which was not available at the time the written testimony was submitted, the Regional Water Board may allow further submission of oral or written testimony.

The tentative Orders, related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office at 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. In light of staffing limitations, it is recommended that persons wishing to review said documents telephone the Regional Water Board Office at (707) 576-2220 to schedule a file review appointment. For further information, please call Regional Water Board staff member Cathleen Goodwin at (707) 576-2687.

Catherine E. Kuhlman
Executive Officer

August 17, 2005