
State Water Resources Control Board

February 27, 2013

Interested Parties, Agricultural Order (R3-2012-0011)

NOMINATION DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL ORDER (R3-2012-0011)

Dear Interested Parties,

The State Board Office of Public Participation (OPP) is extending the deadline and re-opening the solicitation of nominations for participants to serve on a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on behalf of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board). The TAC will review water quality projects pursuant to the Agricultural Order (Order) (Condition 11, p. 14). The Order (RB#-2012-0011) and other Agricultural Program information can be found on Central Coast Water Board's web page at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml

The Order provides the opportunity for growers to form third party groups to develop and implement alternative water quality management practices, cooperative monitoring and reporting programs, water quality improvement projects, or a combination of these to comply with the Order. The Order requires that these alternative efforts be reviewed and evaluated by a TAC for specific elements and that the TAC make recommendations to the Executive Officer regarding approval of the projects.

OPP and the Central Coast Water Board are planning on using the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP) to assist in providing initial facilitation services. The Central Coast Water Board will provide additional resources for facilitation and logistical support for the duration of the TAC. Participants must be willing to 1) meet a few to several times a year, potentially in different parts of the region, 2) read and comment on written proposals, 3) serve voluntarily for at least three years (until October 2015), (without compensation).

Purpose of the Technical Advisory Committee

The main purpose of the committee will be to review and recommend proposed projects, as described above, to the Executive Officer. In addition, the committee may also encourage and advise on project ideas and proposals so the committee's expertise and efforts are leveraged to help develop acceptable and effective water quality improvement projects.

Participants

The Order specifically requires the committee to be comprised of the following participants:

- Two researchers or academics skilled in agricultural practices and/or water quality;
- One farm advisor (e.g., from Natural Resources Conservation Service or Resource Conservation District);
- One grower representative;
- One environmental representative;
- One environmental justice or environmental health representative; and
- One regional board staff person.

Selection Criteria

The Central Coast Water Board is looking for nominees who fit the categories above. In addition, the Central Coast Water Board will consider participants who have expertise, experience and qualifications in the following areas:

- Technical knowledge and experience with wetland and related pollution treatment technologies (e.g., bioreactors), pollution removal, water quality improvement, performance measurement and indicators, water quality impacts from irrigated agriculture;
- Previous active participation in multi-interest groups, collaborative efforts, facilitated meetings and processes;
- Farm water quality practice/project implementation- grower outreach, soliciting and securing grower participation, project planning and management, project performance measurement;
- Broad perspective and representation of different types of stakeholders in each group (e.g., for growers, can represent different crops, all three Tiers per the Agricultural Order); or
- Currently recognized as leader in one of the areas above.

Selection Process

If you would like to be considered for one of the positions on the Technical Advisory Committee, please, fill out the attached form and send it with a statement of qualifications and two letters of support **by April 2, 2013** to:

Christine Sotelo
Office of Public Participation
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 "I" Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
OR christine.sotelo@waterboards.ca.gov

NOTE: If submitting electronically, include "Region 3 Agricultural Order TAC Nomination" as the subject of your email.

Nomination forms will be reviewed by OPP and CCP and nominees will be evaluated for consistency with the representation, experience and qualifications explained above. OPP and CCP will invite qualified nominees to participate on the Technical Advisory Committee by April 29, 2013

Central Coast Water Board staff solicited input from key stakeholders on the process for establishing the Technical Advisory Committee, the purpose of the committee and potential participants. State Board and Central Coast Water Board staff also modeled the process to establish this Technical Advisory Committee after other similar efforts to establish State Water Resources Control Board and other agency TACs.

If you have questions about the formation of the Technical Advisory Committee, please contact my staff, Christine Sotelo at 916.445.2317 or via email at christine.sotelo@waterboards.ca.gov

Sincerely,

//Original Signed by//

Gita Kapahi

Director, Office of Public Participation

Attachment

NOMINATION FORM - Due on April 2, 2013

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL ORDER (R3-2012-0011)

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Check the position you are interested in:

- Researcher or academic
- Farm advisor
- Grower representative
- Environmental representative
- Environmental justice/health representative

Check the experience, knowledge and skills you have:

- Technical knowledge and experience with wetland and related pollution treatment technologies (e.g., bioreactors), pollution removal and water quality improvement/performance measurement and indicators, water quality impacts from irrigated agriculture
- Previous participation in multi-interest groups, collaborative efforts, facilitated meetings and processes
- Farm water quality practice/project implementation- grower outreach, soliciting and securing grower participation, project planning and management, project performance measurement
- Willingness and time to 1) meet a few to several times a year, potentially in different parts of the region and 2) read and comment on written proposals

Please attach a statement of qualifications, two letters of support, and any other information you would like to provide.