



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Over 51 Years Serving Coastal Los Angeles and Ventura Counties
Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

Arnold Schwarzenegger
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To: Interested Persons

From: Deborah Neiter
Environmental Scientist, Standards/TMDL Unit
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date: July 29, 2004

Subject: 2004 TRIENNIAL REVIEW – NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS TO SOLICIT INPUT ON PRIORITY BASIN PLANNING ISSUES FOR THE LOS ANGELES REGION

The California Water Code (§13240) and the federal Clean Water Act (§303(c)) direct the Regional Board to periodically review and update, as necessary, the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan). This process is known as the Triennial Review. During the Triennial Review, revisions to the Basin Plan are prioritized and implemented through future Basin Plan amendments, based upon available resources. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) began its 2004 Triennial Review this summer. Regional Board staff is presently undertaking a comprehensive review of the Basin Plan to identify issues that should be addressed over the next three years.

The Basin Plan is designed to preserve and enhance water quality and protect the beneficial uses of regional surface and ground waters. Specifically, the Basin Plan designates beneficial uses for surface and ground waters and sets narrative and numerical objectives that must be attained or maintained to protect the designated beneficial uses and conform to the state's anti-degradation policy. Designated beneficial uses, narrative and numeric water quality objectives, and the state's anti-degradation policy, together, comprise the water quality standards for the Los Angeles Region. The Basin Plan also describes implementation programs to protect all waters in the region. In addition, the Basin Plan incorporates (by reference) all applicable State and Regional Board plans and policies and other pertinent water quality policies and regulations (e.g. California Toxics Rule or CTR, California Ocean Plan, etc.).

During the upcoming review, staff will identify and rank basin planning issues that need to be addressed in the near future. Staff will present the list of priorities to the Regional Board for their consideration and approval at a public hearing later this fall. The approved list will guide staff efforts to amend portions of the Basin Plan over the next several years.

Public involvement is an important part of this periodic review; therefore, we are holding three workshops to solicit public comments on basin planning priorities in advance of the Regional Board hearing. We would appreciate it if you would provide a written summary of any public comments you plan to give at the workshops. You can review the Los Angeles Region Basin Plan prior to these workshops at some regional libraries or at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/>. Click on "Information and Resources" on the far right bottom of the screen. Under "Regional Information", click on "Basin Plan" to link to the electronic version of the "Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties."

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Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

These workshops are scheduled as follows. Periodically check the Regional Board "Events Calendar" on our web site for more information, including the location of the Board Workshop in October, and directions to the workshops. The All-Day Workshop will include three 2-hour modules on beneficial uses, water quality objectives and implementation plans and policies. See the Regional Board website for an agenda.

ALL-DAY WORKSHOP

Monday, August 16, 2004, 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Southern California Association of Governments

818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor (San Bernardino Rooms A & B), Los Angeles, CA

EVENING WORKSHOP

Tuesday, August 31, 2004, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.

Oxnard Public Library, 251 S. A Street (Meeting Room B), Oxnard, CA

BOARD WORKSHOP

Thursday, October 7, 2004, 9:00 A.M.

Location TBD

Interested persons will also be invited to make written comments on the draft list of basin planning priorities prior to the Board hearing. Please share this invitation with other interested persons who may not be included on our distribution list. To RSVP for the All Day Workshop, please contact Theresa Rodgers at (213/576-6789) by August 11th. If you have questions about the Triennial Review process, contact Deborah Neiter at (213/576-6763) or Renee DeShazo at (213/576-6783). We look forward to your continued participation in our efforts to protect water quality.

