

## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

# NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT, PUBLIC HEARING, AND FILING<sup>1</sup>

### Concerning

### An Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins to Adopt Salinity Water Quality Objectives for the Lower San Joaquin River

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the Central Valley Water Board will accept comments regarding the development of an amendment (the "Proposed Amendment") to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins (Basin Plan). The Proposed Amendment will establish salinity water quality objectives (WQOs) in reach 83 of the Lower San Joaquin River and will incorporate an implementation program for the Lower San Joaquin River.

The Board's Basin Planning Program is considered a certified regulatory program, which means that the Board is exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report for basin planning activities under the California Environmental Quality Act. (Pub. Res. Code, § 21080.5; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15251(g).) The Board's environmental review of the proposed Basin Plan Amendment is instead contained in a draft Staff Report, which is considered part of the "substitute environmental documentation" or "SED", and which will be posted on the Board's website (below) along with the Proposed Amendment no later than **4 November 2016**:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/salinity/upstream\\_salt\\_boron/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/upstream_salt_boron/index.shtml)

Copies of the Proposed Amendment and draft SED also can be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114, on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Staff contact information: James Brownell at (916) 464-4675 or [james.brownell@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:james.brownell@waterboards.ca.gov).

The Board is inviting the public, stakeholders, and representatives of other agencies to submit written comments on the Proposed Amendment and draft SED from **4 November 2016** through **19 December 2016**. Written comments must be submitted to the above email or postal address by **19 December 2016** in order for them to be included in the administrative record.

**NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the Central Valley Water Board has scheduled a hearing on the following dates to receive oral comments regarding the Proposed Amendment and draft SED:

**Date:** 5 to 6 December 2016 (Please contact staff two weeks prior to the meeting for the exact date.)  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m.  
**Place:** Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

<sup>1</sup> Notice of Filing submitted under California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3779.

At the December hearing, Board staff will provide the Board with initial recommendations regarding the Proposed Amendment and draft SED. Though the Board may provide direction to Board staff, the Board will not take action on the Proposed Amendment at the December hearing. The Board will provide members of the public, stakeholders, and representatives of other agencies the opportunity to present oral comments to the Board on the Proposed Amendment and the adequacy of the SED. Oral presentations may be limited to 3-minutes at the discretion of the Board Chair. Groups are encouraged to designate a spokesperson and to contact Jim Brownell at [jbrownell@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jbrownell@waterboards.ca.gov) no later than 18 November if they anticipate requiring more than three minutes for oral comments. All exhibits presented at the hearings, including charts, graphs, and other testimony, must be left with the Board and will become part of the administrative record. Following the December hearing, Board staff will review comments received and prepare responses and final recommendations for the Board's consideration.

**NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the Central Valley Water Board has scheduled a hearing on the following dates to consider adoption of the Proposed Amendment and draft SED:

**Date:** 23 to 24 February 2017 (Please contact staff two weeks prior to the meeting for the exact date.)  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m.  
**Place:** Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

At the February hearing, the Board will consider all timely comments concerning the Proposed Amendment and draft SED along with any responses provided by Board staff, and will consider adoption of the Proposed Amendment and SED, including any proposed revisions to either. The final meeting agenda will be available at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board\\_info/meetings/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) at least 10 days before the meeting. Oral comments made at the February hearing must be limited in scope to those issues already raised during the public comment period. Oral presentations will be limited to 3-minutes at the discretion of the Board Chair.

The meeting facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzarda at (916) 464-4839 at least five working days prior to the meeting. Individuals requiring language translation services are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzarda at (916) 464-4839 at least 14 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.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

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Original Signed By  
Adam Laputz, Assistant Executive Officer

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20 October 2016  
Date