

ITEM: 9

SUBJECT: Status report on the development of the Groundwater Quality Protection Strategy For The Central Valley Region

BOARD ACTION: *No Board action. Information Item Only.*

BACKGROUND: On 4 December 2008, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Resolution No. R5-2008-0181 in support of Developing a Groundwater Strategy for the Central Valley Region (Strategy). The resolution directs staff to develop a long-term strategy that will identify high priority activities, recognize the water boards core responsibilities and existing commitments; and build on existing processes.

The resolution acknowledged the importance of an active stakeholder process. To that end four workshops to solicit stakeholder input were held the week of 24 August 2009 in Rancho Cordova, Redding, Delano, and Fresno. Over 220 stakeholders attended one of the four workshops. Stakeholders represented a variety of interests including, food processors, water purveyors, irrigation districts, conservation districts, rural communities, agricultural interests, federal and state agencies, cities, counties, elected officials, environmental groups, non-profit organizations, and more.

The successful workshops produced a large volume of information. Based on comments received at the workshops, stakeholders view developing this Strategy as an important task for the Board and did not want to see it rushed. As a result of stakeholder comments, the volume of information received, and reduced staff time from state mandatory furlough days there is a need to revise the Strategy time schedule. At this meeting, staff will present a summary of comments received during the workshops and a revised time line that includes presenting the draft Strategy to the Board for consideration at the June 2010 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: No recommendation, information item only.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review _____

10 December 2009
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Rancho Cordova, CA 95670