

Item Number 8
Supporting Document 6
Notice of Public Hearing and
Opportunity to Comment
December 8, 2020

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

October 16, 2020

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT NON-REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN DIEGO BASIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) will hold a public hearing on a proposed Basin Plan Amendment that would make non-regulatory updates to Chapters 2, 3, and 4 of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan). The San Diego Water Board intends to consider adopting the Proposed Amendment during a public hearing that will commence on the following date and time:

December 8, 2020, 9:00 A.M.

No Physical Meeting Location – Webcast Only

(Authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Orders [N-29-20](#) and [N-33-20](#).)

Video broadcast of meetings will be available at:

<https://cal-span.org/>

A meeting agenda, which will indicate any changes in the meeting location and may provide other specific information concerning this hearing, will be posted prior to the hearing on the San Diego Water Board website at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_info/agendas/

The procedures governing San Diego Water Board meetings may be found in California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 647, et seq. and are available upon request. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, this meeting will occur solely via remote presence. Links for the meeting, including a phone call option, will be posted on: <https://cal-span.org/>

For those who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_info/remote_meeting/

Background

Water quality control plans form the basis for regulatory actions by California Regional Water Quality Control Boards taken to protect waters of the State and to assure compliance with the California Water Code and other applicable laws and regulations. The San Diego Water Board is proposing non-regulatory updates to the Basin Plan. The proposed updates include removing and/or updating outdated tables and text, identifying and incorporating applicable statewide regulations adopted by the State Water Board, adding hyperlinks to state and federal regulations, Resolutions, Plans and Policies, correcting typographical errors, and rearranging and renumbering tables. The proposed Basin Plan update is consistent with the San Diego Water Board's [2018 Triennial Review Project No. 6](#) and with the San Diego Water Board's [Practical Vision](#), Chapter 4 (Proactive Public Outreach and Communication).

The Basin Plan is a dynamic, rather than fixed, document. It requires periodic updates to ensure that the information in it is current. Editorial changes such as corrections, clarifications and general formatting are considered “non-regulatory” in nature. They do not change or impose any new requirements on the regulated community. These “non-regulatory” changes simply improve the overall accuracy, readability, and utility of the Basin Plan. Providing the public with user-friendly access to helpful and easily understood information is an essential component of the Practical Vision.

The proposed updates to Chapters 2, 3, and 4 of the Basin Plan were previously adopted by the San Diego Water Board at its March 5, 2020 Board Meeting through Resolution No. R9-2020-0036 (Resolution). The Resolution grants the Executive Officer the authority to make minor, non-substantive modifications to the language or formatting of the adopted Basin Plan amendment. Since then, significant formatting changes have been added to make the Basin Plan chapters compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Those changes and several additional non-substantive edits are still considered to be “non-regulatory” in nature. However, in order to be transparent, the San Diego Water Board is recirculating the updates for a second public review period prior to submitting them to the State Water Board for further approval.

Public Participation and Submission of Written Comments

Public participation is an important part of the Basin Plan amendment process. With this notice, the San Diego Water Board invites the public to submit written comments on the draft proposed updates to Chapters 2, 3, and 4 of the Basin Plan. The public may provide comments during the 45-day public solicitation period from October 16, 2020 to November 30, 2020. The San Diego Water Board will prepare a response to comments document to address written comments received by **5:00 p.m. on November 30, 2020**. Comments submitted via email prior to November 30, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. are accepted. The San Diego Water Board prefers emailed comments be in text-searchable format. Comments should be emailed to sandiego@waterboards.ca.gov, with “2020 Non-Regulatory Basin Plan Amendment: 863277” in the subject line.

Comments may also be mailed to:
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108
Attn: Ms. Michelle Santillan

Availability of Documents

Interested persons may view the staff report and proposed Basin Plan editorial changes at the San Diego Water Board website at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/non_regulatory_updates/

Interested Persons List

To receive future notices pertaining to Basin Planning projects, please subscribe to the electronic mailing list at (select "Basin Planning Issues"):

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg9_subscribe.html

Accessibility

The meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals who have special accommodation or language needs, please contact Ms. Chris Blank by phone at (619) 521-3382 or by email at Christina.Blank@waterboards.ca.gov at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Staff Contact

Please direct questions about this notice to Ms. Michelle Santillan at (619) 521-3369 or via email at Michelle.Santillan@waterboards.ca.gov.