California Water Quality Monitoring Council

Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Jonathan Bishop & Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Co-Chairs

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Governor

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

Wednesday, December 8, 2010 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Conference Room 2540 – Twenty-fifth Floor Joe Serna Jr. Cal/EPA Headquarters Building 1001 I Street, Sacramento

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Water Quality Monitoring Council will meet to discuss issues relating to its responsibilities pursuant to CA Senate Bill 1070 (Kehoe, 2006).

BACKGROUND

In November 2007, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by the Secretaries of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) and the California Natural Resources Agency to establish the California Water Quality Monitoring Council (Monitoring Council). The MOU was mandated by CA Senate Bill 1070 (Kehoe, 2006) and requires the boards, departments and offices within Cal/EPA and the Natural Resources Agency to integrate and coordinate their water quality and related ecosystem monitoring, assessment, and reporting.

Monitoring Council members include representatives from Cal/EPA, the Natural Resources Agency, the Department of Public Health, the public, citizen monitoring groups, regulated publicly owned treatment works, regulated stormwater, agriculture, and water supply interests, and the scientific community. The Monitoring Council is also required by SB 1070 to consult with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, whose representatives attend all Monitoring Council meetings.

SB 1070 and the MOU require that the Monitoring Council develop specific recommendations to improve the coordination and cost-effectiveness of water quality and ecosystem monitoring and assessment, enhance the integration of monitoring data across departments and agencies, and increase public accessibility to monitoring data and assessment information. While the Monitoring Council may recommend new monitoring or management initiatives, it will build on existing effort to the greatest extent possible.

California Water Code Section 13181(b) requires that the Monitoring Council report to Cal/EPA and the Natural Resources Agency "with regard to its recommendations for maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of existing water quality data collection and dissemination, and for ensuring that collected data are maintained and available for use by decisionmakers and the public." Those initial recommendations were submitted on December 1, 2008.

MEETING PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this meeting is for the Monitoring Council to plan further implementation of their initial recommendations, and to develop additional recommendations to Cal/EPA and the Natural Resources Agency for a comprehensive water quality monitoring program strategy pursuant to California Water Code Section 13181(e). Meeting topics will include:

- Annual progress reports from workgroups
- Annual reporting to Agency Secretaries
- Monitoring Council governance
- Potential amendments to enabling legislation
- Finalize Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy recommendations
- Dates for 2011 Monitoring Council meetings

DOCUMENT AVAILABLITY

The meeting agenda and related information will be available at least 10 days prior the meeting on the State Water Board website at:

http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/meetings/

Paper copies of the agenda and related documents will also be available upon request by writing or calling:

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LOCATION & ACCESS

For a map to the Cal/EPA Building, visit: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/location.htm.

For security purposes, all visitors are required to sign in and receive a badge at the Visitor Center off the lobby upon entering the building. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Please allow up to 15 minutes for this process.

Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the State Water Board's Office of Employee Assistance, at (916) 341-5881.

Remote access to the meeting will be available via WebEx and teleconference. Details will appear in the agenda.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Jon Marshack at (916) 341-5514 or jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov.

To receive email updates regarding activities of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, subscribe to the "SB 1070 - Water Quality Monitoring Council" mailing list at the following website http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml.

November 24, 2010

Date

Jon B. Marshack, D.Env.

Monitoring Council Coordinator