



# State Water Resources Control Board

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**Linda S. Adams**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

**Tam M. Doduc, Board Chair**  
1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5455  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100  
FAX (916) 341-5463 • <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>

**Arnold Schwarzenegger**  
Governor

## **NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON TOTAL RESIDUAL CHLORINE AND CHLORINE-PRODUCED OXIDANTS POLICY OF CALIFORNIA**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will now accept additional comments on the revised proposed Total Residual Chlorine and Chlorine-Produced Oxidants Policy of California (Policy) and accompanying revised Substitute Environmental Document (SED). The Policy will affect entities who discharge to the State's inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries and will be implemented through the issuance of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. The purpose of this Policy is to: (1) establish total residual chlorine (TRC) and chlorine-produced oxidant (CPO) objectives to protect aquatic life beneficial uses by adopting U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) 304(a) criteria; (2) provide consistent procedures that apply to NPDES permits that contain one or more numeric water quality-based effluent limitations to regulate discharges of TRC or CPO; and (3) supply a basis for equitable enforcement of violations of TRC or CPO effluent limitations in NPDES permits.

### **BACKGROUND**

In California, the State Water Board and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) have regulatory authority over discharges to waters of the State. Each Regional Water Board has its own basin plan providing narrative or numerical water quality standards and objectives for TRC and CPO. However, there is no statewide policy for regulating these pollutants in NPDES permits.

In 1985, USEPA published revised water quality criteria for chlorine and recommended the adoption of these criteria for freshwater and saltwater. The State Water Board is considering adoption of the revised proposed Policy to provide a consistent statewide approach to implementing USEPA's revised chlorine criteria. In the absence of such a Policy, the Regional Water Boards will implement the criteria using existing basin plans, applicable State and federal regulations, USEPA guidance for regulating toxic pollutants, and existing Regional Water Board practices. The lack of statewide consistency and potential harm to aquatic life are not the only issues surrounding TRC and CPO criteria. In 1999, the Clean Water Enforcement and Pollution Prevention Act was passed, adding enforcement provisions that limited the ability of Regional Water Boards to interpret violations. A statewide policy would bring consistency to permitting, enforcement decisions, and protection to aquatic life.

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

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## AVAILABILITY OF THE REVISED PROPOSED POLICY AND SED

The revised proposed Policy and revised SED are available on the State Water Board's Web site at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/iswp/chlorine.html>. In addition late comments are available for review and comment at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/iswp/comments\\_chlorine.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/iswp/comments_chlorine.html). Copies can also be received by contacting: Regina Linville, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 341-5579, FAX: (916) 341-5584, email: [RLinville@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:RLinville@waterboards.ca.gov)

## SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

**Comment letters to the State Water Board must be received by 5 p.m. on July 14, 2006.** After the July deadline, State Water Board staff will not accept additional written comments unless the State Water Board determines that such comments should be accepted or unless changes are made to the revised proposed Policy before the State Water Board meeting. Please send comments on the revised proposed Policy to:

Song Her, Clerk to the Board, by email at [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov), (916) 341-5620 (fax), or addressed to State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Please also indicate in the subject line, "Comment Letter - Chlorine Policy.

Please direct questions about this notice to Rik Rasmussen, Division of Water Quality, at (916) 341-5549 or ([rrasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:rrasmussen@waterboards.ca.gov)) or Senior Staff Counsel Sheila Vassey at (916) 341-5173 or ([svassey@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:svassey@waterboards.ca.gov)).

Originally Signed by Selica Potter for  
Song Her  
Clerk to the Board

June 30, 2006  
Date