

Linda S. Adams Secretary for Environmental Protection **State Water Resources Control Board**



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Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor

REVISED

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WORKSHOP AND HEARING ABOUT THE PROPOSED REGULATIONS AND WAIVER FOR ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS (SEPTIC SYSTEMS) AND THE ASSOCIATED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

NEW DATES AND TIMES FOR SANTA ROSA WORKSHOP, POSTPONEMENT OF SACRAMENTO HEARING, AND EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD

The Santa Rosa workshop on proposed septic systems regulations to implement Assembly Bill 885 has been rescheduled for February 9, 2009. The Sacramento hearing on the regulations (originally set for February 9) is postponed and will be rescheduled once the regulations have been redrafted. A new notice will be provided when it is rescheduled. The public comment period on the proposed regulations is extended by two weeks to February 23, 2009. The changes described below do not change the scope of the workshop and hearing as originally announced.

The November 12, 2008 Notice available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/septic_tanks remains in effect except for the changes noted below:

Session 1 of the Santa Rosa Workshop will be held on February 9, 2009, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Session 2 of the Santa Rosa workshop will be held on February 9, 2009, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

(The sessions will be identical in format. Participants may attend one or both.)

> Workshop Location Wells Fargo Center for the Arts Ruth Finley Person Theater 50 Mark West Springs Road Santa Rosa, CA 95403

> > and

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The Sacramento hearing originally scheduled for February 9, 2009 is postponed until further notice. and

The written public comment period is extended to February 23, 2009 by 12 noon.

SUBJECT OF THE RESCHEDULED WORKSHOP

The workshop is intended to hear public comments on three items:

- Proposed amendments to Title 27 of the California Water Code (Division 5), regulating septic systems, also known as Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems;
- 2. Statewide Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from septic systems; and
- 3. Draft Environmental Impact Report for the two regulatory actions above.

The three documents above can be obtained using the contact information below or from the State Water Board website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/septic_tanks/.

REASON FOR CHANGES

As a result of a large public turnout and subsequent concerns for public safety, Water Board staff was unable to conduct the January 27 workshop in Santa Rosa. Because the Water Board is committed to hearing from the public on this important issue, the Workshop has been rescheduled to a new date and a larger venue. The rescheduled Santa Rosa workshop will be held at the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, in the Ruth Finley Person Theater (approximate capacity of 1,500 people). To better serve everyone, there will be two sessions that day. Each session will include an identical staff presentation followed by a public comment period. Participants can choose to attend either or both sessions.

In light of the large number of public comments received to date, the hearing that was scheduled for February 9, 2009, in Sacramento has been postponed. The State Water Board is sensitive to the concerns raised at the public workshops, and the regulations will be revised following consideration of the public comments, as appropriate. The public hearing will be rescheduled to hear public comments on the revised regulations.

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SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Because of this delay, and in order for the State Water Board to fully consider all public comments before moving forward on this issue, the Water Board is extending the period to receive written comments. Written comments must be received on February 23, 2009 by 12:00 noon. Written comments must be submitted to:

Mr. Todd Thompson, P.E. Division of Water Quality State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street P.O. Box 2231 Sacramento, CA 95812 FAX: (916) 341-5463

Email comments should be sent to: AB885@waterboards.ca.gov

For any questions regarding this matter, please phone Mr. Todd Thompson at (916) 341-5518 or Ms. Gita Kapahi, Director of Public Participation, at (916) 341-5501.

January 30, 2009

Date

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Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board

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