

Attachment 4

(The Resolution was previously numbered incorrectly as R3-2006-0019)

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
895 Aerovista Place Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, Ca 93401-7906**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE OF FILING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**

**TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD FOR PATHOGENS
FOR WATSONVILLE SLOUGH, ADOPTION OF THE WATSONVILLE SLOUGH
WATERSHED LIVESTOCK WASTE DISCHARGE PROHIBITION, AND DE-DESIGNATION
OF THE SHELLFISH BENEFICIAL USE IN WATSONVILLE SLOUGH AND TRIBUTARIES
AS AMMENDMENTS TO
THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COAST BASIN**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board), will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution amending the Water Quality Control Plan of the Central Coast Region. If accepted, the amendments will incorporate the Total Maximum Daily Load for Pathogens in Watsonville Slough, the Watsonville Slough Watershed Livestock Waste Discharge Prohibition, and the de-designation of the SHELL beneficial use in Watsonville Slough and tributaries, thereby revising the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). At the conclusion of the hearing the Central Coast Water Board will consider approval of the proposed amendments. The Basin Plan establishes measures to protect beneficial uses of water and achieve water quality objectives.

Actions to amend the Water Quality Control Plan for Region 3 will be taken in accordance with a regulatory program exempt under Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, Section 21000 et seq.) and with other applicable laws and regulations.

The Central Coast Water Board is proposing to adopt a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for pathogens in Watsonville Slough. The purpose of the TMDL is to protect the Slough from the degradation of water quality by protecting beneficial uses from the problems associated with elevated fecal coliform levels as well as other potentially pathogenic organisms. The Water Board is also proposing to adopt a prohibition on livestock waste discharges to waters in the Watsonville Slough Watershed. The prohibition is required to address nonpoint source discharges from various landuse activities, including livestock and grazing operations and the application of manure on irrigated farmland. The Water Board is also proposing to de-designate the SHELL beneficial use in Watsonville Slough and its tributaries, Struve, Hanson, Harkins, and Gallighan Sloughs where it is not an appropriate beneficial use designation. Copies of the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan (in the form of a staff report, a functionally equivalent document which includes an Environmental Checklist, and draft amendment for adoption) are available on the Internet at:

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3/TMDL/PublicCommentParticipation.htm>.

Please see at the website: "Staff Report for Total Maximum Daily Load for Pathogens in Watsonville Slough." The proposed amendments to the Basin Plan are also available by request at the office of the Regional Board please contact: Kelley Blackshear at 805-549-3865.

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The public hearing is scheduled as follows:

Date: March 24, 2006

Time: 8:30 a.m.

**Place: Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Drive, Ste. 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906**

Time limits may be imposed on oral presentations at the hearing. Additional or alternative rules or regulations consistent with the general purpose of the amendment and complementary to the specific proposed rules may be developed at the hearing as a logical outgrowth of this hearing.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Regional Board will consider certification of the environmental document and approval of the proposed amendments.

The public comment period will occur from **December 19, 2005 to February 1, 2006**. All evidence must be submitted in advance of the hearing. Policy statements and other comments should also be submitted in writing in advance of the hearing, but limited oral presentations may be made at the hearing. The Central Coast Water Board must receive written comments and all written evidence **by 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2006**. Written materials must be sent to Dominic Roques at the address listed above. **Written material received after 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2006 will not be provided to Board members or become part of the record**, unless the Chair rules that no person (including the Central Coast Water Board) will be prejudiced by the late submission. A request to submit late materials must explain why the materials were not submitted earlier. The Chair will rule at or before the hearing. Late submissions that consist of evidence (as opposed to policy statements or comments) will generally be deemed prejudicial unless the Central Coast Water Board and all interested persons have time to consider the evidence before the meeting.

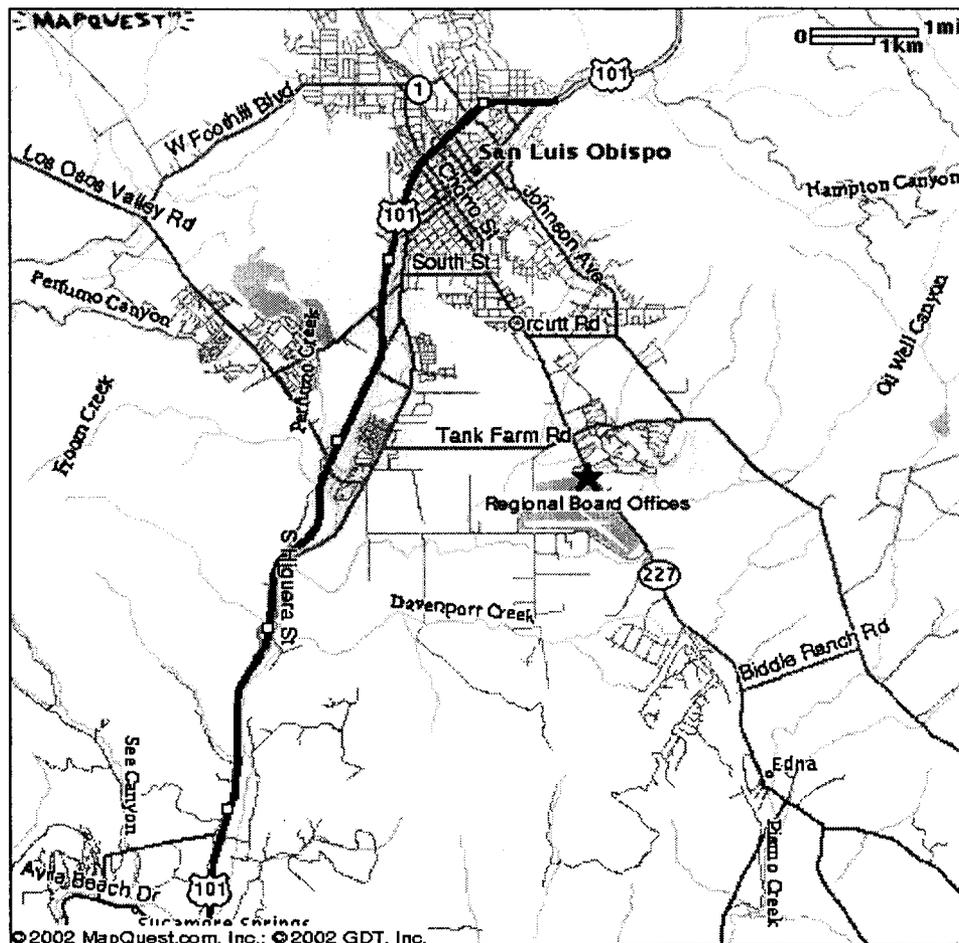
Your timely submittal will allow staff and the Regional Board members to consider your comments before taking final action at the meeting to be held on March 24, 2006.

Copies of the existing Basin Plan are located at libraries in major cities throughout the region, at the office of the Regional Board, and on the Internet at www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb3/.

The hearing and public parking location are indicated on the attached map. The location of the hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact **Carol Hewitt at 805-549-3503** at least five working days prior to March 24, 2006. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

For additional information on this proposed Basin Plan amendment, please call Dominic Roques at 805-542-4780.

Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906
805-549-3147



Regional Board Offices:

From airport: turn left on Airport Drive (located between airport parking lots), go to Aerovista Place and turn right. Turn right into parking lot before Broad Street (State Route 227).

From 101 North: take Los Osos Valley Rd. exit, turn left until S. Higuera, turn left until Tank Farm Rd., turn right until Broad Street (SR 227), turn right until Aerovista Place, turn right and park in first parking lot on left.

From 101 South: take Los Osos Valley Rd. exit, turn right until S. Higuera, turn left until Tank Farm Rd., turn right until Broad Street (SR 227), turn right until Aerovista Place, turn right and park in first parking lot on left.