

CHAPTER 4. REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL [13200. - 13286.9.]

(Chapter 4 added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

Article 1. Organization and Membership of Regional Boards [13200. - 13208.]

(Article 1 added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13200. *[Regional board boundaries]*

The state is divided, for the purpose of this division, into nine regions:

(a) North Coast region, which comprises all basins including Lower Klamath Lake and Lost River Basins draining into the Pacific Ocean from the California-Oregon state line southerly to the southerly boundary of the watershed of Estero de San Antonio and Stemple Creek in Marin and Sonoma Counties.

(b) San Francisco Bay region, which comprises San Francisco Bay, Suisun Bay, from Sacramento River and San Joaquin River westerly from a line which passes between Collinsville and Montezuma Island and follows thence the boundary common to Sacramento and Solano Counties and that common to Sacramento and Contra Costa Counties to the westerly boundary of the watershed of Markley Canyon in Contra Costa County, all basins draining into the bays and rivers westerly from this line, and all basins draining into the Pacific Ocean between the southerly boundary of the north coastal region and the southerly boundary of the watershed of Pescadero Creek in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties.

(c) Central Coast region, which comprises all basins, including Carrizo Plain in San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties, draining into the Pacific Ocean from the southerly boundary of the watershed of Pescadero Creek in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties to the southeasterly boundary, located in the westerly part of Ventura County, of the watershed of Rincon Creek.

(d) Los Angeles region, which comprises all basins draining into the Pacific Ocean between the southeasterly boundary, located in the westerly part of Ventura County, of the watershed of Rincon Creek and a line which coincides with the southeasterly boundary of Los Angeles County from the ocean to San Antonio Peak and follows thence the divide between San Gabriel River and Lytle Creek drainages to the divide between Sheep Creek and San Gabriel River drainages.

(e) Santa Ana region, which comprises all basins draining into the Pacific Ocean between the southeasterly boundary of the Los Angeles region and a line which follows the drainage divide between Muddy and Moro Canyons from the ocean to the summit of San Joaquin Hills; thence along the divide between lands draining into Newport Bay and into Laguna Canyon to Niguel Road; thence along Niguel Road and Los Aliso Avenue to the divide between Newport Bay and Aliso Creek drainages; thence along that divide and the southeasterly boundary of the Santa Ana River drainage to the divide between Baldwin Lake and Mojave Desert drainages; thence along that divide to the divide between Pacific Ocean and Mojave Desert drainages.

(f) San Diego region, which comprises all basins draining into the Pacific Ocean between the southern boundary of the Santa Ana region and the California-Mexico boundary.

(g) Central Valley region, which comprises all basins including Goose Lake Basin draining into the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers to the easterly boundary of the San Francisco Bay region near Collinsville. The Central Valley region shall have section offices in the Sacramento Valley and the San Joaquin Valley.

(h) Lahontan region, which comprises all basins east of the Santa Ana, Los Angeles and Central Valley regions from the California-Oregon boundary to the

southerly boundary located in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties of the watersheds draining into Antelope Valley, Mojave River Basin and Dry Lake Basin near Ivanpah.

(i) Colorado River Basin region, which comprises all basins east of the Santa Ana and San Diego regions draining into the Colorado River, Salton Sea and local sinks from the southerly boundary of the Lahontan region to the California-Mexico boundary.

The regions defined and described in this section shall be as precisely delineated on official maps of the department and include all of the areas within the boundaries of the state.

For purposes of this section the boundaries of the state extend three nautical miles into the Pacific Ocean from the line of mean lower low water marking the seaward limits of inland waters and three nautical miles from the line of mean lower low water on the mainland and each offshore island.

Nothing in this section shall limit the power conferred by this chapter to regulate the disposal of waste into ocean waters beyond the boundaries of the state.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13201. [Regional board members]

(a) There is a regional board for each of the regions described in Section 13200. Each board shall consist of seven members appointed by the Governor, each of whom shall represent, and act on behalf of, all the people and shall reside or have a principal place of business within the region.

(b) Except as specified in subdivision (c), each member shall be appointed on the basis of his or her demonstrated interest or proven ability in the field of water quality, including water pollution control, water resource management, water use, or water protection. The Governor shall consider appointments from the public and nonpublic sectors. In regard to appointments from the nonpublic sector, the Governor shall consider including members from key economic sectors in a given region, such as agriculture, industry, commercial activities, forestry, and fisheries.

(c) At least one member shall be appointed as a public member who is not required to meet the criteria established pursuant to subdivision (b).

(d) All persons appointed to a regional board shall be subject to Senate confirmation, but shall not be required to appear before any committee of the Senate for purposes of such confirmation unless specifically requested to appear by the Senate Committee on Rules.

(e) Insofar as practicable, appointments shall be made in such manner as to result in representation on the board from all parts of the region.

(f) Insofar as practicable, appointments shall be made in a manner as to result in representation on the board from diverse experiential backgrounds.

(g) Each member shall be appointed on the basis of his or her ability to attend substantially all meetings of the board and to actively discharge all duties and responsibilities of a member of the board.

(h) The reduction in the number of members of each regional board required by the act that added this subdivision shall be achieved according to the ordinary expiration of the terms of incumbents and other vacancies. Notwithstanding Section 13202 the Governor shall not fill a vacancy on any regional board until the number of members serving on that regional board falls below seven members. When the numbers of members serving on the regional board falls below seven members, the Governor shall appoint or reappoint individuals pursuant to this section.

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 39, Sec. 117. Effective June 27, 2012.)

§ 13202. [Terms]

(a) Each member of a regional board shall be appointed for a term of four years. Vacancies shall be immediately filled by the Governor for the unexpired portion of the terms in which they occur.

(b) The term of office for members of each regional board shall be staggered and shall expire in accordance with the following schedule:

- (1) Two members on September 30, 2013, and every four years thereafter.
- (2) Two members on September 30, 2014, and every four years thereafter.
- (3) Two members on September 30, 2015, and every four years thereafter.
- (4) One member on September 30, 2016, and every four years thereafter.

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 39, Sec. 118. Effective June 27, 2012.)

§ 13203. [Official designations]

The official designation of each regional board shall be: California Regional Water Quality Control Board, (region name).

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13204. [Regional board meetings]

Each regional board shall hold at least six regular meetings each calendar year and the additional special meetings or hearings as shall be called by the chairperson or any two members of the regional board.

(Amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 288, Sec. 19. Effective January 1, 2011.)

§ 13205. [Member compensation]

Each member of a regional board shall receive one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day during which that member is engaged in the performance of official duties, except that no member shall be entitled to receive the one hundred dollars (\$100) compensation if the member otherwise receives compensation from other sources for performing those duties. The total compensation received by members of each regional board shall not exceed, in any one fiscal year, the sum of thirteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500). A member

may decline compensation. In addition to the compensation, each member shall be reimbursed for necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in the performance of official duties.

(Amended by Stats. 1989, Ch. 536, Sec. 1.)

§ 13206. [Eligibility of public officers]

Public officers associated with any area of government, including planning or water, and whether elected or appointed, may be appointed to, and may serve contemporaneously as members of, a regional board.

(Amended by Stats. 1978, Ch. 622.)

§ 13207. [Conflict of interest]

(a) A member of a regional board shall not participate in any board action pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 13260) of this chapter, or Article 1 (commencing with Section 13300) of Chapter 5, in which he or she has a disqualifying financial interest in the decision within the meaning of Section 87103 of the Government Code.

(b) A board member shall not participate in any proceeding before any regional board or the state board as a consultant or in any other capacity on behalf of any waste discharger.

(c) Upon the request of any person, or on the Attorney General's own initiative, the Attorney General may file a complaint in the superior court for the county in which the regional board has its principal office alleging that a board member has knowingly violated this section and the facts upon which the allegation is based and asking that the member be removed from office. Further proceedings shall be in accordance as near as may be with rules governing civil actions. If after trial the court finds that the board member has knowingly violated this section it shall pronounce judgment that the member be removed from office.

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 39, Sec. 119. Effective June 27, 2012.)

§ 13208. [Executive officer conflict of interest]

(a) No regional board executive officer may make, participate in making, or use his or her official position to influence, any decision of the regional board, or made on behalf of the regional board, affecting any person or entity subject to waste discharge requirements under this division if the regional board executive officer has received, during the previous two years, 10 percent or more of his or her income from that person or entity.

(b) "Income," for purposes of this section, has the same meaning as in Section 82030 of the Government Code.

(Added by Stats. 1993, Ch. 773, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1994.)

Article 2. General Provisions Relating to Powers and Duties of Regional Boards [13220. - 13228.15.]

(Article 2 added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13220. [Organization]

Each regional board shall do all of the following:

(a) Establish an office.

(b) Select one of its members as chairperson at the first regular meeting held each year.

(c) Appoint as its confidential employee, who may be exempt from civil service under Section 4 of Article VII of the California Constitution, and fix the salary of, an executive officer who shall meet technical qualifications as defined by the state board. The executive officer shall serve at the pleasure of the regional board.

(d) Employ any other assistants that may be determined necessary to assist the executive officer.

(Amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 288, Sec. 20. Effective January 1, 2011.)

§ 13221. [Oaths and subpoenas]

Members of the regional board shall be empowered to administer oaths and issue subpoenas for the attendance and giving of testimony by witnesses and for the production of evidence in any proceeding before the board in any part of the region. The provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 1075) of Part I of Division 2 of this code shall apply to regional boards within their own regions, where they shall have the same power as the state board within the state.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13222. [Regulations]

Pursuant to such guidelines as the state board may establish, each regional board shall adopt regulations to carry out its powers and duties under this division.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13223. [Delegation]

(a) Each regional board may delegate any of its powers and duties vested in it by this division to its executive officer excepting only the following: (1) the promulgation of any regulation; (2) the issuance, modification, or revocation of any water quality control plan, water quality objectives, or waste discharge requirement; (3) the issuance, modification, or revocation of any cease and desist order; (4) the holding of any hearing on water quality control plans; and (5) the application to the Attorney General for judicial enforcement but excluding cases of specific delegation in a cease and desist order and excluding

the cases described in subdivision (c) of Section 13002 and Sections 13304 and 13340.

(b) Whenever any reference is made in this division to any action that may be taken by a regional board, such reference includes such action by its executive officer pursuant to powers and duties delegated to him by the regional board.

(Amended by Stats. 1970, Ch. 918.)

§ 13224. [Policy statements]

Each regional board may issue policy statements relating to any water quality matter within its jurisdiction.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13225. [Responsibilities]

Each regional board, with respect to its region, shall do all of the following:

(a) Coordinate with the state board and other regional boards, as well as other state agencies with responsibility for water quality, with respect to water quality control matters, including the prevention and abatement of water pollution and nuisance.

(b) Encourage and assist in waste disposal programs, as needed and feasible, and upon application of any person, advise the applicant of the condition to be maintained in any disposal area or receiving waters into which the waste is being discharged.

(c) Require as necessary any state or local agency to investigate and report on any technical factors involved in water quality control or to obtain and submit analyses of water; provided that the burden, including costs, of such reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained therefrom.

(d) Request enforcement by appropriate federal, state and local agencies of their respective water quality control laws.

(e) Report rates of compliance with the requirements of this division.

(f) Recommend to the state board projects which the regional board considers eligible for any financial assistance which may be available through the state board.

(g) Report to the state board and appropriate local health officer any case of suspected contamination in its region.

(h) File with the state board, at its request, copies of the record of any official action.

(i) Take into consideration the effect of its actions pursuant to this chapter on the California Water Plan adopted or revised pursuant to Division 6 (commencing with Section 10000) and on any other general or coordinated governmental plan looking toward the development, utilization, or conservation of the water resources of the state.

(j) Encourage coordinated regional planning and action for water quality control.

(k) In consultation with the state board, identify and post on the Internet a summary list of all enforcement actions undertaken by that regional board and the dispositions of those actions, including any fines assessed. This list shall be updated at least quarterly.

(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 293, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2007.)

§ 13226. [Waste disposal sites]

Consistent with classifications adopted by the state board pursuant to Section 13172, each regional board shall review and classify any proposed or currently operating waste disposal site, except any sewage treatment plant or any site which primarily contains fertilizer or radioactive material, within its region.

(Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 90, Sec. 5. Effective March 2, 1982.)

§ 13227. [Postclosure plans]

(a) Each regional board, with respect to its region, shall review the facility closure and postclosure plans submitted pursuant to Section 25246 of the Health and Safety Code, to ensure that water quality is adequately protected during closure and the post-closure maintenance period.

(b) The regional board shall approve the facility closure and postclosure plans if it finds that the plans comply with applicable state and federal laws and regulations relating to water quality protection and monitoring.

(c) The regional board may condition its approval of the plans in accordance with the requirements of this section.

(Amended by Stats. 1988, Ch. 1631, Sec. 46.)

§ 13228. [Designation of board]

(a) Concerning any matter that may be submitted to a regional board by a person or entity that is subject to regulation by more than one regional board, the person or entity may submit the matter to one of those regional boards if both of the following requirements are met:

(1) The person or entity submits a written request to all affected regional boards that one regional board be designated to regulate the matter.

(2) All affected regional boards agree in writing to the designation. Unless the board of any affected regional board denies the request, the executive officer of a regional board may grant a request submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) on behalf of that board.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), any regional board that is affected by a matter for which a designation is made in accordance with subdivision (a) may take enforcement action with regard to that matter.

(Added by Stats. 1994, Ch. 536, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1995.)

§ 13228.14. [Hearing panels; translation of Bagley-Keene notices]

(a) Any hearing or investigation by a regional board relating to investigating the quality of waters of the state, prescribing waste discharge requirements, issuing cease and desist orders, requiring the cleanup or abatement of waste, or imposing administrative civil liabilities or penalties may be conducted by a panel of three or more members of the regional board, but any final action in the matter shall be taken by the regional board. Due notice of any hearing shall be given to all affected persons. After a hearing, the panel shall report its proposed decision and order to the regional board and shall supply a copy to all parties who appeared at the hearing and requested a copy.

(b) No party who appears before the panel is precluded from appearing before the regional board at any subsequent hearing relating to the matter. Members of the panel are not disqualified from sitting as members of the regional board in deciding the matter.

(c) The regional board, after making an independent review of the record and taking additional evidence as may be necessary, may adopt, with or without revision, or reject, the proposed decision and order of the panel.

(d) For each meeting agenda notice that a regional board provides pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 11125 of the Government Code, a regional board shall make the agenda notice available in both English and Spanish and may make the agenda notice available in any other language.

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 551, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 2013.)

§ 13228.15. [Prehearing conferences]

The members of a regional board, or their designees, with respect to matters within the regional board's jurisdiction, may carry out prehearing conferences to address any of the matters described in subdivision (b) of Section 11511.5 of the Government Code. No party who appears at a prehearing conference is precluded from appearing before the regional board at any subsequent hearing relating to the matter.

(Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 420, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2003.)

Article 3. Regional Water Quality Control Plans [13240. - 13248.]

(Heading of Article 3 amended by Stats. 1969, Ch. 800.)

§ 13240. [Regional water quality control plans]

Each regional board shall formulate and adopt water quality control plans for all areas within the region. Such plans shall conform to the policies set forth in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 13000) of this division and any state policy for water quality control. During the process of formulating such plans the regional boards shall consult with and consider the recommendations of affected state and local agencies. Such plans shall be periodically reviewed and may be revised.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13241. [Water quality objectives]

Each regional board shall establish such water quality objectives in water quality control plans as in its judgment will ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses and the prevention of nuisance; however, it is recognized that it may be possible for the quality of water to be changed to some degree without unreasonably affecting beneficial uses. Factors to be considered by a regional board in establishing water quality objectives shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following:

- (a) Past, present, and probable future beneficial uses of water.
- (b) Environmental characteristics of the hydrographic unit under consideration, including the quality of water available thereto.
- (c) Water quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors which affect water quality in the area.
- (d) Economic considerations.
- (e) The need for developing housing within the region.
- (f) The need to develop and use recycled water.

(Amended by Stats. 1991, Ch. 187, Sec. 2.)

§ 13242. [Implementation]

The program of implementation for achieving water quality objectives shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) A description of the nature of actions which are necessary to achieve the objectives, including recommendations for appropriate action by any entity, public or private.
- (b) A time schedule for the actions to be taken.
- (c) A description of surveillance to be undertaken to determine compliance with objectives.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13243. [Discharge of waste]

A regional board, in a water quality control plan or in waste discharge requirements, may specify certain conditions or areas where the discharge of waste, or certain types of waste, will not be permitted.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13244. [Hearing requirements]

The regional boards shall not adopt any water quality control plan unless a public hearing is first held, after the giving of notice of such hearing by publication in the affected county or counties pursuant to Section 6061 of the Government Code. When the plan proposes to prohibit discharges of waste pursuant to Section 13243, similar notice shall be given by publication pursuant to Section 6061.3 of the Government Code.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13245. [Approval by the state board]

A water quality control plan, or a revision thereof adopted by a regional board, shall not become effective unless and until it is approved by the state board. The state board may approve such plan, or return it to the regional board for further consideration and resubmission to the state board. Upon resubmission the state board may either approve or, after a public hearing in the affected region, revise and approve such plan.

(Amended by Stats. 1971, Ch. 1288.)

§ 13245.5. [Approval of guidelines]

Guidelines adopted by a regional board shall not become effective unless and until approved by the state board.

(Added by Stats. 1986, Ch. 758, Sec. 3.)

§ 13246. [Time for approval]

(a) The state board shall act upon any water quality control plan not later than 60 days from the date the regional board submitted the plan to the state board, or 90 days from the date of resubmission of the plan.

(b) When the state board is acting upon a water quality control plan that is being amended solely for an action related to a regional board's total maximum daily load submittal, not including submittals related to listing, the state board shall not exceed the 60-day timeline, inclusive of the time spent sending the submittal back to the regional board, unless one of the following circumstances exists:

(1) The proposed amendment is for an exceedingly complex total maximum daily load. In order to determine if a total maximum daily load is exceedingly complex, the state board may consider a number of factors including, but not limited to, the volume of the record, the number of pollutants included, the number of dischargers and land uses involved, and the size of the watershed. The reason or reasons that any total maximum daily load is determined to be exceedingly complex shall be provided by the state board to the regional board in writing.

(2) The submittal by the regional board is clearly incomplete.

(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 20, Sec. 2. Effective April 8, 2002.)

§ 13247. [Compliance with plans]

State offices, departments, and boards, in carrying out activities which may affect water quality, shall comply with water quality control plans approved or adopted by the state board unless otherwise directed or authorized by statute, in which case they shall indicate to the regional boards in writing their authority for not complying with such plans.

(Amended by Stats. 1971, Ch. 1288.)

§ 13248. [Own motion review by the state board of failure to act]

(a) At any time, the state board may, on its own motion, review the regional board's failure to act under this article.

(b) The state board may find that the failure of the regional board to act was appropriate and proper. Upon finding that the failure of the regional board to act was inappropriate or improper, the state board may direct that appropriate action be taken by the regional board, refer the matter to another state agency having jurisdiction, take appropriate action itself, or take any combination of those actions. In taking any action, the state board is vested with all the powers of the regional boards under this division.

(Added by Stats. 2010, Ch. 288, Sec. 21. Effective January 1, 2011.)

Article 4. Waste Discharge Requirements [13260. - 13276.]

(Article 4 added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13260. [Reports; fees; exemptions]

(a) Each of the following persons shall file with the appropriate regional board a report of the discharge, containing the information that may be required by the regional board:

(1) A person discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, within any region that could affect the quality of the waters of the state, other than into a community sewer system.

(2) A person who is a citizen, domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, outside the boundaries of the state in a manner that could affect the quality of the waters of the state within any region.

(3) A person operating, or proposing to construct, an injection well.

(b) No report of waste discharge need be filed pursuant to subdivision (a) if the requirement is waived pursuant to Section 13269.

(c) Each person subject to subdivision (a) shall file with the appropriate regional board a report of waste discharge relative to any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.

(d) (1) (A) Each person who is subject to subdivision (a) or (c) shall submit an annual fee according to a fee schedule established by the state board.

(B) The total amount of annual fees collected pursuant to this section shall equal that amount necessary to recover costs incurred in connection with the issuance, administration, reviewing, monitoring, and enforcement of waste discharge requirements and waivers of waste discharge requirements.

(C) Recoverable costs may include, but are not limited to, costs incurred in reviewing waste discharge reports, prescribing terms of waste discharge requirements and monitoring requirements, enforcing and evaluating compliance with waste discharge requirements and waiver requirements, conducting surface water and groundwater monitoring and modeling, analyzing laboratory samples, adopting, reviewing, and revising water quality control plans

and state policies for water quality control, and reviewing documents prepared for the purpose of regulating the discharge of waste, and administrative costs incurred in connection with carrying out these actions.

(D) In establishing the amount of a fee that may be imposed on a confined animal feeding and holding operation pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, a dairy farm, the state board shall consider all of the following factors:

(i) The size of the operation.

(ii) Whether the operation has been issued a permit to operate pursuant to Section 1342 of Title 33 of the United States Code.

(iii) Any applicable waste discharge requirement or conditional waiver of a waste discharge requirement.

(iv) The type and amount of discharge from the operation.

(v) The pricing mechanism of the commodity produced.

(vi) Any compliance costs borne by the operation pursuant to state and federal water quality regulations.

(vii) Whether the operation participates in a quality assurance program certified by a regional water quality control board, the state board, or a federal water quality control agency.

(2) (A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund, which is hereby created. The money in the fund is available for expenditure by the state board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, solely for the purposes of carrying out this division.

(B) (i) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the fees collected pursuant to this section from stormwater dischargers that are subject to a general industrial or construction stormwater permit under the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) shall be separately accounted for in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund.

(ii) Not less than 50 percent of the money in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund that is separately accounted for pursuant to clause (i) is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for expenditure by the regional board with jurisdiction over the permitted industry or construction site that generated the fee to carry out stormwater programs in the region.

(iii) Each regional board that receives money pursuant to clause (ii) shall spend not less than 50 percent of that money solely on stormwater inspection and regulatory compliance issues associated with industrial and construction stormwater programs.

(3) A person who would be required to pay the annual fee prescribed by paragraph (1) for waste discharge requirements applicable to discharges of solid waste, as defined in Section 40191 of the Public Resources Code, at a waste management unit that is also regulated under Division 30 (commencing with

Section 40000) of the Public Resources Code, shall be entitled to a waiver of the annual fee for the discharge of solid waste at the waste management unit imposed by paragraph (1) upon verification by the state board of payment of the fee imposed by Section 48000 of the Public Resources Code, and provided that the fee established pursuant to Section 48000 of the Public Resources Code generates revenues sufficient to fund the programs specified in Section 48004 of the Public Resources Code and the amount appropriated by the Legislature for those purposes is not reduced.

(e) Each person that discharges waste in a manner regulated by this section shall pay an annual fee to the state board. The state board shall establish, by regulation, a timetable for the payment of the annual fee. If the state board or a regional board determines that the discharge will not affect, or have the potential to affect, the quality of the waters of the state, all or part of the annual fee shall be refunded.

(f) (1) The state board shall adopt, by emergency regulations, a schedule of fees authorized under subdivision (d). The total revenue collected each year through annual fees shall be set at an amount equal to the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act for this activity. The state board shall automatically adjust the annual fees each fiscal year to conform with the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act for this activity. If the state board determines that the revenue collected during the preceding year was greater than, or less than, the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act, the state board may further adjust the annual fees to compensate for the over and under collection of revenue.

(2) The emergency regulations adopted pursuant to this subdivision, any amendment thereto, or subsequent adjustments to the annual fees, shall be adopted by the state board in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The adoption of these regulations is an emergency and shall be considered by the Office of Administrative Law as necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare. Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, any emergency regulations adopted by the state board, or adjustments to the annual fees made by the state board pursuant to this section, shall not be subject to review by the Office of Administrative Law and shall remain in effect until revised by the state board.

(g) The state board shall adopt regulations setting forth reasonable time limits within which the regional board shall determine the adequacy of a report of waste discharge submitted under this section.

(h) Each report submitted under this section shall be sworn to, or submitted under penalty of perjury.

(i) The regulations adopted by the state board pursuant to subdivision (f) shall include a provision that annual fees shall not be imposed on those who pay

fees under the national pollutant discharge elimination system until the time when those fees are again due, at which time the fees shall become due on an annual basis.

(j) A person operating or proposing to construct an oil, gas, or geothermal injection well subject to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) shall not be required to pay a fee pursuant to subdivision (d) if the injection well is regulated by the Division of Oil and Gas of the Department of Conservation, in lieu of the appropriate California regional water quality control board, pursuant to the memorandum of understanding, entered into between the state board and the Department of Conservation on May 19, 1988. This subdivision shall remain operative until the memorandum of understanding is revoked by the state board or the Department of Conservation.

(k) In addition to the report required by subdivision (a), before a person discharges mining waste, the person shall first submit both of the following to the regional board:

(1) A report on the physical and chemical characteristics of the waste that could affect its potential to cause pollution or contamination. The report shall include the results of all tests required by regulations adopted by the board, any test adopted by the Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to Section 25141 of the Health and Safety Code for extractable, persistent, and bioaccumulative toxic substances in a waste or other material, and any other tests that the state board or regional board may require, including, but not limited to, tests needed to determine the acid-generating potential of the mining waste or the extent to which hazardous substances may persist in the waste after disposal.

(2) A report that evaluates the potential of the discharge of the mining waste to produce, over the long term, acid mine drainage, the discharge or leaching of heavy metals, or the release of other hazardous substances.

(l) Except upon the written request of the regional board, a report of waste discharge need not be filed pursuant to subdivision (a) or (c) by a user of recycled water that is being supplied by a supplier or distributor of recycled water for whom a master recycling permit has been issued pursuant to Section 13523.1.

(Amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 2, Sec. 28. Effective March 24, 2011.)

§ 13260.2. [Fee for no exposure certifications]

(a) The state board shall establish a fee in an amount sufficient to recover its costs in reviewing, processing, and enforcing “no exposure” certifications issued to facilities that apply for those certifications in accordance with a general industrial stormwater permit.

(b) Revenue generated pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund.

(Added by Stats. 2003, 1st Ex. Sess., Ch. 1, Sec. 4. Effective October 28, 2003.)

§ 13260.3. [Fee Report]

On or before January 1 of each year, the state board shall report to the Governor and the Legislature on the expenditure of annual fees collected pursuant to Section 13260.

(Added by Stats. 2003, 1st Ex. Sess., Ch. 1, Sec. 5. Effective October 28, 2003.)

§ 13261. [Civil liability]

(a) A person who fails to furnish a report or pay a fee under Section 13260 when so requested by a regional board is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(b) (1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board or the state board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs. Civil liability shall not be imposed by the regional board pursuant to this section if the state board has imposed liability against the same person for the same violation.

(2) Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with Article 5 (commencing with Section 13350) and Article 6 (commencing with Section 13360) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day the violation occurs.

(c) A person who discharges or proposes to discharge hazardous waste, as defined in Section 25117 of the Health and Safety Code, who knowingly furnishes a false report under Section 13260, or who either willfully fails to furnish a report or willfully withholds material information under Section 13260 despite actual knowledge of that requirement, may be liable in accordance with subdivision (d) and is guilty of a misdemeanor.

This subdivision does not apply to any waste discharge that is subject to Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 13370).

(d) (1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (c) in an amount not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day the violation occurs.

(2) Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with Article 5 (commencing with Section 13350) and Article 6 (commencing with Section 13360) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (c) in an amount not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

(Amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 288, Sec. 22. Effective January 1, 2011.)

§ 13262. [Injunctive relief]

The Attorney General, at the request of the regional board or the state board, shall petition the superior court for the issuance of a temporary restraining order, temporary injunction, or permanent injunction, or combination thereof, as may be appropriate, requiring any person not complying with Section 13260 to comply therewith.

(Amended by Stats. 2001, Ch. 869, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2002.)

§ 13263. [Requirements for discharge]

(a) The regional board, after any necessary hearing, shall prescribe requirements as to the nature of any proposed discharge, existing discharge, or material change in an existing discharge, except discharges into a community sewer system, with relation to the conditions existing in the disposal area or receiving waters upon, or into which, the discharge is made or proposed. The requirements shall implement any relevant water quality control plans that have been adopted, and shall take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected, the water quality objectives reasonably required for that purpose, other waste discharges, the need to prevent nuisance, and the provisions of Section 13241.

(b) A regional board, in prescribing requirements, need not authorize the utilization of the full waste assimilation capacities of the receiving waters.

(c) The requirements may contain a time schedule, subject to revision in the discretion of the board.

(d) The regional board may prescribe requirements although no discharge report has been filed.

(e) Upon application by any affected person, or on its own motion, the regional board may review and revise requirements. All requirements shall be reviewed periodically.

(f) The regional board shall notify in writing the person making or proposing the discharge or the change therein of the discharge requirements to be met. After receipt of the notice, the person so notified shall provide adequate means to meet the requirements.

(g) No discharge of waste into the waters of the state, whether or not the discharge is made pursuant to waste discharge requirements, shall create a vested right to continue the discharge. All discharges of waste into waters of the state are privileges, not rights.

(h) The regional board may incorporate the requirements prescribed pursuant to this section into a master recycling permit for either a supplier or distributor, or both, of recycled water.

(i) The state board or a regional board may prescribe general waste discharge requirements for a category of discharges if the state board or that regional board finds or determines that all of the following criteria apply to the discharges in that category:

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- (1) The discharges are produced by the same or similar operations.
 - (2) The discharges involve the same or similar types of waste.
 - (3) The discharges require the same or similar treatment standards.
 - (4) The discharges are more appropriately regulated under general discharge requirements than individual discharge requirements.
- (j) The state board, after any necessary hearing, may prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with this section.

(Amended by Stats. 1995, Ch. 421, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 1996.)

§ 13263.1. [Mining waste]

Before a regional board issues or revises waste discharge requirements pursuant to Section 13263 for any discharge of mining waste, the regional board shall first determine that the proposed mining waste discharge is consistent with a waste management strategy that prevents the pollution or contamination of the waters of the state, particularly after closure of any waste management unit for mining waste.

(Added by Stats. 1989, Ch. 642, Sec. 7.)

§ 13263.2. [Groundwater treatment facilities]

The owner or operator of a facility that treats groundwater which qualifies as a hazardous waste pursuant to Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 25100) of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code is exempt from the requirement to obtain a hazardous waste facility permit pursuant to Section 25201 of the Health and Safety Code for the treatment of groundwater if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The facility treats groundwater which is extracted for the purposes of complying with one or more of the following:
 - (1) Waste discharge requirements prescribed pursuant to Section 13263.
 - (2) A cleanup or abatement order issued pursuant to Section 13304.
 - (3) A written authorization issued by a regional board or local agency designated pursuant to Section 25283 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - (4) An order or approved remedial action plan issued pursuant to Chapter 6.8 (commencing with Section 25300) of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (b) The facility meets, at a minimum, all of the following operating standards:
 - (1) The treatment does not require a hazardous waste facilities permit pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. Sec. 6901 et seq.).
 - (2) The facility operator prepares and maintains written operating instructions and a record of the dates, amounts, and types of waste treated.
 - (3) The facility operator prepares and maintains a written inspection schedule and log of inspections conducted.

(4) The records specified in paragraphs (2) and (3) are maintained by the owner or operator of the facility for a period of three years.

(5) The owner or operator maintains adequate records to demonstrate that it is in compliance with all of the pretreatment standards and with all of the applicable industrial waste discharge requirements issued by the agency operating the publicly owned treatment works into which the wastes are discharged.

(6) (A) Upon terminating the operation of any treatment process or unit exempted pursuant to this section, the owner or operator that conducted the treatment removes or decontaminates all waste residues, containment system components, soils, and other structures or equipment contaminated with hazardous waste from the unit. The removal of the unit from service shall be conducted in a manner that does both of the following:

(i) Minimizes the need for further maintenance.

(ii) Eliminates the escape of hazardous waste, hazardous constituents, leachate, contaminated runoff, or waste decomposition products to the environment after the treatment process ceases operation.

(B) Any owner or operator who permanently ceases operation of a treatment process or unit that is exempted pursuant to this section shall provide written notification to the regional board or local agency upon completion of all activities required by this subdivision.

(7) The waste is managed in accordance with all applicable requirements for generators of hazardous waste under Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 25100) of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code and the regulations adopted by the Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to that chapter.

(c) The groundwater is treated at the site where it is extracted in compliance with one or more of paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4) of subdivision (a).

(d) All other regulatory requirements applicable to the facility pursuant to Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 25100) of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code are met by the owner or operator.

(e) The treatment of the contaminated groundwater is not performed under corrective action required by Section 25200.10 of the Health and Safety Code.

(Added by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1203, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 1994.)

§ 13263.3. [Legislative findings; definitions]

[This version remains in the code, but has been superceded by a later enacted version; see below.]

(a) The Legislature finds and declares that pollution prevention should be the first step in a hierarchy for reducing pollution and managing wastes, and to achieve environmental stewardship for society. The Legislature also finds and

declares that pollution prevention is necessary to achieve the federal goal of zero discharge of pollutants into navigable waters.

(b) (1) For the purposes of this section, “pollution prevention” means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes any of the following:

(A) “Input change,” which means a change in raw materials or feedstocks used in a production process or operation so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(B) “Operational improvement,” which means improved site management so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(C) “Production process change,” which means a change in a process, method, or technique that is used to produce a product or a desired result, including the return of materials or their components for reuse within the existing processes or operations, so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(D) “Product reformulation,” which means changes in design, composition, or specifications of end products, including product substitution, so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of problem pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(2) For the purposes of this section, “pollution prevention” does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are demonstrated.

(c) (1) For the purposes of this section, “discharger” means any entity required to obtain a national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit pursuant to the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1251 et seq.), or any entity subject to the pretreatment program as defined in Part 403 (commencing with Section 403.1) of subchapter N of Chapter 1 of Part 403 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) For the purposes of this section, “industrial discharger” means any discharger other than a publicly owned treatment works (POTW).

(d) (1) The state board, a regional board, or a POTW may require a discharger subject to its jurisdiction to complete a pollution prevention plan if any of the following apply:

(A) A discharger is determined to be a chronic violator and the board or the POTW determines that pollution prevention could achieve compliance.

(B) The discharger contributes, or has the potential to contribute, to the formation of a toxic hot spot as defined in Section 13391.5.

(C) The discharger discharges a pollutant for which the permitted level is lower than the practical quantification limit and the state board, a regional

board, or the POTW determines that additional reductions of the pollutant are necessary.

(D) The board determines pollution prevention is necessary to achieve a water quality objective.

(2) The state board, a regional board, or a POTW may require an industrial discharger subject to its jurisdiction to complete a pollution prevention plan that includes all of the following:

(A) An analysis of the pollutants that the facility discharges into water or introduces into POTWs, a description of the sources of the pollutants, and a comprehensive review of the processes used by the discharger that result in the generation and discharge of the pollutants.

(B) An analysis of the potential for pollution prevention to reduce the generation of the pollutants, including the application of innovative and alternative technologies and any adverse environmental impacts resulting from the use of those methods.

(C) A detailed description of the tasks and time schedules required to investigate and implement various elements of pollution prevention techniques.

(D) A statement of the discharger's pollution prevention goals and strategies, including priorities for short-term and long-term action.

(E) A description of the discharger's intended pollution prevention activities for the immediate future.

(F) A description of the discharger's existing pollution prevention methods.

(G) A statement that the discharger's existing and planned pollution prevention strategies do not constitute cross-media pollution transfers, and information that supports that statement.

(H) Toxic chemical release data for those dischargers subject to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023).

(I) Proof of compliance with the Hazardous Waste Source Reduction and Management Review Act of 1989 (Article 11.9 (commencing with Section 25244.12) of Chapter 6.5 of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code) if the discharger is also subject to that act.

(J) An analysis of the relative costs and benefits of the possible pollution prevention activities.

(3) A regional board may require a POTW to complete a pollution prevention plan that includes all of the following:

(A) An estimate of all of the sources of a pollutant contributing, or potentially contributing, to the loadings of a pollutant in the treatment plant influent.

(B) An analysis of the methods that could be used to prevent the discharge of the pollutants into the POTW, including application of local limits to industrial or commercial dischargers regarding pollution prevention techniques, public

education and outreach, or other innovative and alternative approaches to reduce discharges of the pollutant to the POTW. The analysis also shall identify sources, or potential sources, not within the ability or authority of the POTW to control, such as pollutants in the potable water supply, airborne pollutants, pharmaceuticals, or pesticides, and estimate the magnitude of those sources, to the extent feasible.

(C) An estimate of load reductions that may be attained through the methods identified in subparagraph (B).

(D) A plan for monitoring the results of the pollution prevention program.

(E) A description of the tasks, cost, and time required to investigate and implement various elements in the pollution prevention plan.

(F) A statement of the POTW's pollution prevention goals and strategies, including priorities for short-term and long-term action, and a description of the POTW's intended pollution prevention activities for the immediate future.

(G) A description of the POTW's existing pollution prevention programs.

(H) An analysis, to the extent feasible, of any adverse environmental impacts, including cross-media impacts or substitute chemicals, that may result from the implementation of the pollution prevention program.

(I) An analysis, to the extent feasible, of the costs and benefits that may be incurred to implement the pollution prevention program.

(e) The state board or the regional board may establish a schedule of actions identified in the pollution prevention plans for the discharger.

(f) The state board or regional board shall solicit comments from the public on a pollution prevention plan prepared pursuant to this section and address the public comments when determining what schedule of actions, if any, to establish for the discharger pursuant to this section.

(g) The state board and regional boards shall make the pollution prevention plans available for public review, except to the extent that information is classified as confidential because it is a trade secret. Trade secret information shall be set forth in an appendix that is not available to the public.

(h) Any costs incurred by the state board or a regional board resulting from actions required by this section shall be paid for from revenue generated by the fees imposed by Section 13260.

(i) The state board or regional board may assess civil penalties pursuant to Section 13385 against a discharger for failure to complete a pollution prevention plan ordered by the state board or a regional board, or for failure to comply with a schedule of actions ordered by the state board or a regional board pursuant to this section.

(j) A POTW may assess civil penalties and civil administrative penalties pursuant to Sections 54740, 54740.5, and 54740.6 of the Government Code against an industrial discharger for failure to complete a pollution prevention plan when ordered by the POTW, for submitting a plan that does not comply

with the act, or for failure to comply with a schedule of actions ordered by the POTW pursuant to this section, unless the regional board has assessed penalties for the same action.

(k) A discharger may change its pollution prevention plan, including withdrawing from a pollution prevention measure approved by the state board, a regional board, or a POTW, if the discharger determines that the measure will have a negative impact on product quality, the safe operation of the facility, or the environmental aspects of the facilities operation, and the discharger demonstrates to the board or the POTW an alternative measure that achieves that same pollution prevention objective.

(l) The state board shall adopt a format to be used by dischargers for completing the plan required by this section. The format shall address all of the factors the discharger is required to include in the plan. The board may include any other factors determined by the board to be necessary to carry out this section. The adoption of the format pursuant to this section is not subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(Added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 92, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 2000. See the prevailing Section 13263.3 (added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 93), as amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 807, with same subject matter but with substantive differences.)

§ 13263.3. [Legislative findings; definitions]

(a) The Legislature finds and declares that pollution prevention should be the first step in a hierarchy for reducing pollution and managing wastes, and to achieve environmental stewardship for society. The Legislature also finds and declares that pollution prevention is necessary to support the federal goal of zero discharge of pollutants into navigable waters.

(b) (1) For the purposes of this section, “pollution prevention” means any action that causes a net reduction in the use or generation of a hazardous substance or other pollutant that is discharged into water and includes any of the following:

(A) “Input change,” which means a change in raw materials or feedstocks used in a production process or operation so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(B) “Operational improvement,” which means improved site management so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(C) “Production process change,” which means a change in a process, method, or technique that is used to produce a product or a desired result, including the return of materials or their components for reuse within the existing processes or operations, so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(D) “Product reformulation,” which means changes in design, composition, or specifications of end products, including product substitution, so as to reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of problem pollutants discharged in wastewater.

(2) For the purposes of this section, “pollution prevention” does not include actions that merely shift a pollutant in wastewater from one environmental medium to another environmental medium, unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the state board, the regional board, or POTW.

(c) For the purposes of this section, “discharger” means any entity required to obtain a national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit pursuant to the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1251 et seq.), or any entity subject to the pretreatment program as defined in Part 403 (commencing with Section 403.1) of Subchapter N of Chapter 1 of Part 403 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(d) (1) The state board, a regional board, or a POTW may require a discharger subject to its jurisdiction to complete and implement a pollution prevention plan if any of the following apply:

(A) A discharger is determined by the state board to be a chronic violator, and the state board, a regional board, or the POTW determines that pollution prevention could assist in achieving compliance.

(B) The discharger significantly contributes, or has the potential to significantly contribute, to the creation of a toxic hot spot as defined in Section 13391.5.

(C) The state board, a regional board, or a POTW determines pollution prevention is necessary to achieve a water quality objective.

(D) The discharger is subject to a cease and desist order issued pursuant to Section 13301 or a time schedule order issued pursuant to Section 13300 or 13308.

(2) A pollution prevention plan required of a discharger other than a POTW pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include all of the following:

(A) An analysis of one or more of the pollutants, as directed by the state board, a regional board, or a POTW, that the facility discharges into water or introduces into POTWs, a description of the sources of the pollutants, and a comprehensive review of the processes used by the discharger that result in the generation and discharge of the pollutants.

(B) An analysis of the potential for pollution prevention to reduce the generation of the pollutants, including the application of innovative and alternative technologies and any adverse environmental impacts resulting from the use of those methods.

(C) A detailed description of the tasks and time schedules required to investigate and implement various elements of pollution prevention techniques.

(D) A statement of the discharger's pollution prevention goals and strategies, including priorities for short-term and long-term action.

(E) A description of the discharger's existing pollution prevention methods.

(F) A statement that the discharger's existing and planned pollution prevention strategies do not constitute cross media pollution transfers unless clear environmental benefits of such an approach are identified to the satisfaction of the state board, the regional board, or the POTW, and information that supports that statement.

(G) Proof of compliance with the Hazardous Waste Source Reduction and Management Review Act of 1989 (Article 11.9 (commencing with Section 25244.12) of Chapter 6.5 of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code) if the discharger is also subject to that act.

(H) An analysis, to the extent feasible, of the relative costs and benefits of the possible pollution prevention activities.

(I) A specification of, and rationale for, the technically feasible and economically practicable pollution prevention measures selected by the discharger for implementation.

(3) The state board or a regional board may require a POTW to complete and implement a pollution prevention plan that includes all of the following:

(A) An estimate of all of the sources of a pollutant contributing, or potentially contributing, to the loading of that pollutant in the treatment plant influent.

(B) An analysis of the methods that could be used to prevent the discharge of the pollutants into the POTW, including application of local limits to industrial or commercial dischargers regarding pollution prevention techniques, public education and outreach, or other innovative and alternative approaches to reduce discharges of the pollutant to the POTW. The analysis also shall identify sources, or potential sources, not within the ability or authority of the POTW to control, such as pollutants in the potable water supply, airborne pollutants, pharmaceuticals, or pesticides, and estimate the magnitude of those sources, to the extent feasible.

(C) An estimate of load reductions that may be attained through the methods identified in subparagraph (B).

(D) A plan for monitoring the results of the pollution prevention program.

(E) A description of the tasks, cost, and time required to investigate and implement various elements in the pollution prevention plan.

(F) A statement of the POTW's pollution prevention goals and strategies, including priorities for short-term and long-term action, and a description of the POTW's intended pollution prevention activities for the immediate future.

(G) A description of the POTW's existing pollution prevention programs.

(H) An analysis, to the extent feasible, of any adverse environmental impacts, including cross media impacts or substitute chemicals, that may result from the implementation of the pollution prevention program.

(I) An analysis, to the extent feasible, of the costs and benefits that may be incurred to implement the pollution prevention program.

(e) The state board, a regional board, or a POTW may require a discharger subject to this section to comply with the pollution prevention plan developed by the discharger after providing an opportunity for comment at a public proceeding with regard to that plan.

(f) The state board, regional boards, and POTWs shall make the pollution prevention plans available for public review, except to the extent that information is classified as confidential because it is a trade secret. Trade secret information shall be set forth in an appendix that is not available to the public.

(g) The state board or regional board may assess civil liability pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 13385 against a discharger for failure to complete a pollution prevention plan required by the state board or a regional board, for submitting a plan that does not comply with the act, or for not implementing a plan, unless the POTW has assessed penalties for the same action.

(h) A POTW may assess civil penalties and civil administrative penalties pursuant to Sections 54740, 54740.5, and 54740.6 of the Government Code against a discharger for failure to complete a pollution prevention plan when required by the POTW, for submitting a plan that does not comply with the act, or for not implementing a plan, unless the state board or a regional board has assessed penalties for the same action.

(i) A discharger may change its pollution prevention plan, including withdrawing from a pollution prevention measure required by the state board, a regional board, or a POTW, if the discharger determines that the measure will have a negative impact on product quality, the safe operation of the facility, or the environmental aspects of the facility's operation, or the discharger determines that the measure is economically impracticable or technologically infeasible. Where practicable and feasible, the discharger shall replace the withdrawn measure with a measure that will likely achieve similar pollution prevention objectives. A measure may be withdrawn pursuant to this subdivision only with the approval of the executive officer of the state board or the regional board, or the POTW.

(j) The state board shall adopt a sample format to be used by dischargers for completing the plan required by this section. The sample format shall address all of the factors the discharger is required to include in the plan. The board may include any other factors determined by the board to be necessary to carry out this section. The adoption of the sample format pursuant to this

section is not subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(k) The state board, a regional board, or POTW may not include a pollution prevention plan in any waste discharge requirements or other permit issued by that agency.

(l) This section prevails over Section 13263.3, as added to the Water Code by Assembly Bill 1104 of the 1999–2000 Regular Session.

(Amended (as added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 93) by Stats. 2000, Ch. 807, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2001.)

§ 13263.5. [Requirements for injection wells]

(a) When the regional board issues waste discharge requirements pursuant to Section 13263, or revises waste discharge requirements pursuant to subdivision (g) of Section 25159.17 of the Health and Safety Code, for any injection well into which hazardous waste is discharged, the waste discharge requirements shall be based upon the information contained in the hydrogeological assessment report prepared pursuant to Section 25159.18 of the Health and Safety Code and shall include conditions in the waste discharge requirements to ensure that the waters of the state are not polluted or threatened with pollution.

(b) If the state board applies to the federal Environmental Protection Agency to administer the Underground Injection Control Program pursuant to Part 145 (commencing with Section 145.1) of Subchapter D of Chapter 1 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, that application shall not include a request to administer the Underground Injection Control Program for any oil, gas, or geothermal injection wells supervised or regulated by the Division of Oil and Gas pursuant to Section 3106 or 3714 of the Public Resources Code.

(Amended by Stats. 1992, Ch. 19, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1993.)

§ 13263.6. [Effluent limitations]

[This version remains in the code, but has been superceded by a later enacted version; see below.]

(a) A publicly owned treatment works (POTW) may require pollution prevention plans as described in Section 13263.3 as part of the pretreatment requirements applicable to significant industrial users.

(b) The state board or a regional board shall prescribe effluent limitations as part of the waste discharge requirements of a POTW for all substances that the most recent toxic chemical release data reported to the state emergency response commission pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023) indicate are discharged into the POTW and that the state board or a regional board has determined has the reasonable potential to impair water quality.

(Added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 92, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2000. See the

prevailing Section 13263.6 added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 93, with same subject matter, but with substantive differences.)

§ 13263.6. [Effluent limitations]

(a) The regional board shall prescribe effluent limitations as part of the waste discharge requirements of a POTW for all substances that the most recent toxic chemical release data reported to the state emergency response commission pursuant to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023) indicate as discharged into the POTW, for which the state board or the regional board has established numeric water quality objectives, and has determined that the discharge is or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to, an excursion above any numeric water quality objective.

(b) This section prevails over Section 13263.6, as added to the Water Code by Assembly Bill 1104 of the 1999–2000 Regular Session.
(*Added by Stats. 1999, Ch. 93, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2000.*)

§ 13263.7. [Compliance Point for Direct Potable Reuse or Surface Water Augmentation]

(a) Compliance with effluent limitations and any other permit or waste discharge requirements, as appropriate, for the release or discharge of recycled water determined to be suitable for direct potable reuse or surface water augmentation, as defined in Section 13561, into a conveyance facility may be determined at the point where the recycled water enters the conveyance facility but prior to commingling with any raw water.

(b) Before the discharge may be allowed, consent must be obtained from the owner or operator of the conveyance facility that directly receives the recycled water.

(c) This section does not limit or restrict the authority of the State Water Resources Control Board.

(d) For purposes of this section, “raw water” means surface water or groundwater in its naturally occurring state prior to treatment.

(*Added by Stats. 2013, Ch. 635, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2014.*)

§ 13264. [Prerequisites to discharge]

(a) No person shall initiate any new discharge of waste or make any material changes in any discharge, or initiate a discharge to, make any material changes in a discharge to, or construct, an injection well, prior to the filing of the report required by Section 13260 and no person shall take any of these actions after filing the report but before whichever of the following occurs first:

(1) The issuance of waste discharge requirements pursuant to Section 13263.

(2) The expiration of 140 days after compliance with Section 13260 if the waste to be discharged does not create or threaten to create a condition of pollution or nuisance and any of the following applies:

(A) The project is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).

(B) The regional board is the lead agency for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act, a negative declaration is required, and at least 105 days have expired since the regional board assumed lead agency responsibility.

(C) The regional board is the lead agency for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act, and environmental impact report or written documentation prepared to meet the requirements of Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code is required, and at least one year has expired since the regional board assumed lead agency responsibility.

(D) The regional board is a responsible agency for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act, and at least 90 days have expired since certification or approval of environmental documentation by the lead agency.

(3) The issuance of a waiver pursuant to Section 13269.

(b) The Attorney General, at the request of a regional board, shall petition the superior court for the issuance of a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, or permanent injunction, or combination thereof, as may be appropriate, prohibiting any person who is violating or threatening to violate this section from doing any of the following, whichever is applicable:

(1) Discharging the waste or fluid.

(2) Making any material change in the discharge.

(3) Constructing the injection well.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, moneys collected under this division for a violation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund and separately accounted for in that fund.

(2) The funds described in paragraph (1) shall be expended by the state board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to assist regional boards, and other public agencies with authority to clean up waste or abate the effects of the waste, in cleaning up or abating the effects of the waste on waters of the state or for the purposes authorized in Section 13443.

(Amended by Stats. 2003, Ch. 683, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2004.)

§ 13265. [Civil penalties]

(a) Any person discharging waste in violation of Section 13264, after such violation has been called to his attention in writing by the regional board, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision

(b). Each day of such discharge shall constitute a separate offense.

(b) (1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(2) Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with Articles 5 (commencing with Section 13350) and 6 (commencing with Section 13360) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(c) Any person discharging hazardous waste, as defined in Section 25117 of the Health and Safety Code, in violation of Section 13264 is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (d). That liability shall not be imposed if the discharger is not negligent and immediately files a report of the discharge with the board, or if the regional board determines that the violation of Section 13264 was insubstantial.

This subdivision shall not be applicable to any waste discharge which is subject to Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 13370).

(d) (1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (c) in an amount which shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(2) Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with Articles 5 (commencing with Section 13350) and 6 (commencing with Section 13360) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (c) in an amount which shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(Amended by Stats. 1984, Ch. 1541, Sec. 2.)

§ 13266. [Notice of filings]

Pursuant to such regulations as the regional board may prescribe, each city, county, or city and county shall notify the regional board of the filing of a tentative subdivision map, or of any application for a building permit which may involve the discharge of waste, other than discharges into a community sewer system and discharges from dwellings involving five-family units or less.

(Added by Stats. 1969, Ch. 482.)

§ 13267. [Investigations; inspections]

(a) A regional board, in establishing or reviewing any water quality control plan or waste discharge requirements, or in connection with any action relating to any plan or requirement authorized by this division, may investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region.

(b) (1) In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or

is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region, or any citizen or domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge, waste outside of its region that could affect the quality of waters within its region shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports, and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports.

(2) When requested by the person furnishing a report, the portions of a report that might disclose trade secrets or secret processes may not be made available for inspection by the public but shall be made available to governmental agencies for use in making studies. However, these portions of a report shall be available for use by the state or any state agency in judicial review or enforcement proceedings involving the person furnishing the report.

(c) In conducting an investigation pursuant to subdivision (a), the regional board may inspect the facilities of any person to ascertain whether the purposes of this division are being met and waste discharge requirements are being complied with. The inspection shall be made with the consent of the owner or possessor of the facilities or, if the consent is withheld, with a warrant duly issued pursuant to the procedure set forth in Title 13 (commencing with Section 1822.50) of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure. However, in the event of an emergency affecting the public health or safety, an inspection may be performed without consent or the issuance of a warrant.

(d) The state board or a regional board may require any person, including a person subject to a waste discharge requirement under Section 13263, who is discharging, or who proposes to discharge, wastes or fluid into an injection well, to furnish the state board or regional board with a complete report on the condition and operation of the facility or injection well, or any other information that may be reasonably required to determine whether the injection well could affect the quality of the waters of the state.

(e) As used in this section, "evidence" means any relevant evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rule which might make improper the admission of the evidence over objection in a civil action.

(f) The state board may carry out the authority granted to a regional board pursuant to this section if, after consulting with the regional board, the

state board determines that it will not duplicate the efforts of the regional board.

(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 293, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2007.)

§ 13268. [Civil liability]

(a) (1) Any person failing or refusing to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13267, or failing or refusing to furnish a statement of compliance as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13399.2, or falsifying any information provided therein, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and may be liable civilly in accordance with subdivision (b).

(2) Any person who knowingly commits any violation described in paragraph (1) is subject to criminal penalties pursuant to subdivision (e).

(b) (1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(2) Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with Article 5 (commencing with Section 13350) and Article 6 (commencing with Section 13360) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (a) in an amount which shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(c) Any person discharging hazardous waste, as defined in Section 25117 of the Health and Safety Code, who knowingly fails or refuses to furnish technical or monitoring program reports as required by subdivision (b) of Section 13267, or who knowingly falsifies any information provided in those technical or monitoring program reports, is guilty of a misdemeanor, may be civilly liable in accordance with subdivision (d), and is subject to criminal penalties pursuant to subdivision (e).

(d) (1) Civil liability may be administratively imposed by a regional board in accordance with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 13323) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (c) in an amount which shall not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(2) Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with Article 5 (commencing with Section 13350) and Article 6 (commencing with Section 13360) of Chapter 5 for a violation of subdivision (c) in an amount which shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(e) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), any person who knowingly commits any of the violations set forth in subdivision (a) or (c) shall be punished by a fine that does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

(2) Any person who knowingly commits any of the violations set forth in subdivision (a) or (c) after a prior conviction for a violation set forth in

subdivision (a) or (c) shall be punished by a fine that does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for each day of the violation.

(f) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, fines collected pursuant to subdivision (e) shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund and separately accounted for in that fund.

(2) The funds described in paragraph (1) shall be expended by the state board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to assist regional boards, and other public agencies with authority to clean up waste, or abate the effects of the waste, in cleaning up or abating the effects of the waste on waters of the state or for the purposes authorized in Section 13443.

(g) The state board may carry out the authority granted to a regional board pursuant to this section if, after consulting with the regional board, the state board determines that it will not duplicate the efforts of the regional board.

(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 293, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 2007.)

§ 13269. [Waiver]

(a) (1) On and after January 1, 2000, the provisions of subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 13260, subdivision (a) of Section 13263, or subdivision (a) of Section 13264 may be waived by the state board or a regional board as to a specific discharge or type of discharge if the state board or a regional board determines, after any necessary state board or regional board meeting, that the waiver is consistent with any applicable state or regional water quality control plan and is in the public interest. The state board or a regional board shall give notice of any necessary meeting by publication pursuant to Section 11125 of the Government Code.

(2) A waiver may not exceed five years in duration, but may be renewed by the state board or a regional board. The waiver shall be conditional and may be terminated at any time by the state board or a regional board. The conditions of the waiver shall include, but need not be limited to, the performance of individual, group, or watershed-based monitoring, except as provided in paragraph (3). Monitoring requirements shall be designed to support the development and implementation of the waiver program, including, but not limited to, verifying the adequacy and effectiveness of the waiver's conditions. In establishing monitoring requirements, the regional board may consider the volume, duration, frequency, and constituents of the discharge; the extent and type of existing monitoring activities, including, but not limited to, existing watershed-based, compliance, and effectiveness monitoring efforts; the size of the project area; and other relevant factors. Monitoring results shall be made available to the public.

(3) The state board or a regional board may waive the monitoring requirements described in this subdivision for discharges that it determines do not pose a significant threat to water quality.

(4) (A) The state board or a regional board may include as a condition of a waiver the payment of an annual fee established by the state board in accordance with subdivision (f) of Section 13260.

(B) Funds generated by the payment of the fee shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund for expenditure, upon appropriation by the Legislature, by the state board or appropriate regional board for the purpose of carrying out activities limited to those necessary to establish and implement the waiver program pursuant to this section. The total amount of annual fees collected pursuant to this section shall not exceed the costs of those activities necessary to establish and implement waivers of waste discharge requirements pursuant to this section.

(C) In establishing the amount of a fee that may be imposed on irrigated agriculture operations pursuant to this section, the state board shall consider relevant factors, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

- (i) The size of the operations.
- (ii) Any compliance costs borne by the operations pursuant to state and federal water quality regulations.
- (iii) Any costs associated with water quality monitoring performed or funded by the operations.
- (iv) Participation in a watershed management program approved by the applicable regional board.

(D) In establishing the amount of a fee that may be imposed on silviculture operations pursuant to this section, the state board shall consider relevant factors, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

- (i) The size of the operations.
- (ii) Any compliance costs borne by the operations pursuant to state and federal water quality regulations.
- (iii) Any costs associated with water quality monitoring performed or funded by the operations.
- (iv) The average annual number of timber harvest plans proposed by the operations.

(5) The state board or a regional board shall give notice of the adoption of a waiver by publication within the affected county or counties as set forth in Section 6061 of the Government Code.

(b) (1) A waiver in effect on January 1, 2000, shall remain valid until January 1, 2003, unless the regional board terminates that waiver prior to that date. All waivers that were valid on January 1, 2000, and granted an extension until January 1, 2003, and not otherwise terminated, may be renewed by a regional board in five-year increments.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a waiver for an onsite sewage treatment system that is in effect on January 1, 2002, shall remain valid until June 30, 2004, unless the regional board terminates the waiver prior to that date. Any waiver for onsite sewage treatment systems adopted or renewed after June 30, 2004, shall be consistent with the applicable regulations or standards for onsite sewage treatment systems adopted or retained in accordance with Section 13291.

(c) Upon notification of the appropriate regional board of the discharge or proposed discharge, except as provided in subdivision (d), the provisions of subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 13260, subdivision (a) of Section 13263, and subdivision (a) of Section 13264 do not apply to a discharge resulting from any of the following emergency activities:

(1) Immediate emergency work necessary to protect life or property or immediate emergency repairs to public service facilities necessary to maintain service as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(2) Emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore an existing highway, as defined in Section 360 of the Vehicle Code, except for a highway designated as an official state scenic highway pursuant to Section 262 of the Streets and Highways Code, within the existing right-of-way of the highway, damaged as a result of fire, flood, storm, earthquake, land subsidence, gradual earth movement, or landslide within one year of the damage. This paragraph does not exempt from this section any project undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to expand or widen a highway damaged by fire, flood, storm, earthquake, land subsidence, gradual earth movement, or landslide.

(d) Subdivision (c) is not a limitation of the authority of a regional board under subdivision (a) to determine that any provision of this division shall not be waived or to establish conditions of a waiver. Subdivision (c) shall not apply to the extent that it is inconsistent with any waiver or other order or prohibition issued under this division.

(e) The regional boards and the state board shall require compliance with the conditions pursuant to which waivers are granted under this section.

(f) Prior to renewing any waiver for a specific type of discharge established under this section, the state board or a regional board shall review the terms of the waiver policy at a public hearing. At the hearing, the state board or a regional board shall determine whether the discharge for which the waiver policy was established should be subject to general or individual waste discharge requirements.

(Amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 183, Sec. 360. Effective January 1, 2005.)

§ 13270. [Public agency exemptions]

Where a public agency as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 13400 leases land for waste disposal purposes to any other public agency, including the State of California, or to any public utility regulated by the Public Utilities Commission, the provisions of Sections 13260, 13263, and 13264 shall not require the lessor public agency to file any waste discharge report for the subject waste disposal, and the regional board and the state board shall not prescribe waste discharge requirements for the lessor public agency as to such land provided that the lease from the lessor public agency shall not contain restrictions which would unreasonably limit the ability of the lessee to comply with waste discharge requirements appurtenant to the leased property.

(Added by Stats. 1974, Ch. 207.)

§ 13271. [Notification requirement]

(a) (1) Except as provided by subdivision (b), any person who, without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits any hazardous substance or sewage to be discharged in or on any waters of the state, or discharged or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged in or on any waters of the state, shall, as soon as (A) that person has knowledge of the discharge, (B) notification is possible, and (C) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures, immediately notify the Office of Emergency Services of the discharge in accordance with the spill reporting provision of the state toxic disaster contingency plan adopted pursuant to Article 3.7 (commencing with Section 8574.16) of Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(2) The Office of Emergency Services shall immediately notify the appropriate regional board, the local health officer, and the director of environmental health of the discharge. The regional board shall notify the state board as appropriate.

(3) Upon receiving notification of a discharge pursuant to this section, the local health officer and the director of environmental health shall immediately determine whether notification of the public is required to safeguard public health and safety. If so, the local health officer and the director of environmental health shall immediately notify the public of the discharge by posting notices or other appropriate means. The notification shall describe measures to be taken by the public to protect the public health.

(b) The notification required by this section shall not apply to a discharge in compliance with waste discharge requirements or other provisions of this division.

(c) Any person who fails to provide the notice required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) or imprisonment in a county jail for not more

than one year, or both. Except where a discharge to the waters of this state would have occurred but for cleanup or emergency response by a public agency, this subdivision shall not apply to any discharge to land which does not result in a discharge to the waters of this state.

(d) Notification received pursuant to this section or information obtained by use of that notification shall not be used against any person providing the notification in any criminal case, except in a prosecution for perjury or giving a false statement.

(e) For substances listed as hazardous wastes or hazardous material pursuant to Section 25140 of the Health and Safety Code, the state board, in consultation with the Department of Toxic Substances Control, shall by regulation establish reportable quantities for purposes of this section. The regulations shall be based on what quantities should be reported because they may pose a risk to public health or the environment if discharged to groundwater or surface water. Regulations need not set reportable quantities on all listed substances at the same time. Regulations establishing reportable quantities shall not supersede waste discharge requirements or water quality objectives adopted pursuant to this division, and shall not supersede or affect in any way the list, criteria, and guidelines for the identification of hazardous wastes and extremely hazardous wastes adopted by the Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 25100) of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code. The regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency for reportable quantities of hazardous substances for purposes of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (42 U.S.C. Sec. 9601 et seq.) shall be in effect for purposes of the enforcement of this section until the time that the regulations required by this subdivision are adopted.

(f) (1) The state board shall adopt regulations establishing reportable quantities of sewage for purposes of this section. The regulations shall be based on the quantities that should be reported because they may pose a risk to public health or the environment if discharged to groundwater or surface water. Regulations establishing reportable quantities shall not supersede waste discharge requirements or water quality objectives adopted pursuant to this division. For purposes of this section, "sewage" means the effluent of a municipal wastewater treatment plant or a private utility wastewater treatment plant, as those terms are defined in Section 13625, except that sewage does not include recycled water, as defined in subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 13529.2.

(2) A collection system owner or operator, as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 13193, in addition to the reporting requirements set forth in this section, shall submit a report pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 13193.

(g) Except as otherwise provided in this section and Section 8589.7 of the Government Code, a notification made pursuant to this section shall satisfy any immediate notification requirement contained in any permit issued by a permitting agency. When notifying the Office of Emergency Services, the person shall include all of the notification information required in the permit.

(h) For the purposes of this section, the reportable quantity for perchlorate shall be 10 pounds or more by discharge to the receiving waters, unless a more restrictive reporting standard for a particular body of water is adopted pursuant to subdivision (e).

(i) Notification under this section does not nullify a person's responsibility to notify the local health officer or the director of environmental health pursuant to Section 5411.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(Amended by Stats. 2013, Ch. 352, Sec. 532. Effective September 26, 2013. Operative July 1, 2013, by Sec. 543 of Ch. 352.)

§ 13272. [Oil or petroleum discharge]

(a) Except as provided by subdivision (b), any person who, without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits any oil or petroleum product to be discharged in or on any waters of the state, or discharged or deposited where it is, or probably will be, discharged in or on any waters of the state, shall, as soon as (1) that person has knowledge of the discharge, (2) notification is possible, and (3) notification can be provided without substantially impeding cleanup or other emergency measures, immediately notify the Office of Emergency Services of the discharge in accordance with the spill reporting provision of the California oil spill contingency plan adopted pursuant to Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 8574.1) of Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(b) The notification required by this section shall not apply to a discharge in compliance with waste discharge requirements or other provisions of this division.

(c) Any person who fails to provide the notice required by this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) or more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per day for each day of failure to notify, or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both. Except where a discharge to the waters of this state would have occurred but for cleanup or emergency response by a public agency, this subdivision shall not apply to any discharge to land that does not result in a discharge to the waters of this state. This subdivision shall not apply to any person who is fined by the federal government for a failure to report a discharge of oil.

(d) Notification received pursuant to this section or information obtained by use of that notification shall not be used against any person providing the

notification in any criminal case, except in a prosecution for perjury or giving a false statement.

(e) Immediate notification to the appropriate regional board of the discharge, in accordance with reporting requirements set under Section 13267 or 13383, shall constitute compliance with the requirements of subdivision (a).

(f) The reportable quantity for oil or petroleum products shall be one barrel (42 gallons) or more, by direct discharge to the receiving waters, unless a more restrictive reporting standard for a particular body of water is adopted. *(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 35, Sec. 184. Effective June 20, 2014.)*

§ 13272.1. [List of discharges of MTBE]

Each regional board shall publish and distribute on a quarterly basis to all public water system operators within the region of the regional board, a list of discharges of MTBE that occurred during the quarter and a list of locations where MTBE was detected in the groundwater within the region of the regional board.

(Added by Stats. 1997, Ch. 815, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 1998.)

§ 13273. [Solid waste disposal sites]

(a) The state board shall, on or before January 1, 1986, rank all solid waste disposal sites, as defined in paragraph (5) of subdivision (i) of Section 41805.5 of the Health and Safety Code, based upon the threat they may pose to water quality. On or before July 1, 1987, the operators of the first 150 solid waste disposal sites ranked on the list shall submit a solid waste water quality assessment test to the appropriate regional board for its examination pursuant to subdivision (d). On or before July 1 of each succeeding year, the operators of the next 150 solid waste disposal sites ranked on the list shall submit a solid waste water quality assessment test to the appropriate regional board for its examination pursuant to subdivision (d).

(b) Before a solid waste water quality assessment test report may be submitted to the regional board, a professional geologist, registered pursuant to Section 7850 of the Business and Professions Code, a certified engineering geologist, certified pursuant to Section 7842 of the Business and Professions Code, or a civil engineer registered pursuant to Section 6762 of the Business and Professions Code, who has at least five years' experience in groundwater hydrology, shall certify that the report contains all of the following information and any other information which the state board may, by regulation, require:

(1) An analysis of the surface and groundwater on, under, and within one mile of the solid waste disposal site to provide a reliable indication whether there is any leakage of hazardous waste.

(2) A chemical characterization of the soil-pore liquid in those areas which are likely to be affected if the solid waste disposal site is leaking, as compared to

geologically similar areas near the solid waste disposal site which have not been affected by leakage or waste discharge.

(c) If the regional board determines that the information specified in paragraph (1) or (2) is not needed because other information demonstrates that hazardous wastes are migrating into the water, the regional board may waive the requirement to submit this information specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (b). The regional board shall also notify the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and shall take appropriate remedial action pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 13300).

(d) The regional board shall examine the report submitted pursuant to subdivision (b) and determine whether the number, location, and design of the wells and the soil testing could detect any leachate buildup, leachate migration, or hazardous waste migration. If the regional board determines that the monitoring program could detect the leachate and hazardous waste, the regional board shall take the action specified in subdivision (e). If the regional board determines that the monitoring program was inadequate, the regional board shall require the solid waste disposal site to correct the monitoring program and resubmit the solid waste assessment test based upon the results from the corrected monitoring program.

(e) The regional board shall examine the approved solid waste assessment test report and determine whether any hazardous waste migrated into the water. If the regional board determines that hazardous waste has migrated into the water, it shall notify the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the California Integrated Waste Management Board and shall take appropriate remedial action pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 13300).

(f) When a regional board revises the waste discharge requirements for a solid waste disposal site, the regional board shall consider the information provided in the solid waste assessment test report and any other relevant site-specific engineering data provided by the site operator for that solid waste disposal site as part of a report of waste discharge.

(Amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 865, Sec. 38. Effective January 1, 2005.)

§ 13273.1. [Solid waste assessment]

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), an operator of a solid waste disposal site may submit a solid waste assessment questionnaire to the appropriate regional board at least 24 months prior to the site's solid waste water quality assessment test due date as established pursuant to Section 13273. The regional board shall require the operator to submit any additional information, as needed, or require onsite verification of the solid waste assessment questionnaire data in order to render a decision pursuant to subdivision (c).

(b) Any solid waste disposal site which is larger than 50,000 cubic yards or is known or suspected to contain hazardous substances, other than household hazardous wastes, shall be prohibited from submitting a solid waste assessment questionnaire under this section.

(c) The regional board shall complete a thorough analysis of each solid waste assessment questionnaire submitted pursuant to this section by a date 18 months prior to the solid waste assessment test due date. Based upon this analysis, the regional board shall determine whether or not the site has discharged hazardous substances which will impact the beneficial uses of water. If the regional board determines that the site has not so discharged hazardous substances, the regional board shall notify the operator that the operator is not required to prepare a solid waste water quality assessment test pursuant to Section 13273.

(d) If the regional board does not make the determination specified in subdivision (c), the operator shall submit all, or a portion of, a solid waste water quality assessment test. The regional board shall notify the operator of this determination and indicate if all, or what portion of, a solid waste water quality assessment test shall be required. The operator shall submit the solid waste water quality assessment test, or a portion thereof, by the date established pursuant to Section 13273.

(e) The state board shall develop a solid waste assessment questionnaire and guidelines for submittal no later than three months after the effective date of this statute adding this section. The questionnaire shall contain, but not be limited to, a characterization of the wastes, size of the site, age of the site, and other appropriate factors.

(f) Those operators of solid waste disposal sites listed by the state board pursuant to Section 13273 in Rank 3 and seeking an exemption under this section shall submit their solid waste assessment questionnaire no later than July 1, 1988. If the regional board does not make the determination specified in subdivision (c), the regional board shall require the operator to submit all, or a portion of, a solid waste water quality assessment test by July 1, 1990. *(Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 932, Sec. 2. Effective September 22, 1987.)*

§ 13273.2. [Reevaluation of site]

Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 13273.1, a regional board may reevaluate the status of any solid waste disposal site ranked pursuant to Section 13273, including those sites exempted pursuant to Section 13273.1, and may require the operator to submit or revise a solid waste water quality assessment test after July 1, 1989. The regional board shall give written notification to the operator that a solid waste assessment test is required and the due date. This section shall not require submittal of a solid waste water quality assessment test by a date earlier than established in accordance with Section 13273.

(Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 932, Sec. 3. Effective September 22, 1987.)

§ 13273.3. [Operator defined]

As used in Sections 13273, 13273.1, and 13273.2, “operator” means a person who operates or manages, or who has operated or managed, the solid waste disposal site. If the operator of the solid waste disposal site no longer exists, or is unable, as determined by the regional board, to comply with the requirements of Section 13273, 13273.1, or 13273.2, “operator” means any person who owns or who has owned the solid waste disposal site.

(Added by Stats. 1987, Ch. 932, Sec. 4. Effective September 22, 1987.)

§ 13273.5. [Kings County exception]

Notwithstanding Section 13273, a small city which operates a Class III solid waste disposal site is not required to submit a solid waste water quality assessment test report pursuant to Section 13273 if the city has a population of less than 20,000 persons, the solid waste disposal site receives less than 20,000 tons of waste per year, the water table of the highest aquifer under the disposal site is 250 or more feet below the base of the disposal site and the water in the highest aquifer is not potable, and the site receives less than an average of 12 inches of rainfall per year.

This section applies only if the disposal site is operational and has been granted all required permits as of January 1, 1991, if the site is located in Kings County, and if the city has completed an initial solid waste water quality assessment test and a solid waste air quality assessment test which establish that no significant air or water contamination has occurred, and, in that event, the city shall be exempted from conducting further assessment tests for seven years, or any longer time specified by the regional board, after the date of the initial assessment tests.

(Added by Stats. 1990, Ch. 1361, Sec. 3.)

§ 13274. [General waste discharge requirements]

(a) (1) The state board or a regional board, upon receipt of applications for waste discharge requirements for discharges of dewatered, treated, or chemically fixed sewage sludge and other biological solids, shall prescribe general waste discharge requirements for that sludge and those other solids. General waste discharge requirements shall replace individual waste discharge requirements for sewage sludge and other biological solids, and their prescription shall be considered to be a ministerial action.

(2) The general waste discharge requirements shall set minimum standards for agronomic applications of sewage sludge and other biological solids and the use of that sludge and those other solids as a soil amendment or fertilizer in agriculture, forestry, and surface mining reclamation, and may permit the transportation of that sludge and those other solids and the use of

that sludge and those other solids at more than one site. The requirements shall include provisions to mitigate significant environmental impacts, potential soil erosion, odors, the degradation of surface water quality or fish or wildlife habitat, the accidental release of hazardous substances, and any potential hazard to the public health or safety.

(b) The state board or a regional board, in prescribing general waste discharge requirements pursuant to this section, shall comply with Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and guidelines adopted pursuant to that division, and shall consult with the State Air Resources Board, the Department of Food and Agriculture, and the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery.

(c) The state board or a regional board may charge a reasonable fee to cover the costs incurred by the board in the administration of the application process relating to the general waste discharge requirements prescribed pursuant to this section.

(d) Notwithstanding any other law, except as specified in subdivisions (f) to (i), inclusive, general waste discharge requirements prescribed by a regional board pursuant to this section supersede regulations adopted by any other state agency to regulate sewage sludge and other biological solids applied directly to agricultural lands at agronomic rates.

(e) The state board or a regional board shall review general waste discharge requirements for possible amendment upon the request of any state agency, including, but not limited to, the Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Department of Public Health, if the board determines that the request is based on new information.

(f) This section is not intended to affect the jurisdiction of the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to regulate the handling of sewage sludge or other biological solids for composting, deposit in a landfill, or other use.

(g) This section is not intended to affect the jurisdiction of the State Air Resources Board or an air pollution control district or air quality management district to regulate the handling of sewage sludge or other biological solids for incineration.

(h) This section is not intended to affect the jurisdiction of the Department of Food and Agriculture in enforcing Sections 14591 and 14631 of the Food and Agricultural Code and any regulations adopted pursuant to those sections, regarding the handling of sewage sludge and other biological solids sold or used as fertilizer or as a soil amendment.

(i) This section does not restrict the authority of a local government agency to regulate the application of sewage sludge and other biological solids to land within the jurisdiction of that agency, including, but not limited to, the planning authority of the Delta Protection Commission, the resource

management plan of which is required to be implemented by local government general plans.

(Amended (as amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 485) by Stats. 2010, Ch. 288, Sec. 23. Effective January 1, 2011.)

§ 13275. *[Rights of public water systems]*

(a) Notwithstanding any other law, a public water system regulated by the state board pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 116270) of Part 12 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code shall have the same legal rights and remedies against a responsible party, when the water supply used by that public water system is contaminated, as those of a private land owner whose groundwater has been contaminated.

(b) For purposes of this section, “responsible party” has the same meaning as defined in Section 25323.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 673, Sec. 26. Effective January 1, 2016.)

§ 13276. *[Multiagency cannabis task force; water quality requirements]*

(a) The multiagency task force, the Department of Fish and Wildlife and State Water Resources Control Board pilot project to address the Environmental Impacts of Cannabis Cultivation, assigned to respond to the damages caused by marijuana cultivation on public and private lands in California, shall continue its enforcement efforts on a permanent basis and expand them to a statewide level to ensure the reduction of adverse impacts of marijuana cultivation on water quality and on fish and wildlife throughout the state.

(b) Each regional board shall, and the State Water Resources Control Board may, address discharges of waste resulting from medical marijuana cultivation and associated activities, including by adopting a general permit, establishing waste discharge requirements, or taking action pursuant to Section 13269. In addressing these discharges, each regional board shall include conditions to address items that include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Site development and maintenance, erosion control, and drainage features.

(2) Stream crossing installation and maintenance.

(3) Riparian and wetland protection and management.

(4) Soil disposal.

(5) Water storage and use.

(6) Irrigation runoff.

(7) Fertilizers and soil.

(8) Pesticides and herbicides.

(9) Petroleum products and other chemicals.

(10) Cultivation-related waste.

(11) Refuse and human waste.

(12) Cleanup, restoration, and mitigation.

(Added by Stats. 2015, Ch. 688, Sec. 7. Effective January 1, 2016.)

Article 5. Individual Disposal Systems [13280. - 13286.9.]

(Article 5 added by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1194.)

§ 13280. [Prohibition of disposal systems]

A determination that discharge of waste from existing or new individual disposal systems or from community collection and disposal systems which utilize subsurface disposal should not be permitted shall be supported by substantial evidence in the record that discharge of waste from such disposal systems will result in violation of water quality objectives, will impair present or future beneficial uses of water, will cause pollution, nuisance, or contamination, or will unreasonably degrade the quality of any waters of the state.

(Added by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1194.)

§ 13281. [Determination basis]

(a) In making a determination pursuant to Section 13280, except as specified in subdivision (b), the regional board shall consider all relevant evidence related to the discharge, including, but not limited to, those factors set forth in Section 13241, information provided pursuant to Section 117435 of the Health and Safety Code, possible adverse impacts if the discharge is permitted, failure rates of any existing individual disposal systems whether due to inadequate design, construction, maintenance, or unsuitable hydrogeologic conditions, evidence of any existing, prior, or potential contamination, existing and planned land use, dwelling density, historical population growth, and any other criteria as may be established pursuant to guidelines, regulations, or policies adopted by the state board.

(b) (1) To the extent that resources are available for that purpose, the regional board shall prohibit the discharge of waste from existing or new individual disposal systems on parcels of less than one-half acre that overlie the Mission Creek Aquifer or the Desert Hot Springs Aquifer in Riverside County, if a sewer system is available.

(2) For parcels of one-half acre or greater that overlie the aquifers described in paragraph (1), the maximum number of equivalent dwelling units with individual disposal systems shall be two per acre. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term "equivalent dwelling unit" means a single family dwelling as defined in Section 221.0 of the 1997 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials.

(3) For the purposes of this subdivision, a sewer system is available if a sewer system, or a building connected to a sewer system, is within 200 feet of the existing or proposed dwelling unit, in accordance with Section 713.4 of the 1997 edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials.

(4) To the extent that resources are available for the purposes of this subdivision, the regional board shall achieve compliance with this subdivision on or before January 1, 2004.

(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 437, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 1999.)

§ 13282. [Allowing disposal]

(a) If it appears that adequate protection of water quality, protection of beneficial uses of water, and prevention of nuisance, pollution, and contamination can be attained by appropriate design, location, sizing, spacing, construction, and maintenance of individual disposal systems in lieu of elimination of discharges from systems, and if an authorized public agency provides satisfactory assurance to the regional board that the systems will be appropriately designed, located, sized, spaced, constructed, and maintained, the discharges shall be permitted so long as the systems are adequately designed, located, sized, spaced, constructed, and maintained.

(b) An authorized public agency shall notify the regional board if the systems are not adequately designed, located, sized, spaced, constructed, and maintained.

(c) For purposes of this section, “authorized public agency” means a public agency authorized by a water quality control board and having authority to ensure that systems are adequately designed, located, sized, spaced, constructed, and maintained.

(Amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 1177, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 1995.)

§ 13283. [Alternatives to disposal]

In reviewing any determination that discharge of waste from existing or new individual disposal systems should not be permitted, the state board shall include a preliminary review of possible alternatives necessary to achieve protection of water quality and present and future beneficial uses of water, and prevention of nuisance, pollution, and contamination, including, but not limited to, community collection and waste disposal systems which utilize subsurface disposal, and possible combinations of individual disposal systems, community collection and disposal systems which utilize subsurface disposal, and conventional treatment systems.

(Added by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1194.)

§ 13284. [Guidelines]

The state board may adopt guidelines, regulations, or policies necessary to implement the provisions of this article.

(Added by Stats. 1977, Ch. 1194.)

§ 13285. [MTBE discharges to drinking water]

(a) A discharge from a storage tank, pipeline, or other container of methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE), or of any pollutant that contains MTBE, that poses a

threat to drinking water, or to groundwater or surface water that may reasonably be used for drinking water, or to coastal waters shall be cleaned up to a level consistent with subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 25296.10 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) (1) A public water system, or its customers, shall not be responsible for remediation or treatment costs associated with MTBE, or a product that contains MTBE. However, the public water system may, as necessary, incur MTBE remediation and treatment costs and include those costs in its customer rates and charges that are necessary to comply with drinking water standards or directives of the state board or other lawful authority. A public water system that incurs MTBE remediation or treatment costs may seek recovery of those costs from parties responsible for the MTBE contamination, or from other available alternative sources of funds.

(2) If the public water system has included the costs of MTBE treatment and remediation in its customer rates and charges, and subsequently recovers all, or a portion of, its MTBE treatment and remediation costs from responsible parties or other available alternative sources of funds, it shall make an adjustment to its schedule of rates and charges to reflect the amount of funding received from responsible parties or other available alternative sources of funds for MTBE treatment or remediation.

(3) Paragraph (1) does not prevent the imposition of liability on any person for the discharge of MTBE if that liability is due to the conduct or status of that person independently of whether the person happens to be a customer of the public water system.

(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 673, Sec. 27. Effective January 1, 2016.)

§ 13286. [Cove area of Cathedral City, Riverside County]

(a) On and after January 1, 2012, the appropriate regional board shall prohibit the discharge of wastewater into the ground through the use of individual subsurface disposal systems in the Cove area of Cathedral City in Riverside County for the purposes of protecting the health and safety of the residents consuming the groundwater of the Upper Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin and achieving the applicable water quality objectives.

(b) The appropriate regional board shall revise its water quality control plan to reflect the prohibition set forth in subdivision (a).

(c) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b), the appropriate regional board, prior to January 1, 2012, may prohibit the discharge of wastewater through the use of individual subsurface disposal systems in the Cove area of Cathedral City in Riverside County, and if so prohibited, that board shall revise its water quality control plan to reflect the prohibition.

(d) To ensure that the purposes of this section are fulfilled, the state board, using existing resources, shall assist Cathedral City to identify and obtain

state and federal funds to establish a sanitary public domestic and commercial wastewater disposal system.

(Added by Stats. 2001, Ch. 700, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2002.)

§ 13286.9. [Secondary treatment requirements for Orange County Sanitation District]

On and after the date determined by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, or January 1, 2013, whichever is earlier, all wastewater discharged by the Orange County Sanitation District into the Pacific Ocean shall be subject to at least secondary treatment requirements pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Section 301 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1311(b)(1)(B)), and any more stringent requirements determined to be appropriate by the state board or that regional board.

(Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 1019, Sec. 1. Effective September 28, 2002.)

CHAPTER 4.1. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS [13287. - 13287.]

(Chapter 4.1 added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 551, Sec. 4.)

§ 13287. [Definitions; ex parte communications for certain general orders; disclosure requirements and remedies]

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Board" means the state board or a regional board.

(2) "Ex parte communication" means an oral or written communication with one or more board members concerning matters, other than a matter of procedure or practice that is not in controversy, under the jurisdiction of a board, regarding a pending action of the board that satisfies both of the following:

(A) The action does not identify specific persons as dischargers, but instead allows persons to enroll or file an authorization to discharge under the action.

(B) The action is for adoption, modification, or rescission of one or more of the following:

(i) Waste discharge requirements pursuant to Section 13263 or 13377.

(ii) Conditions of water quality certification pursuant to Section 13160.

(iii) Conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements pursuant to Section 13269.

(3) "Interested person" means any of the following:

(A) Any person who will be required to enroll or file authorization to discharge pursuant to the action at issue before the board or that person's agents or employees, including persons receiving consideration to represent that person.

(B) Any person with a financial interest, as described in Article 1 (commencing with Section 87100) of Chapter 7 of Title 9 of the Government

Code, in a matter at issue before a board, or that person's agents or employees, including persons receiving consideration to represent that person.

(C) A representative acting on behalf of any formally organized civic, environmental, neighborhood, business, labor, trade, or similar association who intends to influence the decision of a board member on a matter before the board.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, the ex parte communications provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) do not apply to a board action identified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a). This section only applies to those actions.

(c) For the purposes of this section, and except as limited by subdivision (d), ex parte communications regarding a board action identified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) may be permitted as follows:

(1) All ex parte communications shall be reported by the interested person, regardless of whether the communication was initiated by the interested person.

(2) A notice of ex parte communication shall be filed with the board within seven working days of the communication. The notice may address multiple ex parte communications in the same proceeding, provided that notice of each communication identified therein is timely. The notice shall include all of the following information:

(A) The date, time, and location of the communication, and whether it was oral or written, or both.

(B) The identities of each board member involved, the person initiating the communication, and any persons present during the communication.

(C) A description of the interested person's communication and the content of this communication. A copy of any written, audiovisual, or other material used for or during the communication shall be attached to this description.

(3) Board staff shall promptly post any notices provided pursuant to paragraph (2) on the board's Internet Web site and distribute the notice on any available electronic distribution list concerning the action.

(d) A board may prohibit ex parte communications for a period beginning not more than 14 days before the day of a board meeting at which the decision in the proceeding is scheduled for board action. If a board continues the decision, it may permit ex parte communications during the interval between the originally scheduled date and the date that the decision is calendared for final decision, and may prohibit ex parte communications for 14 days before the day of the board meeting to which the decision is continued.

(e) If an interested person fails to provide any required notice in the manner required by this section, the board may use any of the remedies

available pursuant to the administrative adjudication provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), including the issuance of an enforcement order, or sanctions pursuant to Article 12 (commencing with Section 11455.10) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 551, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2013.)

CHAPTER 4.5. ONSITE SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS [13290. - 13291.7.]

(Chapter 4.5 added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 781, Sec. 1.)

§ 13290. [Definitions]

For the purposes of this chapter:

(a) "Local agency" means any of the following entities:

(1) A city, county, or city and county.

(2) A special district formed pursuant to general law or special act for the local performance of functions regarding onsite sewage treatment systems within limited boundaries.

(b) "Onsite sewage treatment systems" includes individual disposal systems, community collection and disposal systems, and alternative collection and disposal systems that use subsurface disposal.

(Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 781, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2001.)

§ 13291. [Adoption of regulations or standards]

(a) On or before January 1, 2004, the state board, in consultation with the State Department of Public Health, the California Coastal Commission, the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health, counties, cities, and other interested parties, shall adopt regulations or standards for the permitting and operation of all of the following onsite sewage treatment systems in the state and shall apply those regulations or standards commencing six months after their adoptions:

(1) Any system that is constructed or replaced.

(2) Any system that is subject to a major repair.

(3) Any system that pools or discharges to the surface.

(4) Any system that, in the judgment of a regional board or authorized local agency, discharges waste that has the reasonable potential to cause a violation of water quality objectives, or to impair present or future beneficial uses of water, to cause pollution, nuisance, or contamination of the waters of the state.

(b) Regulations or standards adopted pursuant to subdivision (a), shall include, but shall not be limited to, all of the following:

(1) Minimum operating requirements that may include siting, construction, and performance requirements.

(2) Requirements for onsite sewage treatment systems adjacent to impaired waters identified pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 303 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1313(d)).

(3) Requirements authorizing a qualified local agency to implement those requirements adopted under this chapter within its jurisdiction if that local agency requests that authorization.

(4) Requirements for corrective action when onsite sewage treatment systems fail to meet the requirements or standards.

(5) Minimum requirements for monitoring used to determine system or systems performance, if applicable.

(6) Exemption criteria to be established by regional boards.

(7) Requirements for determining a system that is subject to a major repair, as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a).

(c) This chapter does not diminish or otherwise affect the authority of a local agency to carry out laws, other than this chapter, that relate to onsite sewage treatment systems.

(d) This chapter does not preempt any regional board or local agency from adopting or retaining standards for onsite sewage treatment systems that are more protective of the public health or the environment than this chapter.

(e) Each regional board shall incorporate the regulations or standards adopted pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) into the appropriate regional water quality control plans.

(Amended by Stats. 2010, Ch. 288, Sec. 26. Effective January 1, 2011.)

§ 13291.5. [Legislative intent]

It is the intent of the Legislature to assist private property owners with existing systems who incur costs as a result of the implementation of the regulations established under this section by encouraging the state board to make loans under Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 13475) to local agencies to assist private property owners whose cost of compliance with these regulations exceeds one-half of one percent of the current assessed value of the property on which the onsite sewage system is located.

(Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 781, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2001.)

§ 13291.7. [Non-limiting clause]

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit the land use authority of any city, county, or city and county.

(Added by Stats. 2000, Ch. 781, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2001.)

CHAPTER 4.7. FAIRNESS AND DUE PROCESS [13292. - 13292.]

(Chapter 4.7 added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 604, Sec. 1.)

§ 13292. [Review of regional boards' public participation procedures; report to Legislature; copies of comments; training]

(a) It is the responsibility of the state board to provide guidance to the regional boards in matters of procedure, as well as policy and regulation. In order to ensure that regional boards are providing fair, timely, and equal access to all participants in regional board proceedings, the state board shall undertake a review of the regional boards' public participation procedures. As part of the review process, and upon request by the state board, the regional boards shall solicit comments from participants in their proceedings. Upon completion of the review, the state board shall report to the Legislature regarding its findings and include recommendations to improve regional board public participation processes.

(b) (1) The state board shall provide annual training to regional board members to improve public participation and adjudication procedures at the regional level.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall be implemented only during fiscal years for which funding is provided for the purposes of that paragraph in the annual Budget Act or in another statute.

(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 404, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2007.)