

PREVIEW OF THE 2ND WATERSHED PERMIT

BACWA Annual Meeting
January 19, 2018

1st Watershed Permit

- Took effect July 1, 2014; expires 2019
- Major Requirements
 - Monitoring and reporting of individual plant nutrient loads
 - Annual Group Report on loading trends
 - Optimization and Upgrade Study of 37 plants
 - Funding the Science Program (\$880k/yr.)

Schedule for 2nd WS Permit Adoption

- WB drafts permit in late 2018
- Tentative Order out for review and comment early spring 2019
- Adoption likely in April/May 2019
- Permit takes effect July 1, 2019

Path Towards Consensus on the Key Tenets of the 2nd Watershed Permit

- Conducted a series of internal meeting of a cross section of BACWA members to agree on key tenets for the 2nd WS Permit
- Discussion with Water Board staff on the Key Tenets
- Individual contact with GM or high level managers at all BACWA agencies

Path Towards Consensus on the Key Tenets of the 2nd Watershed Permit (con't)

- Individual meetings by the Water Board and BACWA staff with agencies who had concern about the Key Tenets
- Over the course of several months in 2017, achieved 100% response by BACWA member agencies of their intent to enter into the 2nd Watershed Permit assuming it contained the Key Tenets
- Letter dated October 9, 2017 from the Water Board Executive Officer of the intent of staff to draft the 2nd WS Permit around the Key Tenets

Key Tenets for the 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit

- Continue individual treatment plant nutrient monitoring and reporting
- Continue Group Annual Reporting of nutrient loads to the Bay
- Increased funding for the Nutrient Management Strategy scientific investigations

Key Tenets for the 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit (con't)

- A regional assessment of the feasibility and cost for reducing nutrients through means other than treatment and discharge at the POTW (i.e. Regional Study)
- Establishing a baseline for POTWs that undertake early actions to reduce nutrients (i.e. Nutrient Banking)
- A caveat that with these Key Tenets incorporated into the 2nd Watershed Permit, the POTWs would increase funding in FY 18 and 19 for the underfunded scientific program to help accelerate completion of the scientific studies.

Next Steps

- Two of the Key Tenets need further work to ensure the permit language appropriately reflects the intent of the Key Tenet
 - The Regional Study
 - Nutrient Banking
- BACWA's Nutrient Strategy Team will be meeting over the coming months to develop actual permit language that will be reviewed with WB staff for inclusion in the 2nd Watershed Permit