

CENTRAL COAST LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NETWORK (CCLEAN)

Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 22nd, 2025

2:00 pm- 3:30 pm

Via Teleconference Zoom Webinar

The meeting was called to order on January 22nd, 2025, at 2:00 pm by Jennie Munster. Roll call was taken of the voting committee members signed on to Zoom.

Participants:

Present:

Patrick Treanor, District Engineer: CAWD

Jennie Munster, Quality Assurance/Quality Control Chemist: City of Santa Cruz

Bryan Condy, Laboratory Manager: City of Watsonville

Olivia Woolery, Interim Laboratory Supervisor: Monterey One Water (M1W)

Kati King, Wastewater Lab/Compliance Manager: City of Scotts Valley

Absent:

Akin Babatola, Laboratory/Environmental Compliance Manager (Chair): City of Santa Cruz

Barbara Buikema, General Manager: CAWD

Sarah Stevens, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Supervisor: Monterey One Water

Vistra Zero Landing Energy Storage Facility (Moss Landing Power Plant) Power Plant

Representative: Unknown At This Time

Jose Guzman, Operations Manager: Monterey One Water

A quorum was present.

Participants – Non-Voting Members: Present

Aroon Melwani, Senior Scientist, Central Coast Managing Principal Partner: Applied Marine Sciences (AMS)

Sarah Bragg-Flavan, Water Resource Control Engineer: Central Coast Water Board

Cameron Kostigen Mumper, Associate Manager | Pure Water Soquel

Participants – Non-Voting Members: Absent

Dane Hardin, Senior Marine Scientist, Principal: Applied Marine Sciences

Mary Hamilton, Environmental Program Manager | Central Coast Water Board

Virtual Public Attendees: None

1. ***Appearances/Public Comments:*** No Public Appearances / Public Comment

2. **Agenda Changes:**

None.

3. **Agenda Items:**

A. Introductions:

Attendees were noted.

B. Chair's Report by Jennie Munster

Jennie confirmed that Akin was not at the meeting today, and did not leave any comments for her to pass on during this meeting.

C. Review of November 27th Meeting Minutes

Discussion:

Patrick brought up the meeting minutes on the screen and gave a quick synopsis. No one had any comments on the meeting minutes.

Decision:

Bryan motioned for approval of meeting minutes and Kati King seconded. There was a roll call vote to approve the meeting minutes:

AYES: CAWD, City of Watsonville, City of Scotts Valley, Monterey One Water, City of Santa Cruz

NOES: None

ABSENT: Vistra Zero Landing

ABSTAIN: None

After a roll call vote the meeting minutes were accepted with corrections.

Action Item:

None.

D. Lead Agency Remarks

Discussion:

Patrick remarked that CAWD was hiring a new Lab Manager as Carla resigned last month and that he was helping manage the CAWD lab in the interim.

Decision:

None.

Action Item:

None

E. CCLEAN Topics or Questions for Water Board Staff

Aroon asked Sarah about the QAPP review. Sarah said that it is up with the State Board because there are a few questions they wanted them to weigh in on, since this has been a pretty thorough review. They are working on scheduling a meeting so everyone can sign off on it and there will be one more set of review comments.

F. Program Director's Report

Discussion:

Aroon Melwani gave an update on regular CCLEAN activities:

- AMS is getting prepped for the upcoming wet season high volume sampling. There hasn't been a lot of rain so they've been waiting. Sampling might go on the week of February 5th, but they are waiting to confirm based on weather. An advance notice will go out to everyone to get it on their schedule.
- On the data side, they are reviewing the POP data and AMS has reviewed other data that is going into the upcoming annual report. The data was distributed to everyone around the end of December.
- AMS is also reviewing the qualified data as part of the annual audit, which is basically a review of all the data that gets flagged to determine why it was flagged.
- AMS is working on the annual report and pulling all the data together. The annual report will feature information like a statistical review of river data compared to wastewater. They are shooting for end of February for having a draft of the annual report and it will be distributed to everyone for review. Jennie mentioned that Santa Cruz has the San Lorenzo River data for Aroon.

Cameron asked if the high-volume sampling would include the Bioassay panel at Santa Cruz. Aroon said yes. Bryan asked about the sampling location for Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek. Jennie said that it is physically the same location but now it will include the final effluent and the reject water.

Jennie asked if Soquel Creek is still in testing mode. Cameron said that they are still testing and producing concentrate, but they aren't injecting treated water into the wells yet, so what they are sending to the tunnel portal box is not indicative of what their discharge will ultimately be. They are targeting starting normal operation in March or April.

Jennie brought up the CCLEAN scoping and Bryan reported that the ad hoc committee realized that the choke point would be what the State Board was going to approve of in

future scoping and so the scoping meetings will need to include discussion with Sarah and Mary from the water board.
<u>Decision:</u> None
<u>Action Item:</u> Aroon to reach out prior to high volume water sampling to schedule with individual dischargers.

G. Water Board's Report

<p><u>Discussion:</u></p> <p>Sarah reported that she is interested in sharing ideas about CCLEAN scoping with the ad hoc committee and the regional board is looking at the ocean plan as the frame of reference and looking at questions that need to be answered that aren't covered currently.</p> <p>Sarah reiterated the focus on the QAPP review.</p> <p>Regarding member's permit renewals, Scott's Valley permit renewal is on hold due to staffing constraints. They did get a new staff person Mark Lemus who is supporting M1W on one of their proposals and is looking at Watsonville.</p> <p>Sarah reported on updates from CalEPA and most of their focus is on inland discharges, but they are also looking into nutrient limits in ocean discharge (could be a question for future CCLEAN scoping). Will involve review of whether current CCLEAN data supports looking more into nutrient limit questions or not.</p> <p>There are 3 new chapters in the water quality standards handbook for antidegradation that is out for a 60-day public comment period ending in February. EPA is also taking comments for pesticides under FIFRA. Jennie asked about PFAS and whether regulations were just being looked at for drinking water, Sarah said it was for protection of human health.</p>
<u>Decision:</u> None.
<u>Action Item:</u> None.

H. Financial Report

Discussion:

Patrick went over the financial report from October and net receipts. Everything is in good shape. Looks like all the members are current on payments for this quarter. AMS billed about \$80k so far during this quarter.

Decision:

None.

Action Item:

None.

I. General Announcements

Aroon brought up the Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP) meeting that is coming up and Aroon will be presenting on CCLEAN. This will be general summary of trends and loads and statistical analysis. Patrick promoted people from CCLEAN to go to the statewide CWEA conferences as they have lots of lab stuff at those conferences.

J. Next Meeting Date:

February the 26th at 2:00 PM was the next scheduled meeting for the steering committee.

4. ADJOURNMENT: *Jennie Munster adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.*