State of California Constituents of Emerging Concern Ecosystems Science Advisory Panel

Panel Report Out

Meeting #4

October 12 – 13, 2011 Costa Mesa, CA

QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

- What are the relative contributions of wastewater and stormwater?
- What specific CECs, if any, are most appropriate for monitoring in discharges to State receiving waters?
- What is the fate of CECs in wastewater systems, after discharge, transport and mixing in receiving waters?
- What approaches should be used to assess biological effects of CECs to sentinel species?
- What is the appropriate design (e.g. media, frequency, locations) for a CEC monitoring and biological effects assessment program?
- What concentrations of CECs or levels of biological effects should trigger further actions. What actions should be considered?



CASE STUDIES

- Inland receiving water (coastal river)
 - wastewater effluent dominated system

Embayment receiving water

- stormwater input
- variable freshwater input & oceanic connectivity

Coastal ocean discharge

- Larger POTW discharging to mid-shelf (> 50 m)
- Smaller POTW discharging nearshore (< 50 m)

RISK SCREENING

- Risk quotients being finalized for
 - Three matrices (aqueous, sediment, tissue)
 - Three case scenarios (river, embayment, ocean)
- Most data available for aqueous exposure
- Additional data for expanded universe needed

ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

- Issues: chemical exposure & gene transfer
- Chemical exposure
 - Maximum inhibitory conc. (MIC)
 - Lowest concentration to cause resistance (LCCR)
 - Screening Ratio: MIC to LCCR
- Still addressing issue of gene transfer
 - likely needing further research

MONITORING QUESTIONS

What is the occurrence of CECs?

- Levels? How widespread? Increasing?
- Do we have robust methods?
- What DQOs are needed for MTLs?

• What evidence of CEC effects do we see?

- What endpoints/species are most relevant? WET?
- Severity of effect? How widespread? Increasing?
- Confidence in linkage to CECs and higher level impacts (population, ecosystem)

• What is the relative contribution of effluent vs. stormwater to occurrence? Effects?

MONITORING APPROACH

- Phased approach to monitoring
 - Defining appropriate tools
 - Refining & updating monitoring list
 - Targeted special studies
 - Conduct monitoring
 - Assess & interpret results
- Link with existing monitoring programs

 Permit-based, regional and state-wide programs

REMAINING SCHEDULE

- Meeting #5: Jan 2012
 - Discuss data gaps and make recommendations
- Release Draft Report Feb 1, 2012
 - 30 d comment period

• Meeting #6: March 2012

- Respond to public comments and revise draft report
- Final Report to SWB: May 1, 2012