

**California Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
Notice to Interested Parties**

September 26, 2025

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL
FOR 1,4-DIOXANE IN DRINKING WATER, PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, AND
PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is announcing the availability of a draft document describing a proposed Public Health Goal (PHG) for 1,4-dioxane in drinking water.

A PHG is the level of a drinking water contaminant at which adverse health effects are not expected to occur from a lifetime of exposure. The United States Environmental Protection Agency has designated 1,4-dioxane as a likely human carcinogen. For carcinogens, health-protective concentrations (HPCs) are determined for both cancer and noncancer effects, and the lowest (most health-protective) value is selected as the PHG. The California Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996¹ requires OEHHA to develop PHGs based exclusively on public health considerations.² PHGs published by OEHHA are considered by the State Water Resources Control Board in setting drinking water regulatory standards (Maximum Contaminant Levels, or MCLs) for California.³

The draft technical support document, posted on the OEHHA website (<https://oehha.ca.gov/water>), presents the scientific information available on the cancer and noncancer toxicity of 1,4-dioxane, and the calculation of the proposed PHG. The proposed PHG of 0.04 parts per billion (ppb) is based on liver tumors in female rats exposed via drinking water, and multiple tumor types in male mice exposed via inhalation. Additionally, a noncancer HPC of 33 ppb was determined, based on degeneration and necrosis of the liver and kidney of male rats.

Any interested person or their authorized representative may submit public comments relevant to the proposed PHG. The public comment period for the draft document begins September 26, 2025, and ends November 10, 2025. The public is encouraged to submit written comments via OEHHA's website, rather than in paper form. Comments may be submitted electronically through the following link: <https://oehha.ca.gov/comments>.

Paper comments may be mailed or hand-delivered to the address below. Any written comments concerning the proposed PHG, regardless of the form or

¹ Codified at Health and Safety Code, section 116270 *et seq.*

² Health and Safety Code, section 116365(c)

³ Health and Safety Code, section 116365(a) and (b)

method of transmission, must be received by OEHHA by November 10, 2025, to be considered.

OEHHA will hold a hybrid public workshop/webinar on November 13, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time. Information about the workshop/webinar can be found on the OEHHA website at <https://oehha.ca.gov/water>.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 57003, the workshop is provided to enable a dialogue between OEHHA scientists and the public to discuss the scientific basis of the proposed PHG, and to receive comments. After the workshop, OEHHA will submit the draft risk assessment for external scientific peer review.⁴

Following the workshop, public comment period and external scientific peer review, OEHHA will evaluate the comments received, revise the document as appropriate, and make it available for an additional 30-day public comment period. After any subsequent revisions, the final document will be posted on the OEHHA website along with responses to the external peer review comments and to comments received at the workshop and during the two public comment periods.

OEHHA is subject to the California Public Records Act and other laws that require the release of certain information upon request. If you provide comments, please be aware that your name, address, and e-mail may be made available to third parties.

If you would like to receive further information on this announcement or have questions, please contact Hermelinda Jimenez at PHG.Program@oehha.ca.gov or at (916) 324-7572. Written inquiries should be sent to:

Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
California Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 4010, MS-12B
Sacramento, California 95812-4010
Attention: PHG Program

⁴ Health and Safety Code section 116365(c)(3)(D)