



Enforcement News

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION

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LOS ANGELES WATER BOARD CRACKS DOWN ON SANITATION DISTRICTS FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SANTA CLARA RIVER CHLORIDE LIMITATIONS

LOS ANGELES – The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board’s (Los Angeles Water Board) Executive Officer has issued an administrative civil liability complaint to the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (CSDLAC) for alleged violations of waste discharge requirements for its Valencia and Saugus Water Reclamation Plants.

The complaint seeks a total penalty of \$280,250 for the failure to complete Wastewater Facilities Plans and Programmatic Environmental Impact Reports by the required due date in 2011.

CSDLAC is required to submit the documents as part of a series of implementation tasks designed so that the Valencia and Saugus Water Reclamation Plants will meet waste load allocations for chloride in the Upper Santa Clara River.

The Upper Santa Clara River Total Maximum Daily Load for chloride was adopted in 2005 and updated in 2010 to protect the beneficial uses of the Santa Clara River, which include agricultural supply, groundwater recharge, and rare and endangered species habitat.

"The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board is committed to ensuring that all dischargers comply with the requirements of their permits," said Water Board Executive Officer Sam Unger. "This will protect and restore water quality and preserve the beneficial uses of the Santa Clara River as a source of irrigation water for agriculture in the Los Angeles Region."

The public has until December 26, 2012 to comment on the administrative civil liability complaint. The complaints are available for public review on the Los Angeles Water Board’s website at: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/water_issues/programs/enforcement/EnforcmntActions.shtml

The Los Angeles Water Board protects and restores water quality in coastal watersheds in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties and in portions of Kern and Santa Barbara counties. The Los Angeles Water Board is scheduled to consider the complaints on February 21, 2013.