



Linda S. Adams  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region



Arnold Schwarzenegger  
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Over 50 Years Serving San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties  
Recipient of the 2004 Environmental Award for Outstanding Achievement from USEPA

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<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego>

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT 5

**TO:** Barbara L. Evoy,  
Deputy Director  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Financial Assistance

In reply refer to:  
SWU:255407:Lwalsh

**FROM:** David W. Gibson   
Executive Officer  
SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

**DATE:** June 2, 2010

**SUBJECT: CORRECTED - REQUEST FOR CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT FUNDS  
BY THE CITY OF SAN MARCOS FOR THE LAKE SAN MARCOS  
NUTRIENT DIAGNOSTIC AND CLEANUP PLANNING STUDY, SAN  
DIEGO REGION**

By memorandum dated May 27, 2010, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) requested an allocation of \$969,576 from the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) to the City of San Marcos (City) to conduct the Lake San Marcos Nutrient Diagnostic and Cleanup Planning Study (the "Study"). A typographical error occurred in the dollar amount requested. The City of San Marcos' budget for the Study is \$989,466 as documented in their Scope of Work and budget. The corrected CAA Funding Request Form is enclosed.

I will be recommending that the San Diego Water Board adopt R9-2010-0079 with errata, a resolution for CAA funding of \$989,466 for the City's Study, at the June 9, 2010 Board meeting. A copy of the adopted resolution will be forwarded to you following the meeting.

Thank you for in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Chiara Clemente of my staff at (858) 467-2359.

DWG:dtb:cmc:law

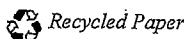
Enclosures:

1. Corrected State Water Board CAA Request Form for the Lake San Marcos Nutrient Diagnostic and Cleanup Planning Study

cc: John Lormon, Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP, 525 B Street, Ste 2200, SD, CA 92101 [john.lormon@procopio.com](mailto:john.lormon@procopio.com)

Lake San Marcos Lyris List of Interested Parties

*California Environmental Protection Agency*



**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA)  
CORRECTED FUNDING REQUEST FORM**

Send the completed form and attached documentation to Cristina Mayorga-Ochoa at [cochoa@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cochoa@waterboards.ca.gov) or at  
1001 I Street, 17th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

<b>Agency Name:</b> (maximum of 40 characters)	City of San Marcos
<b>Address:</b>	City of San Marcos 1 Civic Center Drive San Marcos, CA 92069-2918
<b>Agency Phone Number:</b>	(760) 744-1050, Ext. 3218
<b>Agency Representative:</b>	Erica Ryan
<b>Region:</b>	San Diego Water Board
<b>Region Representative:</b>	Chiara Clemente
<b>Representative Phone Number:</b>	858-467-2359

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

<b>Name of Project:</b>	THE LAKE SAN MARCOS NUTRIENT DIAGNOSTIC AND CLEANUP PLANNING STUDY	<b>Project Start and End Dates:</b> Project would start upon execution of the funding agreement be complete within 24 months.
<b>Project Location:</b>	San Marcos, California	
<b>Funding Amount:</b>	<del>\$969,576</del> \$989,466	

**PURPOSE OF REQUEST**

- 1) **Purpose of Request (attach additional sheet if needed):** City of San Marcos (the "City"), in coordination with other parties, is requesting Cleanup and Abatement Funds (CAA) to support a detailed diagnostic investigation and development of a cleanup planning document (feasibility study and plans for a remedial action plan) to address listed Clean Water Act section 303(d) impairments in Lake San Marcos. Other Parties include public and private entities that have partnered with the City to conduct the work performed at the Lake thus far and who have committed to participate via money and/or in-kind services in the future. The parties include: County of San Diego, City of Escondido, California Department of Transportation, San Marcos Unified School District, Vallecitos Water District, and the Community Development Corporation.
- 2) **Background:** Lake San Marcos ("the Lake") is listed under the 2006 Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) as an impaired water body caused by ammonia as nitrogen, nutrients and phosphorous. The Lake is an impoundment of the San Marcos Creek (the "Creek") upstream of a concrete arched dam (the "Dam"). The Creek is listed under the 2006 CWA section 303(d) as an impaired water body for phosphorous, including that portion of the Creek upstream of the Dam. The CWA section 303(d) listings for the Lake and the Creek include a schedule for the development of TMDLs to address the impairments by 2019. In April 2009, San Diego Water Board Executive Officer encouraged likely stakeholders to proceed with a voluntary investigation and cleanup of the Lake's impairments as a model in lieu of a Board directed Investigative Order and/or other enforcement action.

After a year of gathering data, investigating possible nutrients sources, and developing a preliminary draft site conceptual model to better understand sources and causes of nutrient impairment to the Lake, the City, along with other parties, realized that a detailed diagnostic effort was required. Therefore, the City, with support from other parties, is requesting CAA funds to conduct a more detailed diagnostic investigation and to develop a cleanup planning document (feasibility study and plans for a remedial action plan) to support their remedial action decision.

3) **Impact to community or surrounding areas in regards to water quality:** The Lake experiences large external nutrient loading from the watershed evident by seasonal algal blooms. Water quality data collected to date confirms the presence of cyanobacteria toxins. The Lake also experiences occasional fish kills. Residents living near the Lake report repeat occurrence of large algae blooms and prolonged nuisance odor conditions caused by the release of hydrosulfide from decomposing bacteria that surface during turn over of Lake waters (e.g. thermal mixing) in late fall each year.

4) **What is the waste being addressed by this project?:** Lake San Marcos is listed in the 2006 Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) as an impaired water body caused by ammonia as nitrogen, nutrients and phosphorous.

5) **List any responsible party:** Because this Study is aimed at identifying sources and nutrient fate and transport, no responsible parties have been identified yet.

6) **Will any of these funds be used for Regional Board oversight?**  YES  NO **If YES, how much?**

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### DOCUMENTATION

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X **Scope of Work (Attached)**  **Regional Board Resolution or proof of Regional Board support (Attached)**

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**State Board Decision for \$100,000 and Below:**

**Approved**  **Denied**

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**Deputy Director**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

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**Deputy Director's Recommendation for Funding (over \$100,000):**

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**Deputy Director**

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**Date**