

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

**DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS**

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In the Matter of Wastewater Change Petition WW0076

**Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County**

**ORDER APPROVING  
CHANGE IN PLACE OF USE**

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SOURCE: Coyote Creek tributary to the San Gabriel River

COUNTY: Los Angeles

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**WHEREAS:**

1. The Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) filed Wastewater Change Petition WW0076 with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on May 9, 2014, pursuant to Water Code section 1211. The petition seeks to change the place of use and reduce the amount of treated wastewater the Districts currently discharge to Coyote Creek.
2. The Districts' Long Beach Water Reclamation Plant (LBWRP) produces approximately 18 million gallons per day (mgd) of treated wastewater, of which 12 mgd is currently discharged to Coyote Creek under National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit CA0054119. The remaining 6 mgd is either used for irrigation within the service area of the City of Long Beach or is delivered to the Leo Vander Lans Water Treatment Facility (LVLWTF), operated by the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD). The main role of the LVLWTF is to produce recycled water through the advanced treatment of wastewater, using microfiltration, reverse osmosis, ultraviolet light and the addition of hydrogen peroxide. The recycled water is then blended with potable water and injected into the Alamitos Gap Seawater Barrier (Barrier).
3. WRD is expanding the capacity of the LVLWTF to enable an increase of 5 mgd in the supply of recycled water that can be provided to the Barrier. To supply the LVLWTF in this expansion, the Districts are proposing to reduce their discharges of treated wastewater from LBWRP to Coyote Creek accordingly. The processing of the additional water by the LVLWTF will result in the reduction of an equivalent amount of potable water that is currently being blended with recycled water and supplied to the Barrier, thereby increasing by 5 mgd the available supplies of potable water for Southern California.
4. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board will issue waste discharge requirements in accordance with the wastewater disposal/reuse criteria established by the California Department of Health Services codified in Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations.
5. Public notice of the change was issued on July 1, 2014. No protests were received in response to the notice.

6. The State Water Board has determined that the petition for change in the place of use and amount of discharge to a watercourse will not cause injury to any other lawful user of water.
7. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Los Angeles County is the lead agency for preparation of environmental documentation for the project. In November 2012, the Districts adopted the Final Master Facilities Plan and Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Clearwater Program, SCH No. 2008101074. On November 28, 2012, Los Angeles County issued a Notice of Determination for the final EIR/EIS for the project.
8. The State Water Board is a CEQA responsible agency for purposes of considering whether to approve the wastewater change petition that will allow the Districts to proceed with the proposed project. As a CEQA responsible agency, the State Water Board must consider the environmental documentation prepared by the lead agency and any other relevant evidence in the record, and reach its own conclusions on whether and how to approve the project. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15096, subd. (a).) The State Water Board has considered the EIR/EIS in deciding whether to approve the petition. There is no evidence that approval of the wastewater change petition will have any adverse impacts on water resources within the State Water Board's purview for the WW0076 petition. The State Water Board will issue a Notice of Determination within five days of the date of this Order.
9. In addition to any obligation the State Water Board may have under CEQA, the Board has an independent obligation to consider the effect of the proposed change on public trust resources and to protect those resources where feasible. (*National Audubon Society v. Superior Court* (1983) 33 Cal.3d 419 [189 Cal.Rptr. 346].) No adverse impacts to public trust resources are expected.

### **ORDER**

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. The Districts are authorized to change the place of use of up to 5 mgd of treated wastewater effluent that would otherwise have been discharged from the Long Beach Water Reclamation Plant to Coyote Creek during the period of January 1 to December 31 of each year.
2. The place of use is the Alamitos Gap Seawater Barrier and within the service area of the City of Long Beach.
3. The purposes of use shall remain unchanged and are irrigation and groundwater recharge.
4. The point of discharge for treated wastewater effluent shall remain unchanged, located at California Coordinate System NAD 83, Zone 5, North 1,749,103 feet, and East 6,534,997 feet, being within NW ¼ of SE ¼ Section 25, T4S, R12W, SBB&M.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:  
AMANDA MONTGOMERY FOR

*Barbara Evoy, Deputy Director*  
*Division of Water Rights*

Dated: SEP 22 2014