

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Linda S. Adams
Cal/EPA Secretary

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013
Phone (213) 576-6600 FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles

Arnold Schwarzenegger

September 5, 2007

Mr. Dan Pfeifer Utility Manager City of San Buenaventura P.O. Box 99 Ventura, CA 93002-0099

Dear Mr. Pfeifer:

POSTPONEMENT OF HEARING FOR TENTATIVE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDR) AND NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT AND TIME SCHEDULE ORDER – CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA, VENTURA WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY (NPDES NO. CA0053651, CI NO. 1822)

Reference is made to our letter dated July 27, 2007, which transmitted the public hearing date of October 4, 2007 for the Regional Board to concern the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) and a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Time Schedule Order (TSO) for discharge of tertiary treated wastewater to the Santa Clara River Estuary (Estuary). However, due to the following reasons, the October 4, 2007 public hearing for this Facility has been postponed.

During the two public comment periods (the first one, which was extended from May 30, 2007 to the close of business on June 6, 2007; and the second one, which was closed on the business of July 11, 2007), the Regional Board received written comments, which have been posted on our website, on the importance of whether the discharge enhances the Estuary and maintains the habitat of the federally endangered Tidewater Goby and Steelhead. As this issue is critical to the renewal of the City's NPDES permit, Regional Board staff need to evaluate the technical merit of each one. Therefore, Regional Board staff are convening a group of experts to discuss endangered species aspects of the permit, which will take additional time.

The matter is tentatively scheduled for a public hearing to be held on **December 6, 2007**. The Regional Board meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the City of Simi Valley Council Chambers, located at 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, California. The Regional Board will hear any testimony pertinent to this discharge, the tentative WDR and NPDES permit, and tentative TSO. Oral statements will be heard, but, for accuracy of the record, all testimony should be submitted in writing. It is expected that the Board will take action at the hearing; however, as testimony indicates, the Board, at its discretion, may order further investigation.

All pertinent documents in the record, as well as written comments already received, can be viewed at the Regional Board's web address at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/permits/tentative_order/Individual/Ventura/Vent ura.html.

 $California\ Environmental\ Protection\ Agency$

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (213) 576-6720 or Don Tsai at (213) 576-6665.

Sincerely,

Blythe Ponek-Bacharowski

Unit Chief, Municipal Permitting Unit (NPDES)

cc: See attached mailing list

MAILING LIST

Ms. Robyn Stuber, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, Clean Water Act Standards and Permits (WTR-5)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Mr. Russell M. Strach, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, Sacramento

Mr. Rodney R. McInnis, Regional Administrator, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Long Beach

Mr. Stan Glowacki, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Long Beach

Mr. Mark Capelli, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Barbara

Mr. Chris Dellith, Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

Mr. Jeff Phillips, Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

Ms. Jennifer Fordyce, State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Chief Counsel

Mr. Michael Levy, State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Chief Counsel

Mr. Philip Isorena, State Water Resources Control Board

Ms. Betty Courtney, California Department of Fish and Game, Region 5

Department of Health Services, Environmental Management Branch

Mr. Richard A. Rojas, State Parks and Recreation

Ms. Barbara Fosbrink, State Parks and Recreation

Ventura County Department of Public Works, Flood Control and Drainage

Ventura County Department of Environmental Health

Ms. Ann Heil, County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Mr. David Beckman, Natural Resources Defense Council

Mr. Ron Bottorf, Friends of the Santa Clara River

Ms. Lynn Plambeck, Santa Clara Organization for Planning and the Environment

Mr. Steven R. Howard, United Water Conservation District

Dr. Mark Gold, Heal the Bay

Ms. Traci Egoscue, Santa Monica BayKeeper

Ms. Vicki Clark, Environmental Defense Center

Mr. Jessie Altstatt, Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper

Mr. Paul Jenkin, Surfrider Foundation

Mr. Matti Waiya, Wishtoyo Foundation/Ventura CoastKeeper

American Ocean Campaign

Environmental Now

Sierra Club

Southern California Coastal Water Research Project

Ms. Mary Lynn Coffee, Nossaman, Guthner, Knox & Elliott, LLP

Mr. Reed V. Smith, Ventura Audubon Society

Dr. Richard F. Ambrose, University of California, Los Angeles

Dr. Camm C. Swift, Entrix, Inc.

Dr. Howard C. Bailey, Nautilus Environmental