

## 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

Governor

October 23, 2007

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

Dear Mr. Pfeifer:

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT - REVISED TENTATIVE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) AND NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT AND TIME SCHEDULE ORDER (TSO), CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA, VENTURA WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY (NPDES NO. CA0053651, CI NO. 1822)

Reference is made to our letter dated April 26, 2007 which transmitted tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and Time Schedule Order (TSO) to discharge tertiary treated wastewater to the Santa Clara River Estuary (Estuary).

During the first public comment period (which was extended from May 30, 2007 to the close of business on June 6, 2007), the Regional Board received written comments on the importance of maintaining federally endangered Tidewater Goby habitat in the Estuary. It was suggested that, under the current conditions in the Santa Clara River Watershed, the City's wastewater discharge to the Estuary provides conditions that are beneficial to the Tidewater Goby population. As this issue is critical to the renewal of the City's NPDES permit, we provided an additional public comment period for this one narrow issue only. Additional written comments solely concerning the impacts (positive or negative) of the City's discharge on the endangered Tidewater Goby were required to be received by the Regional Board by close of business on July 11, 2007.

The Regional Board received additional comments from: 1) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; 2) City of San Buenaventura; 3) Ventura Audubon Society; 4) California Department of Parks and Recreation; 5) A Professor from University of California, Los Angeles; 6) Entrix, Inc.; 7) Nossaman, Guthner, Knox and Elliott, LLP; and 8) Nautilus Environmental; which have been posted on our website. There was not a consensus among commenters on whether the discharge to the Estuary enhances the Estuary or endangered species habitat.

In order to thoroughly vet the issues, the Regional Board will hold a Workshop on this matter on **December 6, 2007**. The Workshop will be held at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Board Room, 700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California, no earlier than 1:00 PM. The Regional Board will hear any testimony pertinent to this discharge, the revised tentative

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permit, and tentative TSO. Oral statements will be heard, but, for accuracy of the record, all testimony should be submitted in writing. There will be no official Board action taken at this meeting.

Regional Board staff reviewed all comments received, and where appropriate, made revisions. Deletions appear as strikethrough lines and additions appear as underlines. Enclosed are copies of the following:

- 1. Revised Tentative Requirements consisting of:
  - a. Revised Board Order
  - b. Standard Provisions (Attachment D)
  - c. Revised Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment E)
  - d. Revised Fact Sheet (Attachment F)
  - e. Generic Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE) Workplan (Attachment G)
  - f. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Requirements (Attachment H)
  - g. Biosolids/Sludge Management (Attachment I)
  - h. Ventura Water Reclamation Facility Non-Priority Pollutants Effluent Data (Attachment K)
  - i. Ventura Water Reclamation Facility Non-Priority Pollutants Effluent RPA (Attachment L)
  - j. Ventura Water Reclamation Facility Projections of Summer and Winter Ammonia Concentrations in Receiving Water (Attachment M)
  - k. Revised Ventura Water Reclamation Facility Reasonable Potential Analyses and Limit Derivations (Attachment N)
  - I. Revised Interim Limit Calculations (Attachment O)
- 2. Responses to Comments
- 3. Time Schedule Order

While we welcome written comments regarding this revised tentative Order, we ask that you refrain from submitting duplicate comments which have previously been submitted on the tentative permit dated April 27, 2007. Written comments will only be accepted on the strikeout/underline changes that were made to the tentative Order. Comments must be received at the Regional Board office by the close of business on November 7, 2007, in order to be evaluated by Board staff and included in the Board's agenda folder. Comments received after that date will be provided, ex agenda, to the Board for their consideration. Timely submittal of written comments is encouraged to ensure that all comments are accurately and fully included in the administrative record, that Board staff is able to provide timely review, and that Regional Board members have sufficient time to give full consideration to the comments and issues raised. Comments received after the requested date may result in delay in consideration of the tentative Order.

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.

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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)

enclosures

cc: See 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

Mr. Roger Root, 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. Tatiana Gaur, Santa Monica BayKeeper

Ms. Vicki Clark, Environmental Defense Center

Mr. Jessie Altstatt, Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper

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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

Ms. L. Purpus, United Water Conservation District

Ms. Elise Kelley, University of California at Santa Barbara