

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

**320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600**

Public Notice No. 25-006

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF
TIME SCHEDULE ORDER (TSO)
REQUIRING THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)
ORDER NO. R4-2021-0095 (PERMIT NO. CA0053856) FOR THE
TERMINAL ISLAND WATER RECLAMATION PLANT**

DISCHARGER	DISCHARGE LOCATION	RECEIVING WATER
City of Los Angeles	445 Ferry Street San Pedro, CA 90731-7416 Los Angeles County	Los Angeles Outer Harbor

The City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) discharges tertiary-treated wastewater and reverse osmosis concentrate from the Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant (TIWRP or Facility) into the Los Angeles Outer Harbor (Harbor). The discharge is regulated under waste discharge requirements and NPDES permit contained in Order No. R4-2021-0095, adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) on June 10, 2021.

Discharges to the Harbor are subject to the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Policy (1974), which requires the discharges of publicly owned treatment works to enclosed bays and estuaries to cease at the earliest practicable date. In 1994, the Los Angeles Water Board approved LASAN's proposal to phase out the discharge of wastewater effluent from TIWRP into the Harbor through implementation of a water reclamation plan.

By 1997, LASAN installed tertiary treatment systems at TIWRP and, in 2001, LASAN partnered with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to develop the Harbor Water Recycling Project. The intended outcome of the Harbor Water Recycling Project was to deliver 5 mgd of recycled water to LADWP's Harbor Generating Station and to the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project by December 1999 (Phase I), to double reuse of TIWRP effluent within six years after initiating the first reclamation phase (Phase II) and to achieve full (100%) reuse of TIWRP effluent by 2020 (Phase III).

To support the objective of phasing out the discharge through reuse, Order No. R4-2015-0119 (NPDES Permit No. CA0053856) generally prohibited the discharge of treated municipal wastewater into the Harbor after 2020. However, LASAN was unable to meet this deadline. As a result, Order No. R4-2021-0095 (NPDES Permit No. CA0053856) extended the compliance deadline to December 31, 2024. In alignment with the revised

timeline, LASAN submitted a work plan on October 12, 2021, committing to complete specific actions to cease the discharge of treated municipal wastewater to the Harbor by the end of 2024.

On January 17, 2024, the Los Angeles Water Board received a letter from LASAN requesting Executive Officer approval to discharge to the Los Angeles Outer Harbor (Harbor) after December 31, 2024, due to fluctuations in recycled water demand. The Los Angeles Water Board received a follow-up letter from LASAN on September 20, 2024, updating the expected completion dates of the projects that still need to be completed. On December 27, 2024, the Los Angeles Water Board provided an extension of the discharge prohibition until August 11, 2025.

On March 4, 2025, the Los Angeles Water Board received correspondence from LASAN requesting an additional extension of the discharge prohibition in NPDES Order No. R4-2021-0095 beyond the August 11, 2025, deadline. This TSO provides temporary relief from the discharge prohibition in Section 3.9 of NPDES Order No. R4-2021-0095 from August 12, 2025, through December 31, 2027. This TSO permits a limited amount of tertiary-treated effluent from TIWRP to be discharged to the Harbor and establishes milestone deadlines for each construction project and requires the City to submit progress reports documenting efforts toward compliance. Additionally, this TSO requires the Permittee to achieve full compliance with the discharge prohibition in Order No. R4-2021-0095 as soon as feasible, but no later than December 31, 2027.

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the Executive Officer, pursuant to her delegated authority from the Los Angeles Water Board, tentatively proposes to issue a TSO to bring LASAN into compliance with the discharge prohibition in Order No. R4-2021-0095.

Please be advised that the Executive Officer intends to issue the TSO without a public hearing. Because interested persons may not have an opportunity to make oral comments, interested persons must submit all comments in writing as described below. The Executive Officer will consider all timely written comments prior to administratively issuing the TSO.

WRITTEN COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on and/or submit evidence regarding the Tentative TSO for the Executive Officer to consider must submit written comments. Written comments must be **received** by the Los Angeles Water Board by **5:00 p.m. on August 7, 2025**. Interested persons are encouraged, but not required, to submit their comments electronically in either a Word or Portable Document File (PDF) to Michelle Campbell at Michelle.Campbell@waterboards.ca.gov. Written comments may also be sent to:

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
Attention: Michelle Campbell
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Untimely written comments will neither be responded to nor considered. Failure to submit timely written comments is also grounds for the Los Angeles Water Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or exhibit into evidence pursuant to section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Tentative TSO, documents relied upon, comments received, and other information on file are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by appointment at the following address:

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by calling the Los Angeles Water Board at (213) 576-6600.

STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any question regarding this proposed action, please contact Michelle Campbell, P.E. at (213) 758-4729 or via email at Michelle.Campbell@waterboards.ca.gov or Steven Webb, P.E., Supervisor of the Municipal Permitting Unit at (213) 576-6793 or via email at Steven.Webb@Waterboards.ca.gov.