# CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN DIEGO REGION

## NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW AND WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

### SETTLEMENT OFFER NO. R9-2025-0102 TO SETTLE ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY FOR JANUARY 22, 2024 SANITARY SEWER SPILL TO SWEETWATER RESERVOIR SPILL ID 892279, WDID 9SSO10662

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) is releasing for a 30-day public review and comment period, Settlement Offer No. R9-2025-0102 (Settlement Offer) related to the January 22, 2024, sanitary sewer spill to Sweetwater Reservoir by the San Diego County Sanitation District (District) in violation of the federal Clean Water Act, California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, San Diego Water Board Basin Plan and state and regional waste discharge requirements<sup>1</sup>. To resolve the violations without formal administrative proceedings, the San Diego Water Board's Prosecution Team and the District (Parties) reached a settlement and agreed to the imposition of an administrative civil liability in the amount of \$88,200. Specifically, the District agreed to pay a \$44,100 Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) to the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) Stormwater Monitoring Coalition Regional Monitoring Program (SMC RMP) SEP Fund and \$44,100 to the Waste Discharge Permit Fund. The \$88,200 liability was calculated in accordance with the State Water Resources Control Board's 2017 Water Quality Enforcement Policy and its penalty calculation methodology, which is applied in Exhibit B to the Settlement Offer.

# **Document Availability**

A copy of the Settlement Offer with Exhibits is available for download and review from the San Diego Water Board's website at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board\_decisions/tentative\_orders/. Additionally, the District's signed acceptance, Exhibit A to the Settlement Offer is available upon request to the San Diego Water Board's Records Administrator at rb9\_records@waterboards.ca.gov.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2022-0103-DWQ, *Statewide Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Sanitary Sewer Systems* (<u>Statewide</u> <u>General Order</u>) and San Diego Water Board Order No. R9-2007-0005, *Waste Discharge Requirements for Sewage Sanitary Sewer Agencies in the San Diego Region* (<u>Regional General Order</u>).

#### **Submission of Written Comments**

Notice is hereby given that the San Diego Water Board is accepting written comments on the accepted Settlement Offer. **All written comments are due by 5:00 p.m. on August 7, 2025.** All comments timely received will be provided to the San Diego Water Board, or its delegate, to consider before determining whether to approve or deny the Settlement Offer. The San Diego Water Board may refuse to accept written comments received after the deadline.

Interested persons may submit written comments by e-mail to the attention of Kate Buckley at <u>SanDiego@waterboards.ca.gov</u>. or by U.S. mail to the San Diego Water Board at:

ATTN: CW-631623:KBuckley California Regional Water Quality Control Board – San Diego Region 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100 San Diego, California 92108-2700

Please indicate in the subject line of all written comments "Settlement Offer No. R9-2025-0102; CW-631623:KBuckley."

### **Contact Information**

For questions or additional information, please contact Kate Buckley by email or telephone:

Email: Kate.Buckley@waterboards.ca.gov

Telephone: (619) 521-8045

Date of Notice: July 8, 2025