

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region**

RESPONSE TO WRITTEN COMMENTS

On the Tentative Order for
Discharges from Aggregate Mining, Marine Sand Washing, and Sand Offloading Facilities

The Regional Water Board received written comments from Lehigh Hanson West Region (Lehigh Hanson) on a tentative order distributed for public comment. The comments are summarized below in *italics* (paraphrased for brevity) and followed by a staff response. For the full content and context of the comments, please refer to the comment letter. To request a copy of the comment letter, see the contact information provided in Fact Sheet section VIII.G of the revised tentative order.

Revisions are shown with ~~strike through~~ for deletions and underline for additions.

***Comment 1:** Lehigh Hanson requests we revise Fact Sheet sections II.B.1 and II.C.1 by replacing the word “dredged” with “mined” to describe operations at marine sand washing and sand offloading facilities because this is more accurate and consistent with the waste discharge requirements in Order No. R2-2015-0008.*

Response

We agree and revised the first sentence of Fact Sheet section II.B.1 as follows:

Marine sand washing facilities mainly process sand ~~dredged~~ mined from San Francisco Bay.

We also revised the first sentence of Fact Sheet section II.C.1 as follows:

Sand ~~dredged~~ mined from various locations (e.g. San Francisco Bay) is transported by barge and offloaded by hydraulic slurry.

***Comment 2:** Section I of the tentative order states that discharges to San Francisco Bay are covered, but not discharges to the Pacific Ocean. Lehigh Hanson requests we clarify the definition of the Pacific Ocean because San Francisco Bay could be considered a part of the Pacific Ocean.*

Response

Such clarification is unnecessary. San Francisco Bay is an enclosed bay that does not include ocean waters (see Attachment A of the tentative order defines an enclosed bay). The *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin* (Basin Plan) and the *Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California* (Ocean Plan) also define ocean waters to exclude enclosed bays such as San Francisco Bay.