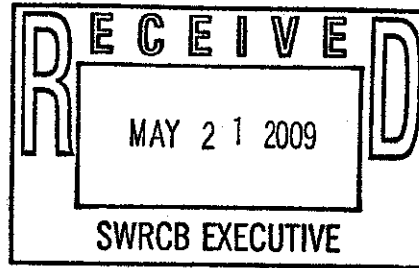




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

May 21, 2009

Charles Hoppin
Board Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. BOX 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



Dear Mr. Hoppin,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the revision to the wasteload allocations in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Nitrogen Compounds and Related Effects TMDLs. The revised TMDLs correct a typographic error associated with the wasteload allocation for ammonia and establish ammonia mass-based limits dependent on effluent flow rates. EPA has reviewed the revised TMDLs and find they meet all federal regulatory requirements.

EPA finds the proposed nitrogen compounds TMDLs provide reasonable scientific analysis for addressing low dissolved oxygen/organic enrichment, algae, ammonia, nitrogen, and nitrate and nitrite impairments identified in on California's 2002 303(d) list. The targets established in the TMDLs are consistent with EPA guidance. We concur with the technical approach to attain water quality objectives via pollutant load reductions for nitrogen compounds.

We commend your hard work on these TMDLs and recommend adoption by the State Board. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3448, or Valentina Cabrera-Stagno (415) 972-3434.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Kozelka".

Peter Kozelka
TMDL coordinator, Water Division

cc: Deborah Smith, LA RWQCB