STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL
JUNE 16, 2009

ITEM 12

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDER IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT, WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS ORDER NO. R4-2006-0074 ISSUED BY THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, LOS ANGELES REGION (SWRCB/OCC FILE A-1780). (THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WILL CONSIDER WHETHER TO ADOPT AN ORDER UPHOLDING THE MODIFICATION TO WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS.)

DISCUSSION

On September 14, 2006, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) adopted Order No. R4-2006-0074 (the Permit modification), which revised an existing municipal storm water permit. The Permit modification included receiving water limitations and discharge prohibitions to implement a summer dry weather bacteria total maximum daily load (TMDL).

The County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Petitioners) filed a timely petition with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), challenging the Permit modification. The petition was held in abeyance for two years, and then activated.

The draft order addresses and denies two contentions: (1) the permit should be revised to clarify that the receiving water limitations and discharge prohibitions do not apply to storm water discharges; and (2) the contested provisions do not follow the iterative approach for compliance.

The draft order concludes that the contested provisions are sufficiently clear and were properly adopted. It also concludes that the contested provisions are appropriate despite the lack of an iterative process for compliance and that they are consistent with federal law.

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board adopt the proposed order upholding the Permit modification?

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the draft order.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goals 1 and 6 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to implement strategies to fully support the beneficial uses for all 2006-listed water bodies and to enhance consistency across the water boards. In particular, approval of this item will assist in fulfilling Objective/Action 1.1 to implement a statewide strategy to efficiently prepare, adopt, and implement TMDLs, which result in water bodies meeting water quality standards, and adopt and begin implementation of TMDLs for all 2006-listed water bodies by 2019.

D R A F T May 4, 2009

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

ORDER WQ 2009-

In the Matter of the Petition of

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R4-2006-0074
Issued by the
California Regional Water Quality Control Board,
Los Angeles Region

SWRCB/OCC FILE A-1780

BY THE BOARD:

In 2001, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 01-182 (the permit), a national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) municipal storm water permit. The permit authorizes storm water discharges from municipalities throughout the County of Los Angeles.[1] In 2002, the Los Angeles Water Board established a total maximum daily load (TMDL) for bacteria at Santa Monica Bay beaches during dry weather (the TMDL). The TMDL includes a waste load allocation for municipal storm water discharges. On September 14, 2006, the Los Angeles Water Board modified the permit by adopting Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R4-2006-0074 (the Permit modification). The Los Angeles Water Board crafted the Permit modification to implement the summer dry weather waste load allocations in the TMDL.

On October 16, 2006, the County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Petitioners) filed a petition with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), challenging the Permit modification. The Petitioners asked that the petition be placed in abeyance. Two years later, in September 2008, the Petitioners activated

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[1] The City of Long Beach is subject to a separate municipal storm water permit. (Los Angeles Water Board Order 99-060 [NPDES No. CAS004002].)

the petition. In this Order, the State Water Board concludes that the Los Angeles Water Board's implementation of the TMDL through the Permit modification was appropriate and proper.[2]

I. BACKGROUND

A. Regulatory Background

The Petitioners contend the Los Angeles Water Board improperly translated the provisions of an existing TMDL into a municipal storm water permit. In this section, we provide a brief overview of relevant portions of the regulatory frameworks for TMDLs and for storm water regulation.

1. TMDLs

In State Water Board Order WQ 2001-06 (*Tosco*), this Board provided a detailed background of TMDLs. As we explained in the *Tosco* order, water quality standards provide the foundation for identifying impaired waters that require a TMDL. Clean Water Act section 303(c) requires the states to adopt water quality standards that protect the public health or welfare, enhance the quality of water, and serve the purposes of the Clean Water Act. Water quality standards consist of the beneficial uses of a water body and the criteria to protect those uses. For waters subject to the Clean Water Act, California's water quality standards are typically found in regional water quality control plans (basin plans) and in statewide plans.

Clean Water Act section 303(d) requires states to identify waters of the United States for which technology-based effluent limitations are not stringent enough to implement water quality standards. We refer to those waters that are not attaining water quality standards as impaired waters, and identify the impaired waters on the state's 303(d) list of water quality limited segments.

For the pollutants causing impairment of waters of the United States, Clean Water Act section 303(d) requires states to establish TMDLs. "A TMDL defines the specified maximum amount of a pollutant which can be discharged or 'loaded' into [impaired waters] from all combined sources."[3] A TMDL is the sum of the individual wasteload allocations assigned to point sources, load allocations for nonpoint sources, and other elements designed to achieve

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[2] To the extent Petitioners raised issues not discussed in this order, such issues are hereby dismissed as not substantial or appropriate for review by the State Water Board. (See *People v. Barry* (1987) 194 Cal.App.3d 158, 175-177; *Johnson v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2004) 123 Cal.App.4th 1107; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 2052, subd. (a)(1).)

[3] *Dioxin/Organochlorine Center v. Clarke* (9th Cir. 1995) 57 F.3d 1517, 1520.

water quality standards.[4] Regional water quality control boards typically adopt TMDLs as part of each region's basin plan[5] and therefore include programs for implementation.[6] In essence, TMDLs serve as a backstop provision of the Clean Water Act designed to implement water quality standards when other provisions have failed to achieve water quality standards.

TMDLs are not self-executing, but instead, rely upon further orders or actions to adjust pollutant restrictions on individual dischargers.[7] Federal regulations state that water quality based effluent limitations in NPDES permits must be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the wasteload allocations in the TMDL, if the TMDL has been approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).[8]

The State Water Board estimates that statewide over 580 TMDLs will be needed for the current impaired waters list of 2,238 pollutant/water body combinations. Over 115 TMDLs are currently under development.

2. Municipal Storm Water Regulation

This Board has discussed the regulatory requirements for municipal storm water discharges in prior orders.[9] Section 402(p) of the Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of pollutants from specified municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) to waters of the United States except as authorized by an NPDES permit. Section 402(p) contains two substantive standards applicable to municipal storm water permits: MS4 permits (1) "shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers;"[10] and (2) "shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants."[11]

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[4] 40 C.F.R. § 130.3(i).

[5] See 40 C.F.R. §§ 130.6(c)(1) & 130.7.

[6] Wat. Code, §§ 13050, subd. (j), & 13242.

[7] *City of Arcadia v. EPA* (N.D.Cal. 2003) 265 F.Supp.2d 1142, 1144-1145; see also, e.g., State Water Board Resolution 2002-0149, ¶ 9 (approving Santa Monica Beaches Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL and noting that numeric targets and wasteload allocations are not directly enforceable and will need to be translated into individual permit requirements during a subsequent permitting action).

[8] 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).

[9] See, e.g., State Water Board Orders WQ 91-03 (*Communities for a Better Environment*), WQ 96-13 (*Save San Francisco Bay Ass'n*), WQ 2000-11 (*Cities of Bellflower et al.*), and WQ 2001-15 (*BIA*).

[10] 33 U.S.C., § 1342(p)(3)(B)(ii).

[11] *Id.*, § 1342(p)(3)(B)(iii).

U.S. EPA promulgated regulations establishing minimum requirements for all MS4 permits. The regulations generally focus on requirements that MS4s implement programs to reduce the amount of pollutants found in storm water discharges to the maximum extent practicable. The regulations also require the MS4's program to include an element to detect and remove illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer.[12] U.S. EPA added the illicit discharge program requirement with the stated intent of implementing the Clean Water Act provision by requiring permits to "effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges."[13] Neither the Clean Water Act nor the federal storm water regulations define "non-storm water." "Illicit discharge" is defined as any discharge to an MS4 "not composed entirely of storm water."[14] Thus, "illicit discharge" is the most nearly applicable definition of "non-storm water" found in federal law and is often used interchangeably with that term.

B. Procedural Background

In 1998, the State Water Board added 44 Santa Monica Bay beaches to its 303(d) list due to bacteria impairments. As required by the Clean Water Act, the Los Angeles Water Board adopted a TMDL entitled *Dry Weather TMDL for Bacteria at Santa Monica Bay Beaches* (the TMDL) on January 24, 2002. The State Water Board approved the TMDL on September 19, 2002. The California Office of Administrative Law and U.S. EPA subsequently approved the TMDL, and the TMDL became effective on July 15, 2003.

The Los Angeles Water Board established the TMDL to protect swimmers and other recreational users of Santa Monica Bay beaches when there are dry weather conditions and the beaches are most heavily used. Dry weather is defined in the TMDL to mean those days with less than 0.1 inches of rain and days at least three days after a day with 0.1 inches of rain. The TMDL recognizes that, under certain conditions, even undeveloped watersheds may have exceedances of bacteria water quality standards. As a result, the TMDL differentiates between summer dry weather (April 1 to October 31) and winter dry weather (November 1 to March 31). In summer dry weather, a reference beach in an undeveloped watershed had no exceedances of bacteria water quality standards. The resulting summer dry weather wasteload allocations in the TMDL are, therefore, zero days of exceedance of the bacteria water quality standards at a particular beach. In winter dry weather, the reference beach had three

[12] 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B).

[13] National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Application Regulations for Storm Water Discharges; Final Rule (hereafter Phase I preamble), 55 Fed. Reg. 47990, 47995 (Nov. 16, 1990).

[14] 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(b)(2). The definition of "illicit discharge" does provide exceptions for discharges pursuant to a separate NPDES permit and for discharges resulting from fire fighting activities. (*Ibid*.)

exceedances of the bacteria water quality standards. The resulting winter dry weather wasteload allocations allowed no more than three days of exceedance of the bacteria water quality standards at a particular beach.[15]

The TMDL includes wasteload allocations for municipal storm water discharges. Recognizing the different challenges associated with achieving the summer and winter dry weather wasteload allocations, as well as the higher summertime use of the beaches, the Los Angeles Water Board's implementation plan for the TMDL established a shorter schedule for achieving the summer dry weather wasteload allocations. The basin plan amendment establishing the TMDL included an implementation plan with a final compliance date of July 15, 2006 for summer dry weather. The final date for winter dry weather is July 15, 2009. By those dates, the TMDL's implementation plan anticipated there were to be no more discharges from MS4s that cause or contribute to exceedances of bacteria water quality standards on summer dry weather days.

The TMDL applies to Santa Monica Bay beaches along 55 miles of coastline, from Leo Carillo State Beach in the north to Outer Cabrillo beach in the south. Together, the beaches host an average of 55 million visitors per year, who add approximately $1.7 billion dollars to the local economy.

In May 2006, the Los Angeles Water Board's staff provided notice of its proposal to reopen and modify the permit in order to establish permit requirements consistent with the TMDL and its implementation plan. The proposed modification would make the TMDL's wasteload allocations enforceable, and be consistent with U.S. EPA's regulation requiring that effluent limitations in NPDES permits be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the wasteload allocations in the TMDL.[16] The Los Angeles Water Board solicited and received two rounds of comments on the proposed permit revisions, held a public workshop to solicit oral and written comments, and issued two sets of responses to comments. During the comment period, the Los Angeles Water Board received many comment letters, including letters of support from Governor Schwarzenegger and other public officials. On September 14, 2006, the Los Angeles Water Board held a public hearing and adopted a permit modification that included requirements to implement the TMDL's summer dry weather wasteload allocations.

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[15] Relying on antidegradation principles, the TMDL established winter dry weather wasteload allocations of zero, one, two, or three days of bacteria exceedances based on a particular beach's historical water quality.

[16] 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).

The modification prohibits discharges that cause or contribute to exceedances of bacteria water quality standards at Santa Monica Bay beaches on summer dry weather days. The Permit modification added Part 2.5 to the Receiving Water Limitations. Part 2.5 states:

> During Summer Dry Weather there shall be no discharges of bacteria from MS4s into the Santa Monica Bay that cause or contribute to exceedances in the Wave Wash, of the applicable bacteria objectives. The applicable bacteria objectives include both the single sample and geometric mean bacteria objectives set to protect the Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) beneficial use, as set forth in the Basin Plan.

The Permit modification also added a discharge prohibition. Discharge Prohibition 1.B states: "Discharges of Summer Dry Weather flows from MS4s into Santa Monica Bay that cause or contribute to exceedances of the bacteria Receiving Water Limitations in Part 2.5 below are prohibited." Neither the discharge prohibition nor the receiving water limitations includes an iterative process towards compliance.

Petitioners submitted a timely joint petition to the State Water Board on October 16, 2006. Pursuant to State Water Board regulations,[17] the petition was held in abeyance for nearly two years before Petitioners activated it on September 18, 2008. On that date, Petitioners also submitted a supplemental statement of points and authorities, which the State Water Board hereby adds to the administrative record. Petitioners, the Los Angeles Water Board, and the Santa Monica Baykeeper sought leave to make additional submissions and to add evidence to the administrative record.[18] Those requests are hereby denied.[19]

II. ISSUES AND FINDINGS

Contention: The discharge prohibition and receiving water limitations added by the Permit modification are ambiguous and should be clarified.

Finding: The contested provisions are sufficiently clear and were properly adopted. We conclude that no changes are necessary and reject this contention.

Petitioners claim that the discharge prohibition and receiving water limitations added by the Permit modification could be construed to prohibit storm water discharges containing bacteria, despite the Los Angeles Water Board's stated intention to limit those provisions to non-storm water discharges. In Petitioners' view, the words "non-storm water" should be added to Part 2.5

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[17] See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 2050.5, subd. (d).

[18] The filings include Petitioners' request to file a reply pleading, and various requests for administrative notice and to submit additional evidence.

[19] See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, §§ 2050.5, subd. (a), & 2050.6.

of the permit's receiving water limitations to match that intent and to clarify that Part 2.5 does not apply to storm water discharges.

Part 2.5 of the permit reads: "During Summer Dry Weather there shall be no discharges of bacteria from MS4s into the Santa Monica Bay that cause or contribute to [bacteria] exceedances…." The permit defines dry weather as "days with less than 0.1 inch of rainfall and occurring more than three days after a rain day."[20] "Summer Dry Weather" is a dry weather day occurring from April 1 to October 31 of each year.[21]

Petitioners' proposed revision to Part 2.5 would read: "During Summer Dry Weather there shall be no *non-storm water* discharges of bacteria from MS4s . . . ." (Italics added.) They argue that, without the change, Part 2.5 may apply to "storm water" because that term is defined in federal regulations to include "surface run-off and drainage." Petitioners imply that the federal reference to "surface run-off and drainage" includes run-off and drainage discharges that occur during dry weather periods of the summer.

We decline to accept Petitioners' proposed language, including their similar proposal for Discharge Prohibition 1.B, because the language chosen by the Los Angeles Water Board is clear and appropriate. The challenged permit provisions do not apply to storm water flows. U.S. EPA has previously rejected the notion that "storm water," as defined at 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26(b)(13), includes dry weather flows. In U.S. EPA's preamble to the storm water regulations, U.S. EPA rejected an attempt to define storm water to include categories of discharges "not in any way related to precipitation events."[22] The Los Angeles Water Board's permit language follows U.S. EPA's approach. The new Permit provisions specifically regulate dry weather discharges, which are defined to exclude discharges occurring during or immediately following a reportable precipitation event. Any discharges during such dry weather days would not be precipitation-related. No liability will attach under these provisions for discharges during, or as the result of, a rainfall event exceeding 0.1 inches.

In any event, Petitioners' proposed language deviates from that of the underlying wasteload allocation. That wasteload allocation defines "dry weather" and "summer dry weather" with language identical to that used in the challenged provisions.[23] The discharges regulated by the wasteload allocation are not qualified by the modifier "non-storm water," or any

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[20] Permit, Part 5, Definitions.

[21] *Ibid*.

[22] 55 Fed. Reg. 47990, 47995.

[23] See Basin Plan, Tables 7-4.1, 7-4.2a.

other term. Because 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.44(d)(1)(vii) requires effluent limitations to be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the underlying wasteload allocation, we refuse to unnecessarily add language that, if anything, could cause confusion and threaten compliance with U.S. EPA's regulation.

Contention: The receiving water limitations and discharge prohibition are numeric effluent limitations and, therefore, do not follow the accepted approach for controlling municipal storm water discharges.

Finding: The contested provisions are appropriate and proper. The summer dry weather discharges, as defined by the Permit and the TMDL, are more appropriately regarded as non-storm water discharges, which the Clean Water Act requires to be effectively prohibited.

Petitioners liken the challenged provisions to numeric effluent limitations, and then cite various state and federal sources to argue that using numeric effluent limitations to implement a TMDL in a storm water permit is inappropriate. Petitioners point to State Water Board Order WQ 2001-15 (*BIA*), where we stated that, for municipal storm water permits, "we will generally not require 'strict compliance' with water quality standards through numeric effluent limitations," and instead "we will continue to follow an iterative approach, which seeks compliance over time" with water quality standards.[24] They also point to a U.S. EPA guidance document entitled *Establishing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Wasteload Allocations (WLAs) for Storm Water Sources and NPDES Permit Requirements Based on Those WLAs* (the U.S. EPA guidance document).[25] Petitioners cite a provision therein that reads, "because storm water discharges are due to storm events that are highly variable in frequency and duration and are not easily characterized, only in rare cases will it be feasible or appropriate to establish numeric limits for municipal and small construction discharges."[26]

The references relied upon by Petitioners are inapposite, and do not support invalidating the Los Angeles Water Board's requirements. Instead, the Petitioners' references are directed at the regulation of storm water discharges. The Permit modification is limited to non-storm water discharges which occur during summer dry weather. The U.S. EPA guidance document is limited to wasteload allocations "for storm water discharges" and permit limitations

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[24] *BIA*, *supra*, at p. 8.

[25] U.S. EPA, *Establishing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Wasteload Allocations (WLAs) for Storm Water Sources and NPDES Permit Requirements Based on Those WLAs*, Memorandum from U.S. EPA Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds Robert H. Wayland, III and Director, Office of Wastewater Management James Hanlon to Water Division Directors, Regions 1-10, Nov. 22, 2002 (hereafter U.S. EPA guidance document).

[26] *Id.*, at p. 4.

and conditions "based on the [wasteload allocations] for storm water discharges."[27] Furthermore, the Clean Water Act and the federal storm water regulations assign different performance requirements for storm water and non-storm water discharges. These distinctions in the guidance document, the Clean Water Act, and the storm water regulations make it clear that a regulatory approach for storm water - such as the iterative approach we have previously endorsed - is not necessarily appropriate for non-storm water.

We instead look to directly relevant authorities. Federal law requires municipal storm water permit limitations to be consistent with applicable wasteload allocations.[28] The Clean Water Act requires MS4 permit requirements to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges.[29] Similarly, California law requires NPDES permits to apply "any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans...."[30]

The basin plan established a compliance deadline of July 15, 2006, for achieving final compliance with the summer dry weather wasteload allocations for bacteria. The TMDL, which is a component of the Los Angeles Water Board's basin plan, assigns a wasteload allocation to certain "local agencies that are permittees or co-permittees on a municipal storm water permit."[31] The basin plan further establishes that these agencies are responsible for complying with the summer dry weather wasteload allocation. The summer dry weather wasteload allocation prohibits the exceedance of bacteria water quality objectives on summer dry weather days at specified locations.[32] The Permit modification is consistent with the wasteload allocation and other basin plan provisions.

The Permit modification is also consistent with the federal framework for non-storm water discharges. 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B), which implements the Clean Water Act's requirement for the effective prohibition of non-storm water discharges, requires municipal storm water permittees to detect and remove all categories of non-storm water discharges to the MS4, or to require the non-storm water discharger to obtain a separate NPDES permit. While MS4 permits generally contain exceptions for some non-storm water discharges, these exceptions do not extend to non-storm water discharges identified as a

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[27] U.S. EPA guidance document, *supra*, at p. 1.

[28] 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).

[29] 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B)(ii).

[30] Wat. Code, § 13377.

[31] Basin Plan, Table 7-4.1, fn. 3.

[32] *Id.*, Table 7-4.1.

source of pollutants.[33] In adopting the TMDL, the Los Angeles Water Board identified summer dry weather discharges as a source of water quality exceedances for bacteria. Prohibiting summer dry weather bacteria exceedances caused or contributed to by MS4s is therefore consistent with the federal framework for non-storm water discharges.

Moreover, the references Petitioners' rely upon to challenge the prohibitions and receiving water limitations as strict, numeric effluent limitations are not relevant to this petition. The contested provisions are receiving water limitations, not numeric effluent limitations. The contested provisions do not impose a numeric limitation measured at a point source outfall. Instead, compliance with the limitations is measured in the receiving water, and more specifically, at the "wave wash" for the individual beaches. The TMDL defines the wave wash "as the point at which the storm drain or creek empties and the effluent from the storm drain initially mixes with the receiving ocean water."[34] The provisions are directed at the quality of the receiving water, as affected by the discharge. They do not establish numeric effluent limitations for the discharge to the receiving water.[35],[36]

While the issue before us only concerns permit requirements to implement summer dry weather wasteload allocations and therefore non-storm water discharges, the result would not necessarily be different for municipal *storm water* discharges subject to a TMDL. TMDLs, which take significant resources to develop and finalize, are devised with specific implementation plans and compliance dates designed to bring impaired waters into compliance with water quality standards. It is our intent that federally mandated TMDLs be given substantive effect. Doing so can improve the efficacy of California's NPDES storm water permits. This is not to say that a wasteload allocation will result in numeric effluent limitations for municipal storm water discharges. But, when an approved TMDL is in place, the water boards will give substantive effect to the TMDL and allow it to become much more than an academic exercise. Whether a future municipal storm water permit requirement appropriately implements a storm water wasteload allocation will need to be decided based on the regional

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[33] See 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1). The exempted categories include, but are not limited to, water line flushing, rising ground waters, landscape irrigation, and street wash water.

[34] Basin Plan, Table 7-4.1, fn. 1.

[35] See, e.g., *BIA*, *supra*; State Water Board Order WQ 99-05 (*Environmental Health Coalition*). Those Orders endorsed receiving water limitations modified by an iterative process. The absence of an accompanying iterative process does not convert receiving water limitations into numeric effluent limitations.

[36] For the purposes of state enforcement under the Porter-Cologne Act's mandatory minimum penalties law, California distinguishes numeric restrictions on discharged effluent from receiving water limitations. (Wat. Code, § 13385.1, subd. (c).)

water quality control board's findings supporting either the numeric or non-numeric effluent limitations contained in the permit.

III. ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the petition of the County of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Flood Control District is denied.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on June 16, 2009.

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Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board