



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

**TO:** Interested Parties

**FROM:** Samuel Unger *[original signed by]*  
Unit Chief, TMDL Unit 2

**DATE:** May 11, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Public Hearing and CEQA Scoping Meeting- Amendments to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* to Incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for 1) Organochlorine (OC) Pesticides, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) and Siltation in Calleguas Creek, its Tributaries and Mugu Lagoon and 2) Toxicity, Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon in Calleguas Creek, its Tributaries and Mugu Lagoon

On April 26, 2005, the California Regional Water Quality Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), gave formal public notice of a public workshop to be held on May 5, 2005 for two proposed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) under development by the Regional Board: 1) Organochlorine (OC) Pesticides, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) and Siltation in Calleguas Creek, its Tributaries and Mugu Lagoon and 2) Toxicity, Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon in Calleguas Creek, its Tributaries and Mugu Lagoon. Notice was sent to interested parties and documents related to the two TMDLs, including technical reports, staff memoranda, tentative resolutions and Basin Plan Amendments and CEQA checklists, were posted to the Regional Board website:

- <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/meetings/tmdl/tmdl.html>.

On May 5, 2005, a public workshop was held at the City of Simi Valley Council Chambers in Simi Valley, California. A presentation for each TMDL was made by Regional Board staff and public comments were heard. The Regional Board took no action on the TMDLs or tentative resolutions and Basin Plan Amendments at that time but gave the staff direction to include more information on natural attenuation of legacy pesticides and costs of compliance.

On Tuesday, May 31, 2005 the Regional Board will hold a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping meeting pursuant to California Public Resources Code section 21083.9 to receive comments on the appropriate scope and content of the "functionally equivalent" environmental documents to be prepared pursuant to section 21080.5 of CEQA concerning these TMDLs. The public meeting will be held in the City of Thousand Oaks:

**CEQA Scoping Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 31, 2005**  
**10 am**  
**Civic Arts Plaza Board Room**  
**2100 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd**  
**City of Thousand Oaks**

*California Environmental Protection Agency*



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June 10, 2005 is the close of the formal comment period on the documents that were released on April 26, 2005. Written comments and exhibits must be submitted to the Regional Board no later than 5:00 pm on June 10, 2005. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for the Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or exhibit into evidence (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Section 649.4). Comments should be submitted to:

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Los Angeles California, 90013  
ATTN: Dr. L.B. Nye**

For the Toxicity, Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon TMDL please address comments and questions to Dr. L.B. Nye, (213) 576-6785 or lnye@waterboards.ca.gov, and for the OC Pesticides, PCBs and Siltation TMDL please address comments and questions to Mr. Samuel Unger, (213) 576-6784 or sunger@waterboards.ca.gov. If you do not have access to the Internet, and would like a copy of the documents, please contact Ms Sandra Kelly at (213) 576-6619.

On July 7, 2005, the Regional Board will act on proposed TMDLs after hearing staff's presentations and considering public comments. The Public Hearing to consider the proposed TMDLs and tentative is scheduled for:

**Public Hearing  
Thursday, July 7, 2005  
9 am  
Council Chambers  
2929 Tapo Canyon Road  
Simi Valley, California**

At the public hearing, the public will have opportunity to comment on the proposed Basin Plan amendments. Oral presentations should be summarized in writing to the extent possible.



## Background

The Regional Board, working with Calleguas Creek stakeholders and the US EPA, has developed TMDLs to reduce toxicity, chlorpyrifos, diazinon, organochlorine pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls, and siltation in Calleguas Creek, its tributaries and Mugu Lagoon. Elevated concentrations of pesticides and PCBs have been associated with aquatic toxicity. The TMDLs are needed to protect designated beneficial uses associated with aquatic and wildlife habitat, and to achieve water quality objectives, which protect these beneficial uses. The Regional Board has prepared this TMDL to address the documented impairments in Calleguas Creek, its tributaries and Mugu Lagoon. A public hearing before the Regional Board will be held to review the proposed TMDLs and solicit input from stakeholders and the public. After the hearing, the Regional Board will consider amending the Basin Plan to incorporate the TMDLs.

The Regional Board is charged with implementing the provisions of both the Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California law) and the federal Clean Water Act in the Los Angeles Region. Implementation of these laws is achieved through the development and implementation of water quality standards for all of the water bodies within the Region. Under the federal Clean Water Act, water quality standards consist of beneficial use designations of water bodies and numeric or narrative water quality objectives, which are protective of those beneficial uses as well as the state's anti-degradation policy. Section 303(d)(A)(1) of the Clean Water Act requires the State to identify those waters, which are impaired by pollution (i.e. not meeting water quality standards), and establish TMDLs for the pollutants causing the impairments. A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and allocates the acceptable pollutant load to point and nonpoint sources. The TMDL may be expressed in terms of mass per time, toxicity units, concentration, or with other appropriate measures.

The proposed TMDL sets numeric targets based on the water quality, sediment quality, and fish tissue guidelines compiled by the US EPA, California Department of Fish and Game, the California Toxics Rule, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These guidelines are applicable numeric targets because the impairments and the 303(d) listings were based on water quality, sediment quality, and fish tissue data. In addition, the pollutants being addressed have a high affinity for particles and the delivery of these pollutants is generally associated with the transport of suspended solids from the watershed or from sediments within Calleguas Creek, its tributaries and Mugu Lagoon.

For point sources, water and sediment concentration-based waste load allocations were developed, depending on the characteristics of the discharge. Waste load allocations for the NPDES permits (including minor and general permits) will be translated into permit limits upon their issuance, renewal, or re-opener. For non-point sources, sediment concentration-based load allocations were developed, which will likely be implemented through a Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands, currently under development by the Regional Board. It is proposed that dischargers achieve compliance with wasteload and load allocations for diazinon and chlorpyrifos within seven years of the effective date of the TMDL and that dischargers achieve water quality standards for organochlorine pesticides and PCBs within 19 years of the TMDL.

