



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



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

Linda S. Adams
Agency Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

TO: Interested Stakeholders

FROM: Sam Unger *SU*
Regional Programs Section Chief

DATE: November 7, 2006

SUBJECT: Addendum to Notice of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting dated November 1, 2006 for proposed amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan) to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Trash for Waterbodies in the Los Angeles County

This addendum is to the notice dated November 1, 2006 by Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) for a CEQA Scoping Meeting on December 6, 2006 for multiple waterbodies in the Los Angeles County:

1. Machado Lake,
2. Legg Lake, and
3. Pico Kenter Drain.

Pursuant to California Public Resources Code section 21083.9, Los Angeles Water Board shall conduct CEQA Scoping Meeting to receive comments on the appropriate scope and content of the "functionally equivalent" substitute environmental documents supporting Basin Plan amendments that would establish new Trash TMDLs and implementation plans. The substitute environmental documents will be prepared pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.5, and the State Water Resources Control Board's regulations related to its Certified Regulatory Program. (See 23 Cal. Code Regs. §3775 et seq.) The substitute environmental documents are intended to serve as planning level (Tier 1) environmental documents, consistent with Public Resources Code section 21159.

BACKGROUND OF WATERBODIES

Machado Lake

Machado Lake, located within the Dominguez Channel watershed and in Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park at Wilmington and Harbor City area under the jurisdiction of City of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, was originally designated for boating and fishing. Stormwater runoffs from adjacent 20 square miles discharge to this 40-acre lake via Wilmington

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Drain owned and operated by County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, and Project No. 77 Drain and Harbor City Relief Drain both owned and operated by City of Los Angeles. Additional to the recreational uses, the park also accommodates a day labor office in the parking lot and homeless residents.

Trash, such as food or beverage containers, is commonly observed on the lake, in all drains and in the park. A floating boom system across Wilmington Drain is equipped to capture trash from entering into the lake. Metal screen systems are installed at the outlet of the city drains. Although City of Los Angeles collects trash on the lake twice a week, more signs and trash cans with lids may be needed with frequent park patrol and enforcement of litter laws to eliminate the deposition of trash on the ground.

Legg Lake

Legg Lake is part of Whittier Narrows flood control basin which collects runoffs from upstream of San Gabriel River and serves as conservation pool for groundwater recharge. Whittier Narrows was subsequently developed for park and recreational purpose and is managed by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. It is observed that federal and state species of concern habitats in the natural portion of the Legg Lake area.

Due to the recreational use of Legg Lake and the surrounding area, Legg Lake has been listed on the 2002 Clean Water Act 303(d) list for trash. The discharge of two county storm drains from City of El Monte and City of South El Monte may contribute to the trash impairment of Legg Lake.

Pico Kenter Drain

Pico Kenter Drain is an underground storm drain system collecting surface water through catch basins primary in City of Santa Monica and in a minor portion of Los Angeles County. This underground storm drain system is mainly constructed of reinforced concrete pipe, flows from north and east toward west, and discharges to Santa Monica Bay.

The highly developed Santa Monica has identified the trash problem caused by the street runoffs from all residential, commercial and industrial areas. April 2001, Santa Monica's Urban Runoff Recycling Facility (SMURRF) was built to process flow from Pico Kenter Drain up to 500,000 gallons per day (gpd). Water is screened to remove trash and treated for other constituents of concern, thereafter recycled for landscape irrigation, instead of discharging to Santa Monica Bay.

SCOPES OF TMDLS

In addition to encompassing four primary sections: problem statement, numeric target, source analysis and waste load allocation, trash TMDLs will coordinate with other programs and will:

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- Assign wasteload and load allocations of zero trash to storm water permittees;
- Assign load allocations of zero trash to nonpoint sources;
- Be implemented through phased annual reductions in trash dischargers over a period of approximately 10 years;
- Allow for deemed compliance with the zero waste load allocations if the permittees install technology that has been certified by the Regional Board as a "Full Capture Device."

SUBSTITUTE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

Los Angeles Water Board staff has not proposed any specific perspectives for "substitute" environmental document yet, but will consider any reasonable suggestion that may be appropriate to avoid or mitigate significant or potentially significant adverse environmental effects.

Interested stakeholders are specifically requested to provide information about:

- How they or responsible jurisdictions would foreseeably comply with the Trash TMDL;
- The reasonably foreseeable significant environmental impacts associated with those means of compliance;
- Specific evidence supporting that such impacts are reasonably foreseeable, and describing the magnitude (how significant) of the impacts;
- Reasonable alternative means of compliance that would have less significant adverse environmental impacts;
- Reasonable mitigation measures that would minimize any unavoidable significant adverse environmental impacts associated with the means of compliance.

(See Public Resources Code section 21159.)

The Trash TMDLs CEQA Scoping Meeting will be held:

9:00 A.M., Wednesday, December 6, 2006

**Serra Junipero State Building
320 W. 4th Street, 7th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013**

Please contact Dr. Eric Wu at (213) 576-6683 if you have any questions about this matter. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of any persons known to you who would be interested in this matter.

cc: Michael Levy, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board

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