



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Linda S. Adams
Agency Secretary

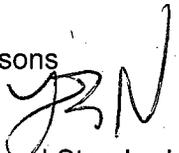
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NOTICE OF HEARING

To: Interested Persons

From: Dr. L.B. Nye 
Chief, TMDLs and Standards
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

Date: June 26, 2007

Subject: **Notice of Public Hearing for a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* to incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria at the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County (Kiddie Beach, Hobie Beach, and Harbor Cove Beach)**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) will consider a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) to reduce bacteria exceedances observed in the impaired waterbodies of the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County. Additional regulations or policies, consistent with the general purpose of the proposed amendment and complementary to the proposal may be developed at the hearing as a logical outgrowth of discussions. The Regional Board will act on the proposed amendment after hearing staff's presentation and public comments.

Copies of the Tentative Resolution, Basin Plan Amendment, Staff Report, Substitute Environmental Documents containing the CEQA checklist, and Notice of Filing for the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County Bacteria TMDL can be obtained from the Regional Board website <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/bpaRes/bpa.html>
Please contact Mr. Man Voong at (213) 576-6808 or Dr. L.B. Nye with questions or to request additional copies of the Staff report or related documents.

**A Public Hearing will be held on September 06, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.
at the City of San Buenaventura, Council Chambers
501 Poli Street, San Buenaventura, California 93001**

Written comments and exhibits must be submitted to the Regional Board no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 10, 2007. 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 Environmental Protection Agency



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Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West Fourth Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013

ATTN: Mr. Man Voong

All exhibits including charts, graphs and other testimony presented at the public hearing must be left with the Regional Board for inclusion in the Administrative Record. Please note that the Regional Board may impose time limits on oral testimony at the public hearing.

Background

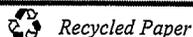
Elevated levels of bacteria indicators in recreational waters have been associated with adverse health effects. Elevated levels of bacteria indicators at the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County have resulted in beach postings. The TMDL will include a strategy to reducing elevated levels of bacteria resulting in reduced health risk and postings. The TMDL will be incorporated into the Basin Plan to ensure continued beneficial and recreational uses at the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County. Identified beneficial uses for the Kiddie Beach and Hobie Beach include contact and non-contact water recreation, fishing, and marine and wildlife habitat, among others. Beneficial uses for Harbor Cove beach include contact and non-contact water recreation, fishing, navigation, and marine and wildlife habitat, industrial service supply, and various others.

The Regional Board is charged with implementing the provisions of both the State of California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act in the Los Angeles Region. Section 303(d)(A)(1) of the Federal Clean Water Act requires the Regional Board to identify water quality limited segments within the Region. This includes water bodies not attaining water quality standards. Once these water bodies are identified, TMDLs are to be established for 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. The acceptable amount of pollutant load is allocated to point sources and nonpoint sources. A TMDL can be expressed in terms of either mass per time, toxicity, concentration, or other appropriate measures. In the case of bacteria, the TMDL would be expressed as a concentration. The State Water Resources Control Board listed Kiddie Beach, Hobie Beaches, and Harbor Cove Beach on its 2002 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies in California for bacteria indicators. The beaches were listed due to significant exceedances of numeric bacteria limits.

Elevated levels of bacteria indicators are impairing existing beneficial uses, including water contact recreation, at the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County. Recent epidemiological studies have linked elevated levels of bacteria indicators with adverse health effects, including gastroenteritis. The TMDL has been drafted to address the impairments associated with elevated levels of bacteria indicators. Regional Board Staff has concluded that a combination of diffuse point and nonpoint sources contribute to the elevated bacteria densities observed at the beaches. As a result, Waste Load and Load Allocations are assigned for addressing point

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and nonpoint sources of bacteria at the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County. Exceedances of bacteria numeric limits are quantified in terms of season (i.e. April to October for summer months and November to March Winter months) and dry- and wet-weather days (wet-weather days are defined as days with 0.1 inches or more of rain) for single sample limits.

The TMDL sets forth separate implementation schedules for Kiddie Beach and Hobie Beach and Harbor Cove Beach to attain water quality standards. Both of the implementation schedules allow five years to reduce the number of summer and winter dry-weather days that do not meet bacteria water quality standards. Also, both implementation schedules allow ten years to reduce the wet-weather days that do not meet bacteria water quality standards. The County of Ventura, City of Oxnard, Caltrans, and Co-permittees of the Ventura County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit are responsible for meeting the requirements of the TMDL and adhering to the implementation schedule for Hobie Beach and Kiddie Beach. For Harbor Cove Beach, the Ventura Port District, City of Ventura (also known as San Buenaventura), County of Ventura, Caltrans, and Co-permittees of the Ventura County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit are responsible for meeting the requirements of the TMDL and adhering to the implementation schedule.

