



Linda S. Adams  
Agency Secretary

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region

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### NOTICE OF HEARING

To: Interested Persons

From: Renee Purdy  
Acting Section Chief, Regional Programs  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

Date: July 23, 2009

Subject: Notice of Public Hearing for a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load for Organochlorine (OC) Pesticides, Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Sediment Toxicity, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), and Metals for Colorado Lagoon.

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 Load (TMDL) to attain fish tissue and sediment quality objectives for OC pesticides, PCBs, sediment toxicity, PAHs, and metals in Colorado Lagoon. 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.

The public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, 700 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California. At the public hearing, the public will have opportunity to comment on the proposed TMDL.

Copies of the proposed resolution, Basin Plan amendment, staff report, Substitute Environmental Document containing the CEQA checklist, and Notice of Filing can be obtained from the Regional Board website at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/tmdl/tmdl\\_list.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/tmdl/tmdl_list.shtml). Please contact Thanhloan Nguyen at (213) 576-6689 for additional information.

Written comments and exhibits must be submitted to the Regional Board no later than **2:00 p.m.** on September 8, 2009. 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: Thanhloan Nguyen

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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

The proposed amendment would incorporate into the Basin Plan a TMDL to reduce OC pesticides, PCBs, sediment toxicity, PAHs, and metals loading to Colorado Lagoon. The Regional Board's goal in incorporating the above-mentioned TMDL is to protect the beneficial uses of Colorado Lagoon, which include water contact recreation and non-contact water recreation, commercial and sport fishing, warm freshwater habitat, wildlife habitat, and shellfish harvesting, and to restore the overall fish tissue, sediment, and water quality in Colorado Lagoon. The Regional Board has prepared this TMDL to address the documented OC pesticides, PCBs, sediment toxicity, PAHs, and metals impairments in Colorado Lagoon.

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. One of the ways in which the Regional Board implements these laws is through the development and implementation of fish tissue, sediment, and water quality standards for all of the waterbodies within the Region. Under the federal Clean Water Act, fish tissue, sediment, and water quality standards consist of beneficial use designations of waterbodies, and numeric or narrative fish tissue, sediment, and water quality objectives that 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 that are impaired by pollution, and establish TMDLs for the pollutants causing the impairments. A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet fish tissue, sediment, and water quality standards, and allocates the acceptable pollutant load to point and non-point sources.

The proposed TMDL sets numeric fish tissue, sediment, and water quality targets for OC pesticides, PCBs, sediment toxicity, PAHs, and metals based on the specific numeric fish tissue, sediment, and water quality objectives provided in the Basin Plan, the California Toxic Rule (CTR), Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) Fish Contaminant Goals, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) screening values, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Sediment Quality Guidelines. Mass-based and concentration-based waste load allocations for MS4 permittees including the City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and Caltrans are allocated to major storm drains outfalls that currently discharge to the lagoon. Concentration-based waste load allocations are assigned to minor NPDES permits, and other stormwater and non-stormwater permittees. Any future minor NPDES permits or enrollees under a general non-stormwater NPDES permit, general industrial stormwater permit or general construction permit will also be subject to the concentration-based waste load allocations.

The proposed TMDL would require the permitted MS4 dischargers, minor NPDES permits, other stormwater, and non-stormwater permittees to achieve their allocations within 7 years. The goal of the TMDL implementation plan is to achieve sediment quality standards. Achieving the sediment quality standards and maintaining water quality, is expected to improve and allow achievement of fish tissue targets. TMDL implementation will be carried out by responsible jurisdictions including, but not limited to, the City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and Caltrans to control water and sediment loadings. The proposed implementation actions include a range of activities that are proposed by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and City of Long Beach in the *Los Angeles County*

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*Termino Avenue Drain Project* and *Colorado Lagoon Restoration Project*, respectively. Implementation of the proposed actions should result in attainment of the TMDL allocations. If the proposed actions are not implemented or otherwise do not result in attainment of allocations, additional implementation actions shall be required.

