



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Santa Ana Region



**Matthew Rodriguez**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

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**Edmund G. Brown Jr.**  
Governor

February 16, 2012

Garry Cohoe  
San Bernardino Associated  
Governments  
1170 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92410

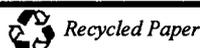
**CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS  
CERTIFICATION FOR THE I-10/TIPPECANOE AVE. INTERCHANGE  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA (ACOE  
REFERENCE NO. NOT AVAILABLE) (SARWQCB PROJECT NO. 362012-02)**

Dear Mr. Cohoe:

On December 29, 2011, we received an application for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Standards Certification ("Certification") from San Bernardino Associated Governments for a project to increase vehicle traffic capacity at the Interstate-10 (I-10) Tippecanoe Ave. Interchange and to improve access to the area served by the interchange. This letter responds to your request for certification that the proposed project, described in your application and summarized below, will comply with State water quality standards outlined in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (1995) (Basin Plan) and subsequent Basin Plan amendments:

**Project Description:** The project includes the widening of the I-10 bridges over the San Timoteo Creek Channel and undergrounding of an unnamed concrete-lined trapezoidal drainage channel to accommodate the widening of the eastbound lanes of I-10. The I-10 bridges over the San Timoteo Creek Channel will be extended approximately 42 ft. to the south, which will require extension of the abutments and pier wall. The existing structure connecting the existing unnamed concrete-lined trapezoidal channel to the San Timoteo Creek Channel will be removed and reconstructed with a new reinforced concrete box connection. The unnamed channel, located parallel to the I-10 on the southern side of the I-10 between the San Timoteo Creek Channel and Anderson Street, will be replaced with an underground reinforced concrete box to

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accommodate the eastbound I-10 widening. The work will take place within an unnamed Section of Township 1 South, Range 4 West, of the U.S. Geological Survey *South San Bernardino, California* quadrangle map (34.063832° N/ -117.273925° W).

- Receiving water: San Timoteo Creek Channel and an unnamed channel adjacent to and south of eastbound I-10 freeway
- Fill area: 0.47 acre of permanent impact to streambed habitat (3,555 linear feet); 0.08 acres of temporary impact to streambed habitat (67 linear feet). These impacts are within concrete lined channel structures.
- Dredge/Fill volume: 805 cubic yards
- Federal permit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit No. 14

You have proposed to mitigate water quality impacts as described in your Certification application. The proposed mitigation is summarized below:

**Onsite Water Quality Standards Mitigation Proposed:**

- Standard water quality related best management practices (BMPs) will be employed during construction activities.

**Offsite Water Quality Standards Mitigation Proposed:**

- The applicant will purchase 2.0 acres of credits from the Santa Ana Watershed Association's (SAWA) Santa Ana River Watershed Trust Fund for *Arundo* Eradication and Habitat Enhancement, an approved In-Lieu Fees Program, to mitigate for permanent impacts.

Should the proposed project impact state- or federally-listed endangered species or their habitat, implementation of measures identified in consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game will ensure those impacts are mitigated to an acceptable level. Appropriate BMPs will be implemented to reduce construction-related impacts to Waters of the State according to the requirements of Order No. R8-2010-0036 (NPDES Permit No. CAS618036), commonly known as the San Bernardino County Municipal Storm Water Permit, and subsequent iterations thereof.

Order No. R8-2010-0036 requires that you substantially comply with the requirements of State Water Resources Control Board's General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, including the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Protection Plan (SWPPP).

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15096, subdivision (f), the Regional Board must consider the environmental effects of the project as shown in the associated negative declaration prior to reaching a decision on the project. The Regional Board has considered Mitigated Negative Declaration filed on February 3, 2011 by the California Department of Transportation, in the issuance of this Certification. The Regional Board independently finds that changes or alterations have been required, or incorporated into the proposed project, which avoid or mitigate impacts to water quality to a less than significant level.

**This 401 Certification is contingent upon the execution of the following conditions:**

- 1) The applicant must comply with the requirements of the applicable Clean Water Act section 404 permit.
- 2) Proposed mitigation shall be timely implemented. Materials documenting the purchase of necessary mitigation credits shall be provided to this office prior to discharge of fill to, or to the dredging or excavation of material from, waters of the state.
- 3) All materials generated from construction activities associated with this project shall be managed appropriately. This shall include identifying all potential pollution sources within the scope of work of this project, and incorporating all necessary pollution prevention BMPs as they relate to each potential pollution source identified.
- 4) The project proponent shall utilize BMPs during project construction to minimize the controllable discharges of sediment and other wastes to drainage systems or other waters of the state and of the United States.
- 5) Substances resulting from project-related activities that could be harmful to aquatic life, including, but not limited to, petroleum lubricants and fuels, cured and uncured cements, epoxies, paints and other protective coating materials, portland cement concrete or asphalt concrete, and washings and cuttings thereof, shall not be discharged to soils or waters of the state. All waste concrete shall be removed.

- 6) Motorized equipment shall not be maintained or parked within or near any stream crossing, channel or lake margin in such a manner that petroleum products or other pollutants from the equipment may enter these areas under any flow conditions. Vehicles shall not be driven or equipment operated in waters of the state on-site, except as necessary to complete the proposed project. No equipment shall be operated in areas of flowing water.
- 7) This Water Quality Certification is subject to the acquisition of all local, regional, state, and federal permits and approvals as required by law. Failure to meet any conditions contained herein or any the conditions contained in any other permit or approval issued by the State of California or any subdivision thereof may result in the revocation of this Certification and civil or criminal liability.
- 8) A copy of this Certification and any subsequent amendments must be maintained on site for the duration of work as a denoted element of any project SWPPP or WQMP.
- 9) Best management practices to stabilize disturbed soils must include the use of native plant species whenever feasible.
- 10) Applicant shall ensure all procedures and policies specified within the project's WQMP, shall adequately address any hydraulic conditions of concern generated during and as a result of this project.
- 11) Construction de-watering discharges, including temporary stream diversions necessary for project construction may be regulated under Regional Board Order No. R8-2009-0003, General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Surface Waters that Pose an Insignificant (De Minimus) Threat to Water Quality. For more information, please review Order No. R8-2009-0003 at [www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/)
- 12) Applicant shall ensure that all fees associated with this project shall be paid to each respective agency prior to conducting any on-site construction activities.

Under California Water Code, Section 1058, and Pursuant to 23 CCR §3860, the following shall be included as conditions of all water quality certification actions:

(a) Every certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to Section §13330 of the Water Code and Article 6 (commencing with Section 3867) of this Chapter.

(b) Certification is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any activity involving a hydroelectric facility and requiring a FERC license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent certification application was filed pursuant to Subsection §3855(b) of this Chapter and that application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.

(c) Certification is conditioned upon total payment of any fee required under this Chapter and owed by the applicant.

If the above stated conditions are changed, any of the criteria or conditions as previously described are not met, or new information becomes available that indicates a water quality problem, the Regional Board may require the applicant to submit a report of waste discharge and obtain Waste Discharge Requirements.

In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this certification, the holder of any permit or license subject to this certification shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process or sanctions as provided for under state law. For purposes of section 401(d) of the Clean Water Act, the applicability of any state law authorizing remedies, penalties, process or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this certification. Violations of the conditions of this certification may subject the applicant to civil liability pursuant to Water Code section 13350 and/or 13385.

This letter constitutes a Water Quality Standards Certification issued pursuant to Clean Water Act Section 401. I hereby issue an order certifying that any discharge from the referenced project will comply with the applicable provisions of Sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, and with other applicable requirements of State law.

Garry Cohoe  
San Bernardino Associated  
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- 6 -

February 16, 2012

This discharge is also regulated under State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ (Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ), "General Waste Discharge Requirements for Dredge and Fill Discharges That Have Received Water Quality Certification" which requires compliance with all conditions of this Water Quality Standards Certification. Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ is available at: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/water\\_quality/2003/wqo/wqo\\_2003-0017.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2003/wqo/wqo_2003-0017.pdf)

Should there be any questions, please contact Marc Brown at (951) 321-4584, or Mark Adelson at (951) 782-3234.

Sincerely,



Kurt V. Berchtold  
Executive Officer  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

cc (via electronic mail):

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles Office- Mark Durham  
State Water Resources Control Board, OCC- David Rice  
State Water Resources Control Board, DWQ -Water Quality Certification Unit  
California Department of Fish and Game - Joanna Gibson  
U.S. EPA- Supervisor of the Wetlands Regulatory Office WTR- 8

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