



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Santa Ana Region



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

September 13, 2007

Mike Desai
MPJDesai, Inc.
17247 Cross Creek Lane
Riverside, CA 92503

CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS CERTIFICATION FOR THE HAMPTON INN STORM DRAIN OUTFALL, CITY OF NORCO, RIVERSIDE COUNTY (ACOE REFERENCE NO. 2007 – 0583 and 200700078 – CLM)

Dear Mr. Desai:

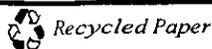
On May 9, 2007, we received an application for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Standards Certification (Certification), submitted on your behalf by LSA Associates, Inc., for a proposed storm drain outfall to the South Norco Channel, serving the Hampton Inn now under construction in the City of Norco, Riverside County. After reviewing the project Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) and interviewing the WQMP authors, Regional Board staff determined that proposed structural storm water treatment controls – an underground infiltration chamber – had not been designed according to the approved County of Riverside WQMP pursuant to the provisions of Regional Board Order No. R8-2002-0011, commonly known as the Riverside County Urban Storm Water Runoff Permit. A Staff Enforcement Letter (SEL) to address this matter was issued to the City of Norco on July 27, 2007.

On August 7, 2007, the City of Norco responded to the July 27, 2007 SEL. In their response, the City indicates that the underground infiltration chamber will be supplemented by an underground gravel field. The gravel field will increase the infiltration surface area pursuant to design methods in the approved County of Riverside WQMP. An addendum will be prepared accordingly for the project WQMP.

Consequently, 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) and subsequent Basin Plan amendments:

Project Description: Construction of a storm drain outfall serving a three-story, 82-unit hotel, and associated parking lot and outdoor swimming pool. The storm drain outfall will discharge to the South Norco Channel adjacent to the hotel. The project is located at 1530 Hamner Avenue, Norco, within Section 13 of Township 3 South, Range 7 West, of the U.S. Geological Survey Corona

California Environmental Protection Agency



North, California, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map (33 deg. 55 min. 29 sec. N/ -117 deg. 32 min. 59 sec. W).

Receiving water: South Norco Channel.

Fill area: 0.01 acres of permanent impact to a flood control channel (40 linear feet).

Dredge/Fill volume: N/A

Federal permit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit No. 7

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 Best Management Practices will be implemented to reduce construction-related impacts to Waters of the State. This project is over one acre. Therefore, coverage under the State Water Resources Control Board's General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, Water Quality Order 99-08 DWQ, is required, as is development of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), to control the discharge of pollutants from the project site.

You have applied for a Nationwide Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. You have applied for a Streambed Alteration Agreement with the California Department of Fish and Game. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Norco adopted a Negative Declaration for the hotel on May 4, 2005. The Executive Officer has considered the City's Negative Declaration in the issuance of this Certification.

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

1. This Certification is conditioned upon the construction of all storm water treatment facilities as proposed. All structural storm water treatment facilities shall be constructed and operational prior to the occupancy of the building.
2. Regional Board staff and other authorized representatives shall be allowed:
 - a. Entry upon premises where storm water treatment facilities are located, or where records are kept under the requirements of this Certification;
 - b. Access to copy any records that are kept under the requirements of this Certification;

- c. To inspect any facility, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations related to the treatment of storm water runoff from the project site; and
 - d. To photograph, sample and monitor for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Certification.
3. This Certification and any subsequent amendments shall be maintained on site as a denoted element of any project SWPPP or WQMP.
 4. This Certification is transferable only upon written notice to the Executive Officer. The notice shall include written acknowledgement of this Certification by the transferee's authorized representative.

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.

Although we anticipate no further regulatory involvement, 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, we may formulate Waste Discharge Requirements.

In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this certification, the violation or threatened violation 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.

In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this certification, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) may require the holder of any permit or license subject to this certification to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Regional Board deems appropriate. The burden, including costs, of the reports shall be reasonable in relation to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.

In response to any violation of the conditions of this certification, the Regional Board may add to or modify the conditions of this certification as appropriate to ensure compliance. Pursuant to California Code of Regulations Section 3857, we will take no further action on your application.

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. 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. 200-0017-DWQ is available at www.swrcb.ca.gov/resdec/wqorders/2003/wqo/wqo2003-0017.pdf

Should there be any questions, please contact Adam Fischer at (951) 320-6363, or Mark Adelson at (951) 782-3234.

Sincerely,



GERARD J. THIBEAULT
Executive Officer

cc (via electronic mail):

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles Office – Stephanie Hall
State Water Resources Control Board, OCC – Erik Spiess
State Water Resources Control Board, DWQ-Water Quality Certification Unit – Bill Orme
California Department of Fish and Game, Ontario Office – Jeff Brandt
U.S. EPA, Supervisor of the Wetlands Regulatory Office WTR- 8 – Eric Raffini and Dave Smith

APF:401/certifications/Hampton inn 332007-20