California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

RESOLUTION NO. R8-2005-0065

Resolution Approving the San Timoteo and Yucaipa Management Zones Maximum Benefit Surface Water and Groundwater Monitoring Program Proposals as Required in the Total Dissolved Solids and Nitrogen Management Plan
Specified in the
Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (hereinafter Regional Board), finds that:

1. An updated Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan) was adopted by the Regional Board on March 11, 1994, approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on July 21, 1994, and approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on January 24, 1995.

2. Amendments to the Basin Plan to incorporate a revised Total Dissolved Solids and Nitrogen Management Plan into the 1995 Basin Plan were approved by the Regional Board on January 22, 2004, by the State Water Resources Control Board on October 1, 2004 and by the Office of Administrative Law on December 23, 2004. The surface water components of the amendments are awaiting approval by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It is neither appropriate nor necessary to await EPA approval to consider approval, and thereby trigger implementation, of monitoring programs designed to assess water quality conditions in the Region.

3. The revised Total Dissolved Solids and Nitrogen Management Plan addresses total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrogen in both surface waters and groundwaters throughout the Santa Ana River basin.

4. The revised TDS and Nitrogen Management Plan includes a Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan for Salt Management in the San Timoteo and Yucaipa Management Zones (hereinafter, Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan). The Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan identifies the actions necessary to implement maximum benefit water quality objectives for TDS and nitrate-nitrogen that apply to the San Timoteo and Yucaipa Management Zones. These objectives apply provided that the Yucaipa Valley Water District (hereinafter, YVWD) implements specific plans and projects, including surface and groundwater monitoring programs. In the case of the San Timoteo Management Zone, the application of these objectives is also contingent on the implementation of surface and groundwater monitoring and other specified programs by the City of Beaumont and the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority. Approval of monitoring programs proposed by the City of Beaumont and the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority is addressed in a separate resolution (Resolution No. R8-2005-0066).

5. Pursuant to the Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan, Section B.1 and B.2, YVWD was required to submit by January 23, 2005 proposed surface and groundwater monitoring programs for Regional Board approval. The Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan identifies

the components that must be included in these monitoring programs, at a minimum. YVWD submitted the proposed monitoring programs on February 20, 2004.

6. The proposed ground and surface water monitoring programs satisfy relevant requirements of the Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan for Salt Management in the San Timoteo and Yucaipa Management Zones, as specified in the Basin Plan.

7. The approved surface and groundwater monitoring plans must be implemented by YVWD. The Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan requires that these programs be implemented prior to the recharge of recycled water in either the San Timoteo Management Zone or the Yucaipa Management Zone. This requirement will be incorporated in water recycling requirements issued to YVWD.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Regional Board approves the proposed surface and groundwater monitoring programs submitted by the YVWD on February 20, 2004.

I, Gerard J. Thibeault, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, on April 15, 2005.

Gerard J. Thibeault
Executive Officer

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

April 15, 2005

Item: 7

Subject: **Consideration of Approval of Yucaipa and San Timoteo Management Zones Maximum Benefit Monitoring Programs Submitted in Compliance with the Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and Nitrogen Management Plan Specified in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin – Resolution No. R8-2005-0065**

DISCUSSION

On January 22, 2004, the Regional Board adopted Resolution No. R8-2004-0001, amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan) to incorporate a revised Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) and Nitrogen Management Plan. The revised Total Dissolved Solids and Nitrogen Management Plan addresses total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrogen in both surface waters and groundwaters throughout the Santa Ana River basin.

A Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan for Salt Management for the Yucaipa and San Timoteo Management Zones (Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan) is included as part of the TDS and Nitrogen Management Plan. The Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan identifies the actions necessary to implement maximum benefit water quality objectives for TDS and nitrate-nitrogen that apply to the Yucaipa and San Timoteo Management Zones. These objectives apply provided that Yucaipa Valley Water District (YVWD) implements specific plans and projects, including surface and groundwater monitoring programs. In the case of the San Timoteo Management Zone, the application of the maximum benefit objectives is also contingent on the implementation of surface and groundwater monitoring and other specified programs by the City of Beaumont and the San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority (STWMA), pursuant to a separate Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan (see Item 8).

The Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan for the Yucaipa and San Timoteo Management Zones requires YVWD to submit proposed ground and surface water monitoring programs for approval by the Regional Board. Approval of monitoring programs proposed by the City of Beaumont and STWMA is addressed in a separate resolution (Resolution No. R8-2005-0066 (Item 8)). Since YVWD and Beaumont/STWMA have water management plans that affect the San Timoteo Management Zone, the Maximum Benefit Implementation Plans and the surface water and groundwater monitoring programs proposed by the two interests were developed in a coordinated manner.

By letter dated February 20, 2004, YVWD submitted proposed surface and groundwater monitoring programs. These proposed monitoring programs are attached to Resolution No. R8-2005-0065. Staff has reviewed the proposed monitoring programs and finds that they satisfy the Maximum Benefit Implementation Plan requirements.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. R8-2005-0065, approving the Yucaipa and San Timoteo Management Zones Maximum Benefit Surface and Groundwater Monitoring Programs shown in the attachment to the Resolution.