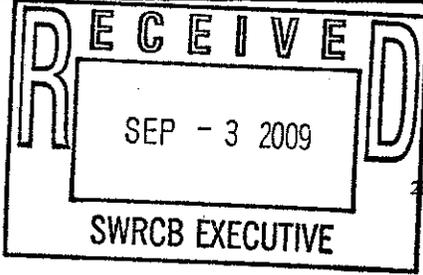




City of
SANTA CLARITA

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 Phone: (661) 259-2489 • FAX: (661) 259-8125
 www.santa-clarita



September 3, 2009

Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
 California State Water Resources Control Board
 1001 I Street, 24th Floor
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Post-It® Fax Note 7671		Date 9/3/09	# of pages 2
To SWRCB	From Heather M	Co.	
Co./Dept.		Phone # (661) 259-1413	
Phone #		Fax #	
Fax # (661) 259-8125			

Dear Ms. Townsend:

Subject: Comment Letter - Upper Santa Clara River Chloride SSOs and TMDL Revision

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the chloride Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Santa Clara River. The City of Santa Clarita (City) respectfully requests that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) delay approval of an amendment to the Basin Plan that would adopt conditional Site Specific Objectives (SSOs) for chloride and revise the Upper Santa Clara River chloride TMDL.

The Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District of Los Angeles County (Sanitation District) worked in good faith to develop a plan to reduce chloride in the Santa Clara River. In fact, the City and Sanitation District have been working hard to significantly reduce chloride discharged from our residents and businesses into the local sewer system. These efforts include an aggressive outreach and rebate program that has resulted in the removal of approximately 5,800 self-regenerating water softeners with 1,000 removal applications being processed. Additionally, in November 2008, the citizens of the Santa Clarita Valley voted to require the removal of all existing self-regenerating water softeners.

The Sanitation District is currently working with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to consider modifications to Resolution No. R4-2008-012 because of the substantial impact the TMDL has on the residents of the Santa Clarita Valley. The TMDL in its current form would facilitate the implementation of a lower cost alternative when compared to the original TMDL. However, the cost to implement this plan is still over \$250 million, requiring a tripling of monthly service rates for ratepayers in the Santa Clarita Valley. Especially considering the current economic situation, this considerable cost is an unreasonable burden to place on citizens in our community.

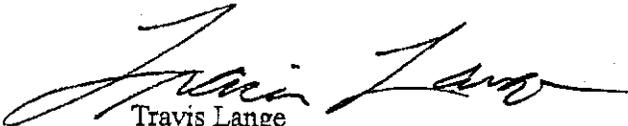
The City respectfully requests that the State Board delay the adoption hearing for the chloride TMDL so that further modifications to the TMDL can be explored to reduce the financial burden on our citizens.



Ms. Jeanine Townsend
September 3, 2009
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Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Heather Merenda, Sustainability Planner, at (661) 284-1413 or hmerenda@santa-clarita.com.

Sincerely,



Travis Lange
Environmental Services Manager

TL:HM:kms

SAENVSRVCSNPNDESATMDLACHLORUDEWisc. Comment LtrsLetter-Delay SWRCB Hearing Revised.doc

cc: Robert Newman, Public Works Director