

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

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RESOLUTION NO. R26-002

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED SPECIAL STUDY FOR
HYPERION WATER RECLAMATION PLANT AND
TERMINAL ISLAND WATER RECLAMATION PLANT**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (hereinafter Los Angeles Water Board), finds:

1. The Los Angeles Water Board adopted the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits for the Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment's (LASAN's) Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant (HWRP) on February 23, 2023 (Order No. R4-2023-0033, NPDES Permit No. CA0109991) and Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant (TIWRP) on June 10, 2021 (Order No. R4-2021-0095, NPDES Permit No. CA0053856).
2. The NPDES permits contain a requirement for LASAN to consult annually with the Los Angeles Water Board to determine the need for special studies. Detailed scopes of work must be presented at a Board hearing to obtain Los Angeles Water Board approval and to provide an opportunity for public participation. Special studies are intended to address questions regarding specific water quality impacts or the development of monitoring techniques. For example, special studies may address questions regarding effluent or receiving water quality, discharge impacts, ocean processes near the discharge, or development of techniques for monitoring, arising from the results of core or regional monitoring.
3. On April 1, 2026, LASAN's Environmental Monitoring Division (EMD) submitted a special study work plan titled *Baseline Characterization Study of Microplastics in Wastewater and Recycled Water During Dry-Weather and Wet-Weather Seasons* (Work Plan). On April 6, Los Angeles Water Board staff provided comments on the Work Plan and requested responses by April 20, 2026. On April 16, 2026, LASAN-EMD submitted revisions to the Work Plan, including responses to comments, and Standard Operating Procedures. Los Angeles Water Board staff have reviewed the revised Work Plan and deemed the submission complete.
4. The 2026-2028 proposed special study aims to characterize microplastics in wastewater and recycled water, evaluate removal efficiencies across treatment processes, and assess the levels of microplastics during dry-weather and wet-weather seasons. The study is intended to support the City's Pure Water Los Angeles Program by establishing baseline levels of microplastics in HWRP and TIWRP wastewater and recycled water, generating data to inform municipal programs, improve understanding of how rainfall and stormwater influence

microplastic loading and concentrations at the HWRP and TIWRP, and ultimately support improved water quality in Santa Monica Bay and Los Angeles Harbor.

5. The special study proposal and supporting documents are available on LASAN's website: <https://sanitation.lacity.gov/san/sandocview?docname=cnt113749> and <http://lacitysan.org/envmonitoring>.
6. The Los Angeles Water Board has reviewed the special study proposal and finds that it is consistent with the intent of the special study requirements in Order No. R4-2023-0033 and R4-2021-0095.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. LASAN's proposed special study for 2026-2028, *Baseline Characterization Study of Microplastics in Wastewater and Recycled Water During Dry-Weather and Wet-Weather Seasons*, is hereby approved.

I, Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on June 25, 2026.

Jenny Newman
Digitally signed by Jenny Newman
Date: 2026.07.13 11:29:06 -07'00'
Water Board

for Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer