Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

The video of the Board Meeting is available to view video on Cal-Span

Board Meeting Video

Thursday, July 23, 2026

Council Chambers
City of Long Beach
411 W. Ocean Blvd.

Long Beach, CA 90802

Chair Nahai called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

Chair Nahai explained the process for remote participation in the meeting. He mentioned that the Board's Spanish interpretation services were not available. He announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Chair Nahai extended his sincere gratitude to the City of Long Beach for hosting the Regional Water Board meeting.

INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

Item 1 – Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Board Members Present: Sabrina Ashjian, Norma Camacho, Marissa Christiansen, Michael Méndez, and David Nahai

Staff Present: Susana Arredondo, Russ Colby, Jenny Newman, Helen Rowe, Khalid Abdullah, Alfredo Duran, Susana Lagudis, Amelia Carder, Axel Jurgens, Sophie Froelich, Jim Kang, Ruben Bayon, Jose Vela and Chloe Seifert

Item 2 – Order of Agenda

The Executive Officer, Susana Arredondo stated Item 9 would be moved to the uncontested items calendar.

BOARD BUSINESS AND REPORTS

Item 3 – Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for the June 25, 2026

There were no changes to the minutes.

MOTION: Vice Chair Ashjian made a motion to approve the minutes.

Seconded by: Board Member Camacho
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian – Yea
Norma Camacho – Yea
Marissa Christiansen – Yea
Michael Méndez – Yea
David Nahai – Yea

Item 4 – Board Member Communications

a. Ex Parte Disclosure - None

b. Board Member Reports

Board Member Christiansen reminded everyone that it is fire season and there are resources to help prepare for yourself or your home. She recommended visiting the California Fire Safe Council website for resources or your local fire department's website.

Board Member Méndez reported On July 30, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. Cal EPA and the California Natural Resources agency will have an online round table about informing the developing of the plastic pollution mitigation fund.

Chair Nahai, Vice Chair Ashjian and Board Member Camacho did not provide a report.

c. Commemorative Resolution
Recognition of State Water Resources Control Board Member Laurel Firestone, for her 7 years of service and for her dedication as a State Water Board Member and liaison to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The Chair read the resolution into the record.

Vote for Resolution
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian – Yea
Norma Camacho – Yea
Marissa Christiansen – Yea
Michael Méndez – Yea
David Nahai – Yea

The award was presented to Board Member Firestone. The Board members took a picture with Board Member Firestone.

Item 5 – Executive Officer’s Report

The Executive Officer, Susana Arredondo, provided an update on the following items:

The Lineage Logistics cold storage facility fire in Boyle Heights – The Regional Water Board staff conducted site visits to the facility and the LA River directing Lineage to cease all runoff leaving the property. Lineage responded by blocking two key discharge points on-site. Regional Water Board staff directed the City of Los Angeles to block the storm drain outfall at the corner of Indiana and Noakes streets, which effectively stopped any runoff from Lineage from reaching the downstream storm drain and the LA River. The staff is actively engaged in daily recovery command operational meetings, alongside Lineage, the City and County of Los Angeles.

The Regional Water Board staff reviewed and provided detailed comments on the site’s Sampling and Analysis Plan and Water Management Plan. Lineage is currently sampling the LA River at the storm drain outfall and immediately upstream and downstream. The Regional Water Board staff directed Lineage to add sampling sites further downstream in the LA River, Reach 1 and in the Estuary to monitor bacteria. The Regional staff reviews these analytical results and will present a comprehensive summary report at the September Board meeting.

To address recent public inquiries and social media posts regarding reports of oil discharge at the storm drain outfall. This same outfall previously received runoff from both a May 22, 2026, oil spill at 400 E. Avenue, and the Lineage fire. Based on the Regional Water Board investigation, it appears the discharge was not Legacy oil from the May 2026 spill.

Unified Command and LA County Public Works cleaned off over eighteen thousand feet of the storm drain line, meeting all cleanup endpoints by June 9, 2026, prior to a video taken on July 13, 2026. LA County Public Works inspected the outfall on July 14, 2026, the initial video suggested oil, the field crew confirmed the material was a mixture of food grease, sediment, and organic debris without a rainbow sheen. The field crew cleaned the outfall, cleared two hundred and fifty feet up to the drain line, and replaced containment booms and absorbent socks. The County of Los Angeles ordered Lineage to conduct a full cleaning of the storm drain line between the site and the LA River to remove all residual material.

As part of the September update, Annelisa Moe with Heal the Bay and UCLA professor, Sanjay Mohanty will share their water quality monitoring results from the Lineage fire.

Item 6 – Update from State Water Board

There was no update from the State Water Board.

Item 7 – Public Forum

- City of Long Beach, Councilmember Kristina Duggan
- Jennifer Rojas, Senior Director Field Customer Service, Long Beach Utilities
- Italia Salvaje, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust

- Walter Lamb, Ballona Wetlands Land Trust

UNCONTESTED ITEMS

Chair Nahai stated the uncontested items calendar as Item 9.

Non-NPDES Waste Discharge Requirements

Adoption

Item 9 – Consideration of Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for Moorpark Property 67 LLC for the Moorpark 67/North Ranch Residential Development Project; File No. 24-118. (Comment submittal deadline was July 16, 2025)

Chair Nahai asked for a Motion and a Second, and then asked for a Roll Call vote, for the uncontested item 9.

MOTION: Vice Chair Ashjian made a motion to approve uncontested Item 9.

Seconded by: Board Member Camacho
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian – Yea
Norma Camacho – Yea
Marissa Christiansen – Yea
Michael Méndez – Yea
David Nahai – Yea

Chair Nahai announced Contested Item 8.

CONTESTED ITEMS

Waste Discharge Requirements that serve as NPDES Permits

New

Item 8 – Consideration of Waste Discharge Requirements and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) Facilities in the Dominguez Channel/ Los Angeles and Long Beach Inner Harbor Watershed and the Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed.

Chair Nahai read a statement:

First, the Board received four late comment letters. The Board received one from Patrick Schlehuber of PSI Realty Partners and another from Sean T. Green of Carson Companies. Both of these letters were received on July 21, 2026. The third was a letter submitted by Lakewood SP Pr, LLC, on July 20, 2026. A letter from John Dorot, Hager Pacific Properties and Ryan Evans, Lineage received on July 21, 2026.

There have been three public comment periods for this item, and a public *workshop was held on November 20, 2025. There has been ample time for these commenters to participate and submit timely comments to the Board. All of the issues in the letters have been addressed already in prior responses to comments or at the workshop, and the commenters can speak here today on this item if they choose to do so. I have therefore exercised my discretion as the Chair and decline to accept or include these five late comment letters in the record.*

Second, the Board received two prohibited ex parte email communications from Mr. Ray Tahir on July 19 and July 21, 2026, concerning this item. These communications were prohibited by the public notice for this item, sent on June 5, 2026, to all interested persons, and which stated:

Ex parte communications between interested persons and board members concerning this item will be prohibited beginning July 9, 2026, which is 14 days prior to the meeting scheduled for adoption of the CII Permit.

In order to ensure that all interested persons were informed of the content of the prohibited ex parte communications, staff sent them to everyone by email on July 22, 2026.

Chair Nahai mentioned there were copies available of the ex parte communications should anyone want to look at them.

Ex Parte Disclosure

Chair Nahai received the ex parte communications emails from Mr. Tahir. He did not read the attachments or respond to them but instead forwarded them to the Executive Officer, Ms. Arredondo.

Board Member Christiansen received the emails from Mr. Tahir. She did not open the emails or engage with them at all.

Board Camacho received emails on July 19, 2026, and July 21, 2026. She opened the July 19th email, did not review it and forwarded it to the Executive Officer the same day. She deleted the email she received on July 21st.

Board Member Méndez received the emails from Mr. Tahir. He did not open or read the emails. He deleted them.

Vice Chair Ashjian received the three emails from Mr. Tahir. She did not open the attachments or review the emails. She did not forward the emails to the Executive Officer.

Chair Nahai administered the oath:

Staff Presentation: Jenny Newman, Assistant Executive Officer

Break: 10:48 a.m. to 10:57 a.m.

Speakers:

- Marjorie Tsuma, Del Amo Action Committee
- Meher Irani, Del Amo Action Committee
- Kit Turman, Del Amo Action Committee
- Konya Vivante and Richard Watson, On behalf of the Industrial Environmental Association ("IEA"), the Industrial Environmental

Coalition of Orange County ("IEC/OC") and the Building Industry Association of San Diego County ("BIASD") (together "Commenters")

- Jason Marechal and Shanda Beltran, representing Lakewood SP Pr LLC
- Wayne Rosenbaum, on behalf of the Industrial Environmental Association ("IEA"), the Industrial Environmental Coalition of Orange County ("IEC/OC") and the Building Industry Association of San Diego County ("BIASD") (together "Commenters").
- Mehran Ebrahimi, representing 5 consultants
- Sean Porter, IEA/Dischargers
- Leilah Turman
- Ray Tahir
- Susana Medina, Gardena Democratic Club
- Dan Medina, Gardena Democratic Club
- Ramine Ross, Western States Petroleum Association
- Mihran Toumajan, on behalf of NAIOP SoCal, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association
- Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay
- Elizabeth Zernik
- Matt Renaud, Terracon
- David Renfrew
- Ben Harris, Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Item 12 – Closed Session

Legal counsel Axel Jurgens announced that the Board would discuss Items 10.b, 10.e, and 10.m(ii).

The Board went into closed session from 12:17 pm to 1:17 p.m. The Board reconvened to open session at 1:24 p.m.

Item 8 – Speakers cont.

- John Heintz, Reg Flex Group
- Mark Grey, Building Industry Association of Southern California
- Chris Wilson, Los Angeles County Business Federation
- Sean Bothwell, California Coastkeeper Alliance
- Cynthia Babbich, Del Amo Action Committee
- Dawn Koepke, McHugh Koepke Pardon Government Relations, on behalf of multiple clients AKA CCEEB

Ms. Newman responded to public comments and questions.

Board Questions and comments: Ms. Newman and legal counsel Sophie Froelich, responded to the Board members.

Board Recess 2:35 p.m. to 3:22 p.m.
Board recess for the Regional Water Board staff to craft language for the proposed requested Tentative CII permit changes.

Ms. Newman read the proposed Board members recommended changes made to the Tentative CII permit for the record.

MOTION: Board Member Christiansen made a motion to adopt the Tentative CII

Permit, with changes proposed by the Regional Water Board staff in the change sheet and as read into the record and explained at the adoption hearing.

Directions to staff: to reach out in 2.5 years to WMGs to ask them to report to the Regional Water Board on the status of Compliance Option 1, and to reach out to the CII Permittees to ensure that they know what the CII Permit requires.

Seconded by: Camacho
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea
Norma Camacho – Yea
Marissa Christiansen – Yea
Michael Méndez – Yea
David Nahai – Yea

The meeting was adjourned 3:36 p.m. (For more detailed information on any matter at our meetings, you may contact Helen Rowe at (213) 576-6612 or email at: Helen.Rowe@waterboards.ca.gov and she will provide an electronic copy of the transcript or audio, when available.)

Written and submitted by Helen Rowe, Board Clerk on: September 24, 2026

Signature on File

Helen Rowe