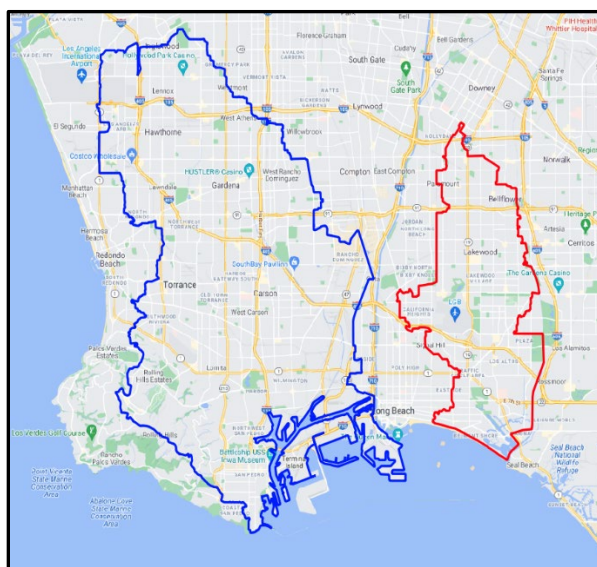


TO: OWNERS/OPERATORS OF COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES
IN TWO SPECIFIC LOS ANGELES COUNTY WATERSHEDS

RE: MEETING FOR STORMWATER RUNOFF REGULATIONS THAT MAY AFFECT YOUR FACILITY

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) (collectively “the Agencies”) are holding a meeting to discuss potential regulatory requirements for stormwater runoff from certain commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) facilities in the Dominguez Channel/Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Watershed and the Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed. Information on how to participate in the meeting is provided at the bottom of this letter.



**Dominguez Channel/Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Watershed (left)
and Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed (right)**

As part of our regulatory activities, the Agencies have identified water quality issues in the Dominguez Channel, the Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor, the Los Cerritos Channel, and Alamitos Bay. These issues are caused by stormwater runoff from impervious (paved) surfaces from certain CII facilities in the watersheds draining to these waterbodies.

You are receiving this notice because you own or operate a facility in the commercial, industrial, or institutional land use category (according to the Los Angeles County Tax Assessor database) that may produce stormwater that runs off into these local waterbodies.

Background

USEPA is responsible for administering the Clean Water Act (CWA), which requires that anyone discharging pollutants through a point source into waters of the United States obtain permit coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. USEPA issues regulations defining categories of facilities required to obtain permits under the NPDES program.

LAWRENCE YEE, CHAIR | RENEE PURDY, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

NPDES permits are required for the discharge of pollutants into surface waters. The permits establish requirements for responsible parties to control pollutants within their discharges. This includes facilities that discharge into stormwater collection systems that then convey the discharges to a surface waterbody.

The Regional Water Board is a State of California agency that is authorized to implement the NPDES program and regulates water quality within Los Angeles and Ventura counties to meet state and federal standards. The Regional Water Board operates under the authorities of the CWA and the State's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.

The Agencies are considering the actions described here to regulate stormwater discharges from select CII facilities to reduce pollutant levels in stormwater runoff that flows from these facilities into both watersheds. These waterbodies are currently polluted by numerous chemicals, including copper and zinc, which can harm aquatic life, ecosystems, and human health. Impervious surfaces such as streets, parking lots, rooftops, and sidewalks collect a variety of pollutants. When it rains, stormwater carries these pollutants into local waterbodies.

Proposed Regulatory Actions

In order to address the water quality issues in these two watersheds, USEPA is considering requiring certain CII facilities in the Dominguez Channel/Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Watershed and the Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed to obtain NPDES permit coverage for stormwater discharges. In order to provide permit coverage for these facilities, the Regional Water Board is considering the issuance of a single NPDES permit for all applicable CII sites in these watersheds.

Public Meetings

The Regional Water Board and USEPA are holding informational meetings with potentially affected CII facilities on December 7 and 16, 2021 to discuss the potential designation and NPDES permit with affected stakeholders. During these meetings, Regional Water Board and USEPA representatives will present the regulatory background behind this action and the potential requirements and compliance options. The agencies will also solicit comments and feedback from affected stakeholders.

You are encouraged to join us at either of the two scheduled meetings and provide feedback. Both meetings will cover the same information, and they will both take place online through Zoom. Please use the information below to register and join.

Dates December 7 and 16, 2021

Time 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM PST

To participate in the meeting, please register at the link below prior 10:00 AM on the date of the meeting you wish to participate in. When you pre-register, you'll receive an email with a unique meeting link and an optional phone number.

Registration link

<https://tinyurl.com/35prsu6>

Contact information

For more information please use this email address R9RDA@epa.gov .