

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
AND NOTICE OF ADOPTION MEETING

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) DISCHARGES WITHIN THE COASTAL WATERSHEDS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DISCHARGES ORIGINATING FROM THE CITY OF LONG BEACH (NPDES PERMIT NO. CAS004001)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) will continue the public hearing and consider adoption of a revised draft tentative National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) discharges within the coastal watersheds of Los Angeles County, with the exception of discharges originating from the City of Long Beach (Revised Draft Tentative Order). The Board is scheduled to continue the public hearing to consider this matter at its regularly scheduled board meeting on:

Date: Thursday, November 8, 2012
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Place: Southern California Association of Governments (Board Room)
818 West 7th Street, #1200
Los Angeles, California 90017

I. BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the County of Los Angeles, and 84 incorporated cities therein discharge pollutants from their MS4s, also called storm drain systems. Storm water and non-storm water enter and are conveyed through the MS4 and discharged to surface water bodies of the Los Angeles Region. These discharges are currently regulated under countywide waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. 01-182 adopted by this Board on December 13, 2001, and subsequently amended in 2006, 2007, 2009, and 2011. Order No. 01-182, which serves as an NPDES permit, has expired but remains in effect until the Los Angeles Water Board adopts a new permit. If adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board, the Revised Draft Tentative Order will supersede Order No. 01-182 upon its effective date.

A Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Notice of Public Hearing was circulated on June 6, 2012, advising that a Draft Tentative Order was available for public review and comment. Written comments on the Draft Tentative Order were due by 12:00 pm on July 23, 2012. A public hearing on the Draft Tentative Order was held on October 4-5, 2012.

Revisions made to the Draft Tentative Order since June 6, 2012 are the result of written and oral comments received by the Los Angeles Water Board, including oral comments made during

the public hearing held on October 4-5, 2012. The Board is expected to take action on the Revised Draft Tentative Order on November 8, 2012.

II. AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Revised Draft Tentative Order, with revisions made since June 6, 2012 in track changes format to assist the public in identifying the revisions, and other information and documents are posted on the Board's web site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/index.shtml

The Fact Sheet (Attachment F) will be made available at the web site address above by October 19, 2012. Responses to written comments received on the June 6, 2012 Draft Tentative Order are expected to be made available by October 23, 2012.

These documents are also available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of documents in the administrative record may be made by calling the Los Angeles Water Board at (213) 576-6789. Appointments are encouraged so the documents can be readily available upon arrival.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The written public comment period for the Draft Tentative Order circulated on June 6, 2012 closed on July 23, 2012, at 12:00 pm, in accordance with the Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Notice of Public Hearing dated June 6, 2012. **The Los Angeles Water Board will not be accepting additional written comments or any new evidence.**

Parties and interested persons may present oral comments. Oral comments are limited to the revisions made to the Draft Tentative Order since June 6, 2012, as reflected in track changes format in the Revised Draft Tentative Order circulated on October 18, 2012. Oral comments regarding provisions of the Revised Draft Tentative Order that remain unchanged from the Draft Tentative Order circulated on June 6, 2012 will not be accepted.

Oral comments may be limited to 3 minutes each. Parties and interested persons seeking more than 3 minutes to present oral comments must contact Mr. Ivar Ridgeway, as provided in Section VI below, no later than **12:00 pm on November 1, 2012** to request additional time. Parties and interested persons will be advised prior to the date of the hearing of the amount of time they will be allocated. That decision will be based upon the complexity and the number of issues under consideration, the extent to which the parties have coordinated, the number of parties and interested persons anticipated, the opportunity to submit written comments that are part of the administrative record, the extent to which the parties have identified unique interests, and the time available for the hearing. It is the Los Angeles Water Board's intent that reasonable requests be accommodated.

Parties and interested persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak, and are encouraged to coordinate their presentations with each other. Repetitive comments will not be allowed.

IV. HEARING PROCEDURES

Except as modified in this notice, the procedures and processes established in the Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Notice of Public Hearing, dated June 6, 2012, also control the continued portion of the hearing.

V. EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS PROHIBITED

Parties and interested persons are forbidden from engaging in *ex parte* communications regarding this matter with members of the Los Angeles Water Board. An *ex parte* communication is a communication not authorized in the California Government Code, to a Los Angeles Water Board member from any person, about a pending matter, that occurs in the absence of other parties and without notice and opportunity for the parties to respond. The California Government Code generally prohibits the board members from engaging in *ex parte* communications during permitting, enforcement, or other “quasi-adjudicatory” matters. As a permitting proceeding, Los Angeles Water Board members may not discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself.

VI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Communications and/or questions should be directed to:

Mr. Ivar Ridgeway
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013
(213) 620-2150
iridgeway@waterboards.ca.gov

Date: October 18, 2012