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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**

In the matter of the Petition of:  
**THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST**  
**FOR REVIEW OF ACTION BY THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SANTA ANA REGION, IN ISSUING ORDER NO. R8-2009-0030 (NPDES NO. CAS 618030)**

**PETITION FOR REVIEW**  
  
[Water Code § 13320(a)]

**SHAWN HAGERTY**  
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**Attorneys for Petitioner:**  
  
**City of Lake Forest, California**

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**I.**

**INTRODUCTION**

Petitioner City of Lake Forest, California (“City”) seeks review of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region’s (“Regional Board”) actions in adopting Order No. R8-2009-0030 (NPDES No. CAS 618030) (“Permit”), on May 22, 2009. A copy of the Permit is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein by reference.

The City is a municipal corporation organized pursuant to California law and the California Constitution. As of 2008, the City had a population of 78,000 people, and is located in Orange County, approximately 40 miles south of the City of Los Angeles. The City owns and operates a large municipal separate storm sewer system (“MS4”) within the Regional Board’s jurisdiction and as such is subject to regulation under the Permit. Due to the boundary line between the Santa Ana and San Diego Regional Boards, the City is also subject to regulation under the Large MS4 Permit for South Orange County issued by the San Diego Regional Board. At all times mentioned herein, the City has acted pursuant to applicable legal requirements, and with great concern for the impacts that discharges from its MS4 may have on surrounding surface waters, and the environment in general.

**II.**

**BACKGROUND**

The first draft of the Permit was issued in November, 2008, with a comment period open until early February, 2009. A second draft was issued in February, 2009, with an additional comment period concluding in late March, 2009. The City submitted written comments to the Regional Board on both drafts of the Permit within the time frames permitted. The Regional Board held the first adoption hearing on the Permit during its April 2009 board meeting. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Regional Board closed comments on the Permit, but allowed additional comments on the recently revised low impact development (“LID”) portions of the Permit. At its May 22, 2009 meeting, the Regional Board adopted the Permit, but introduced changes immediately prior to the adoption hearing without allowing sufficient time for coment.

1 The adopted version of the Permit includes provisions that exceed the requirements of  
2 federal law, and/or are beyond the authority of the Regional Board to impose. As described more  
3 fully below, by adopting the Permit in its current form, the Regional Board violated state and  
4 federal law by: (1) adopting a regulatory scheme that dictates the manner of compliance in  
5 violation of California Water Code section 13360; (2) failing to base its decision on sound science  
6 and rationale as reflected in the findings; (3) imposing requirements that exceed Clean Water Act  
7 standards without complying with applicable state law requirements; and (4) failing to provide the  
8 City, interested parties, and the public at large with an opportunity to comment on substantive  
9 changes to the Permit made immediately prior to the adoption hearings.

10 The City therefore submits this Petition pursuant to Water Code section 13320 and Title  
11 23 of the California Code of Regulations, and respectfully requests that the State Board correct  
12 the Regional Board's actions.

### 13 III.

#### 14 NAME AND ADDRESS OF PETITIONER

15 The names and contact information for Petitioners is as follows:

16 ROBERT DUNECK  
17 CITY MANAGER  
18 CITY OF LAKE FOREST  
19 25550 Commercentre Drive, Suite 100  
20 Lake Forest, CA 92630  
21 Telephone: (949) 461-3410

22 ROBERT WOODINGS  
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**IV.**  
**THE ACTION OR INACTION OF THE REGIONAL WATER BOARD BEING**  
**PETITIONED**

The City seeks review of the Regional Board's actions in adopting Order No. R8-2009-0030 (NPDES No. CAS 618030) on May 22, 2009. A copy of the Permit is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.

**V.**  
**DATE THE REGIONAL BOARD ACTED**

The Regional Board adopted Order No. R8-2009-0030 (NPDES No. CAS 618030) on May 22, 2009.

**VI.**  
**STATEMENT OF THE REASONS THE ACTION WAS INAPPROPRIATE OR**  
**IMPROPER**

The Regional Board abused its discretion by issuing the Permit. Among other things, the Regional Board imposed requirements in the Permit that either are not supported by the evidence in the record, or exceed the requirements of state and federal law. The Regional Board also included new, previously unknown requirements in the Permit without giving the City, or any other interested parties the opportunity to review and comment on those requirements. Specifically, in adopting the Permit, the Regional Board:

- (1) imposed LID requirements on projects within the City that dictate the means of compliance with the Permit and the maximum extent practicable standard in violation of California Water Code section 13360;
- (2) abused its discretion by limiting the use of equally effective traditional BMPs in place of LID BMPs, even where the use of LID BMPs is not feasible;
- (3) failed to support its decision to restrict the use of equally effective traditional BMPs in place of LID BMPs with the necessary findings, and evidence in the administrative record;

- 1 (4) required compliance with total maximum daily loads (“TMDLs”) not adopted by  
2 the Regional Board or incorporated into the Water Quality Control Plan for the  
3 Santa Ana River Basin (“Basin Plan”), including TMDLs without anthropogenic  
4 sources in the target watershed;
- 5 (5) required compliance with TMDLs adopted by the California Regional Water  
6 Quality Control Board for the Los Angeles Region in portions of the Coyote Creek  
7 Watershed that were not previously subject to the TMDL, and that have not been  
8 designated as “impaired” for the criteria pollutants;
- 9 (6) failed to consider the factors and make the findings required by California Water  
10 Code sections 13000, 13241, and 13263, which require the Regional Board to  
11 consider the overall costs and benefits associated with its actions;
- 12 (7) imposed requirements that exceed the requirements of the Clean Water Act and its  
13 associated federal regulations, and thereby imposed a state mandated program that  
14 is not supported with a subvention of funds as required by section XII ; and
- 15 (8) made last minute, substantive changes to the Permit immediately prior to noticed  
16 hearings, without providing the City, interested parties, or the public at large with  
17 an opportunity to review the changes, or submit written comments on their  
18 impacts, and thereby denied each their right to due process of law.

19 The City, other Permittees and interested parties submitted comment letters to the  
20 Regional Board during the Permit renewal process raising these concerns. (See City’s letters to  
21 the Regional Board, dated October 16, 2008, and October 27, 2008, attached as Exhibit “B”) The  
22 City additionally made oral comments at the Permit adoption hearings and again raised the above  
23 listed concerns. The Regional Board nonetheless adopted the Permit over these objections, in  
24 violation of state and federal law.

25 **VII.**

26 **HOW PETITIONER IS AGGRIEVED**

27 Petitioner City of Lake Forest owns and operates a Large MS4 within the Regional  
28 Board’s jurisdiction and as such is subject to regulation under the Permit. The City, along with

1 other Permittees, is required to implement the Permit's programs, and comply with its technical  
2 limitations. The challenged requirements will require the City to impose severe restrictions on  
3 development within City limits, and hinder the City's ability to exercise its land use authority in a  
4 manner that benefits its residents' economic and environmental interests. The challenged  
5 requirements will additionally require the City to pay mitigation fees for its own projects, even  
6 when the use of LID BMPs is not feasible, and use of traditional BMPs would be equally  
7 effective.

8 Lastly, by incorporating TMDLs that were adopted by other jurisdictions into the Permit,  
9 the Regional Board denied the City the opportunity to participate in the TMDL development and  
10 adoption process before being made subject to its requirements. By prematurely applying the  
11 TMDLs to the City, and making last minute substantive changes to the Permit without giving the  
12 City the opportunity to review and comment on the changes, the Regional Board denied the City  
13 its right to due process of law.

#### 14 VIII.

#### 15 ACTIONS PETITIONER REQUESTS THE STATE WATER BOARD TAKE

16 The City respectfully requests that the State Board remand the Permit to the Regional  
17 Board, and direct the Regional Board to amend the Permit to address the deficiencies raised in  
18 Section VI, above.

#### 19 IX.

#### 20 MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF PETITION

21 Petitioners have requested that this Petition be held in abeyance, and reserve the right to  
22 supplement the legal arguments and authorities raised in Section VI, above, with additional  
23 memoranda of points and authorities if and when the Petition is activated.

#### 24 X.

#### 25 STATEMENT OF COPIES FURNISHED

26 In accordance with the requirements of Title 23, Section 2050(a)(8) of the California  
27 Code of Regulations, a copy of this Petition has been sent to the California Regional Water  
28 Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region.

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**XI.**

**STATEMENT OF ISSUES RAISED**

As illustrated in Exhibit "B" attached hereto and incorporated herein, Petitioners submitted written and oral comments on the Permit outlining the above described issues. Through their written and oral comments, Petitioners requested that the Regional Board revise the Permit and the adoption process to address Petitioner's concerns.

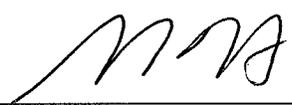
**XII.**

**CONCLUSION**

For the reasons set forth in this Petition and in the related documents filed herewith, Petitioner City of Lake Forest respectfully requests that the State Water Resources Control Board remand the Permit to the Regional Board with direction to revise it to address the concerns raised herein, and take any other actions that the State Board deems necessary and appropriate to address the City's claims.

Dated: June 22, 2009

BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

By: 

SHAWN HAGERTY  
J.G. ANDRE MONETTE  
Attorneys for Petitioners

**City of Lake Forest**

EXHIBIT "A"

PERMIT

# EXHIBIT “B”

## Written/Oral Comments

**State of California  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Santa Ana Region**

**ORDER NO. R8-2009-0030  
NPDES No. CAS618030**

**Waste Discharge Requirements  
for  
the County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District  
and  
The Incorporated Cities of Orange County within the Santa Ana Region  
Areawide Urban Storm Water Runoff  
Orange County**

**FINDINGS**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (hereinafter Regional Board) finds that:

**A. REGULATORY BASIS**

1. The 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act (CWA) added Section 402(p) (USC §1342(p)) establishing a framework for regulating municipal and industrial (including construction) storm water discharges under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Section 402(p) of the CWA requires NPDES permits for storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems<sup>1</sup> (storm drains or MS4s) as well as other designated storm water discharges that are considered significant contributors of pollutants to waters of the United States (waters of the US). On November 16, 1990, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter EPA) amended its NPDES permit regulations to include permit application requirements for storm water discharges. These regulations are codified in Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Parts 122, 123 and 124 (40 CFR Parts 122, 123 & 124).
2. This order is based on Section 402(p) of the CWA; 40 CFR Parts 122, 123, and 124; Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 of the California Water Code or CWC, commencing with Section 13000); all applicable provisions of statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board); the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan); the California Toxics Rule (CTR); and the California Toxics Rule Implementation Plan. A revised Basin Plan was adopted by the Regional Board and became effective on January 24, 1995. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives and beneficial uses for water bodies in the Santa Ana Region. Under the CWA, the beneficial uses and the water quality objectives to protect those beneficial uses are collectively referred to as water quality standards. The Basin Plan also incorporates by reference all State Board water quality control

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<sup>1</sup> A municipal separate storm sewer **system** (MS4) is any conveyance or a system of conveyances designed to collect and/or transport storm water, such as, storm drains, manmade channels, ditches, roads w/drainage systems, catch basins, curbs, gutters, etc., which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (i.e., not a combined sewer).

The County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District, and the Incorporated Cities of Orange County  
Areawide Urban Storm Water Runoff

plans and policies, including the 1990 Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan).

3. The requirements contained in this order are necessary to protect water quality standards of the receiving waters and to implement the plans and policies described in the above finding. These plans and policies contain numeric and narrative water quality standards for the water bodies in this Region. In accordance with Section 402(p)(2)(B)(iii) of CWA and its implementing regulations, this order requires the permittees to develop and implement programs and policies necessary to reduce the discharge of pollutants in urban storm water runoff to waters of the US to the maximum extent practicable (MEP)<sup>2</sup>. The legislative history and the preamble to the federal storm water regulations (40 CFR Parts 122, 123 and 124) indicate that the Congress and the EPA were aware of the difficulties in regulating urban storm water runoff solely through traditional end-of-pipe treatment. Consistent with the CWA, it is the Regional Board's intent that this order require the implementation of best management practices (BMPs)<sup>3</sup> to reduce to the maximum extent practicable, the discharge of pollutants in urban storm water from the MS4s in order to support attainment of water quality standards. This order, therefore, includes Receiving Water Limitations<sup>4</sup> based upon water quality objectives, and requires implementation of control measures to protect the beneficial uses. It also prohibits the creation of nuisance and requires the reduction of water quality impairment in receiving waters with an ultimate goal of achieving water quality objectives of the receiving waters.
4. This order is consistent with recent court decisions and precedential orders adopted by the State Board related to municipal storm water NPDES permits. These precedential State Board orders include: Orders No. 99-05, WQ 2001-15 and WQO 2002-0014.
5. This order does not constitute an unfunded mandate subject to subvention under Article XIII.B, Section (6) of the California Constitution for several reasons, including the following:
  - a) This order implements federally mandated requirements under Clean Water Act Section 402(p)(3)(B). (33 USC § 1342(p)(3)(B)).

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<sup>2</sup> MEP is not defined in the CWA; it refers to management practices, control techniques, and system, design and engineering methods for the control of pollutants taking into account considerations of synergistic, additive, and competing factors, including, but not limited to, gravity of the problem, technical feasibility, fiscal feasibility, public health risks, societal concerns, and social benefits.

<sup>3</sup> Best Management Practices (BMPs) are programs and policies, including structural controls where appropriate, that are implemented to control the discharge of pollutants.

<sup>4</sup> Receiving Water Limitations are requirements included in the orders issued by the Regional Board to assure that the regulated discharge does not violate water quality standards established in the Basin Plan at the point of discharge to waters of the US or the State.

The County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District, and the Incorporated Cities of Orange County  
Areawide Urban Storm Water Runoff

- b) The permittees' obligation under this order are similar to, and in many respects less stringent than, the obligations of non-governmental dischargers who are issued NPDES permits for storm water discharges.
- c) The permittees have the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments to pay for compliance with this order, where voter approval is needed, the permittees should strive to gain voter approval<sup>5</sup>.
- d) The permittees requested permit coverage in lieu of compliance with the complete prohibition against the discharge of pollutants contained in federal Clean Water Act Section 301, subdivision (a). (33 USC § 1311(a)).

**B. REGULATED ENTITIES (PERMITTEES OR DISCHARGERS)**

- 6. On July 22, 2006, the County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD) and the incorporated cities of Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, La Habra, La Palma, Lake Forest, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Westminster, and Yorba Linda (hereinafter collectively referred to as permittees or dischargers), submitted NPDES Application No. CAS618030 and a Report of Waste Discharge for reissuance of their areawide urban storm water permit. In order to more effectively carry out the requirements of this order, the permittees have agreed that the County of Orange will continue as principal permittee and the OCFCD and the incorporated cities will continue as co-permittees. Certain portions of the cities of Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods and Lake Forest are within the San Diego Regional Board's jurisdiction. As such, these cities are also regulated under urban storm water permit issued by the San Diego Regional Board.
- 7. The permittees fall into one of the following categories: (1) a medium or large municipality that services a population of greater than 100,000 or 250,000 respectively; or, (2) a small municipality that is interrelated to a medium or large municipality. Under Section 402(p) of the Clean Water Act, these dischargers (permittees) are required to obtain coverage under an NPDES permit for storm water runoff from their jurisdictions.

**C. REGULATED DISCHARGES**

- 8. This order is intended to regulate the discharge of pollutants in urban storm water runoff from anthropogenic (generated from human activities) sources and/or activities within the jurisdiction and control of the permittees and is not intended to address background or naturally occurring pollutants or flows.
- 9. The permittees own and operate storm drains, including flood control facilities. Some of the natural channels, streambeds and other drainage facilities that are generally considered as waters of the US have been converted to flood control

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<sup>5</sup> For example, the City of Santa Cruz voted to raise property taxes to fund the storm water program at the November 4, 2008 election (see: [http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci\\_10904561](http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_10904561)).

**The County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District, and the Incorporated Cities of Orange County  
Areawide Urban Storm Water Runoff**

facilities. The permittees have established legal authority to control discharges into these systems that they own, operate and/or regulate. As owners and/or operators of the MS4 systems, the permittees are responsible for discharges into their systems that they do not prohibit or control (except where they lack jurisdiction; see A.10 below). The discharge of pollutants into the MS4s may cause or contribute to, or threaten to cause or contribute to, a condition of pollution in receiving waters. Federal regulations, 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i), require the permittees to control the discharge of pollutants into the MS4s to the maximum extent practicable.

10. The permittees may lack legal jurisdiction over urban runoff into their systems from some state and federal facilities, utilities and special districts, Native American tribal lands, waste water management agencies and other point and non-point source discharges otherwise permitted by the Regional Board. The Regional Board recognizes that the permittees should not be held responsible for such facilities and/or discharges. Similarly, certain activities that generate pollutants present in urban runoff may be beyond the ability of the permittees to eliminate. Examples of these include operation of internal combustion engines, atmospheric deposition, brake pad wear, tire wear and leaching of naturally occurring minerals from local geography.
11. This order regulates storm water runoff and certain types of de-minimus discharges specifically authorized under Section III of this order (collectively referred to as urban runoff) from areas under the jurisdiction of the permittees. For purposes of this order, urban runoff includes storm water and authorized non-storm water (see Section III) discharges from residential, commercial, industrial and construction areas within the permitted area and excludes discharges from feedlots, dairies, and farms. Urban runoff consists of surface runoff generated from various land uses in all the hydrologic drainage areas that discharge into waters of the US. The quality of these discharges varies considerably and is affected by land use activities, basin hydrology and geology, season, the frequency and duration of storm events, and the presence of illicit discharge<sup>6</sup> practices and illicit<sup>7</sup> connections.
12. The permittees have the authority to approve plans for residential, commercial, and industrial developments. If not properly controlled and managed, urbanization could result in the discharge of pollutants in urban runoff<sup>8</sup>. "America's Clean Water-The States' Nonpoint Source Assessment, 1985" and the Biennial National Water Quality Inventory Reports to Congress cite urban runoff as a major source of

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<sup>6</sup> Illicit discharge means any disposal, either intentionally or unintentionally, of material or waste that can pollute urban runoff or create a nuisance.

<sup>7</sup> Illicit connections are those which are not properly authorized or permitted by the municipality or the owner/operator of the conveyance system.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. EPA. 1983. Results of the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program, Vol. 1, Final report. NTIS PB84-185552.

beneficial use impairment. Urban area runoff may contain<sup>9</sup> elevated levels of pathogens (e.g., bacteria, protozoa, viruses), sediment, trash, fertilizers (nutrients, compounds of nitrogen and phosphorus), pesticides (e.g., DDT, Chlordane, Diazinon, Chlorpyrifos), heavy metals (e.g., cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, zinc), and petroleum products (e.g., oil, grease, petroleum hydrocarbons, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons). Urban runoff can carry these pollutants to rivers, streams, lakes, bays and the ocean (receiving waters<sup>10</sup>). In addition, increased flows due to urbanization may increase erosion of stream banks and channels and cause stream channel alterations and impact aquatic resources. This order regulates the discharge of pollutants to waters of the US, to protect beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

13. Urban activities also generate non-storm water discharges such as air conditioning condensate, irrigation runoff, individual residential car washing, etc., generally referred to as de minimus type of discharges. If properly managed, these types of discharges may not contain significant amount of pollutants. Some of these de minimus types of discharges are currently being regulated under separate orders issued by the Regional Board, and some of the specific types of de minimus discharges are authorized under this order (see Section III of this order). Orders No. R8-2003-0061 (NPDES No. CAG998001), R8-2004-0021 (NPDES No. CAG998002) and R8-2007-0041 (NPDES No. CAG918002) issued by the Regional Board regulate de-minimus types of discharges.

#### **D. HISTORY OF ORANGE COUNTY MUNICIPAL STORM WATER PERMIT**

14. Prior to EPA's promulgation of the storm water permit regulations, the three counties (Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino) and the incorporated cities within the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana Regional Board requested areawide NPDES permits for urban runoff. On July 13, 1990, the Regional Board adopted Order No. 90-71 for urban storm water runoff from urban areas in Orange County within the Santa Ana Region (first term Permit). Orders No. 96-31 (second term Permit) and R8-2002-0010 (third term Permit), issued by the Regional Board on March 8, 1996 and January 18, 2002, respectively, renewed the Orange County MS4 permit.
15. Order No. R8-2002-0010 expired on January 19, 2007. On July 22, 2006, the permittees submitted a Report of Waste Discharge for renewal of the Permit. On February 20, 2007, Order No. 2002-0010, NPDES No. CAS618030, was administratively extended in accordance with Title 23, Division 3, Chapter 9, §2235.4 of the California Code of Regulations.

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<sup>9</sup> Makepeace, D.K., D.W. Smith, and S.J. Stanley. 1995. Urban stormwater quality: summary of contaminant data. *Critical Reviews in Environmental Science and Technology* 25(2):93-139.

<sup>10</sup> Receiving waters are waters of the U.S. (and their tributaries) which are identified in the Basin Plan as having certain beneficial uses (see Finding 19, below, for a list of these waters).

**E. PERMIT RENEWAL APPLICATION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS**

16. The Report of Waste Discharge (the permit renewal application) included the following major documents/information:
- a) A summary of status of current Storm Water Management Program;
  - b) A Proposed Plan of Storm Water Quality Management Activities for 2007-2012, as outlined in the Draft 2007 Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP). The 2007 DAMP includes all the activities the permittees propose to undertake during the next permit term, goals and objectives of such activities, and an evaluation of the need for additional source control and/or structural and non-structural BMPs and proposed pilot studies;
  - c) The permittees have developed Local Implementation Plans (LIPs); established a formal training program; and developed a program effectiveness assessment strategy and Watershed Action Plans;
  - d) A Performance Commitment that includes new and existing program elements and compliance schedules necessary to implement controls to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable;
  - e) A summary of procedures implemented to detect illicit discharges and illicit connection practices;
  - f) A summary of enforcement procedures and actions taken to require storm water discharges to comply with the approved Storm Water Management Program;
  - g) A summary of public agency activities, results of monitoring program, and program effectiveness assessment; and,
  - h) A fiscal analysis.
17. The documents referenced in Finding E.16, above, are hereby incorporated as enforceable elements of this order.

**F. PERMITTED AREA**

18. The permitted area is shown on Attachment A. It includes the northern portions of Orange County, including the 26 incorporated cities listed under Finding 6, above. The permittees serve a population of approximately 3.1 million, occupying an area of approximately 789 square miles (including unincorporated areas and the limits of 34 cities, 26 of which are within the jurisdiction of this Regional Board; three of the cities, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods and Lake Forest, are within both the San Diego and Santa Ana Regional Boards' jurisdictions). The permittees have jurisdiction over and/or maintenance responsibility for storm water conveyance systems within Orange County. The County Flood Control system includes an estimated 740 miles of storm drains. A major portion of the urbanized areas of Orange County drains into waterbodies within this Regional Board's jurisdiction. In certain cases, where a natural streambed is modified to convey storm water flows, the conveyance system becomes both a storm drain and a receiving water. The major storm drain systems and drainage areas in Orange County, which are within this Region, are shown on

Attachment B. A portion of the Orange County drainage area is within the jurisdiction of the San Diego Regional Board and is regulated under an order issued by that Board.

## **G. RECEIVING WATERS AND BENEFICIAL USES**

19. Storm water runoff from the MS4s in Orange County enter, or are tributary to, various water bodies of the Region. The permitted area can be subdivided into five tributary watersheds: the San Gabriel River drainage area, the Huntington Harbour and Bolsa Bay drainage area, the Santa Ana River drainage area, the Newport Bay drainage area, and the Irvine and Newport Coast Areas of Special Biological Significance (see Attachment B). These watersheds are tributary to the Pacific Ocean. The surface water bodies in Orange County that could be impacted by urban runoff include:

### Inland Surface Streams

- Santa Ana River, Reaches 1 and 2
- Aliso Creek (tributary to Santa Ana River)
- Carbon Canyon Creek (tributary to Santa Ana River)
- Santiago Creek, Reaches 1, 2, 3, and 4 (tributary to the Santa Ana River)
- Silverado Creek (tributary to Santiago Creek)
- Black Star Creek (tributary to Santiago Creek)
- Ladd Creek (tributary to Santiago Creek)
- San Diego Creek, Reaches 1 and 2 (tributary to Newport Bay)
- San Joaquin Freshwater Marsh (tributary to San Diego Creek)
- Other tributaries to San Diego Creek: Bonita Creek, Serrano Creek, Peters Canyon Wash, Hicks Canyon Wash, Bee Canyon Wash, Borrego Canyon Wash, Agua Chinon Wash, Laguna Canyon Wash, Rattlesnake Canyon Wash, and Sand Canyon Wash
- Santa Ana Delhi Channel (tributary to Newport Bay)
- Big Canyon Wash (tributary to Newport Bay)
- Buck Gully
- Los Trancos Creek
- Coyote Creek (tributary to San Gabriel River)
- Other tributaries to the above listed rivers, creeks and channels

### Bays, Estuaries, and Tidal Prisms

- Anaheim Bay and Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge
- Sunset Bay
- Bolsa Bay and Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve
- Upper and Lower Newport Bay

Tidal Prism of Santa Ana River (to within 1000 feet of Victoria Street) and Newport Slough, Santa Ana Salt Marsh

Tidal Prism of San Gabriel River (River Mouth to Marina Drive)

Tidal Prisms of Flood Control Channels Discharging to Coastal or Bay Waters (e.g. Huntington Harbour)

Ocean Water

Nearshore Zone

San Gabriel River to Poppy Street in Corona Del Mar

Poppy Street to Southeast Regional Boundary

Offshore Zone

Waters between Nearshore Zone and limit of State Waters

Lakes and Reservoirs

Anaheim Lake

Irvine Lake (Santiago Reservoir)

Laguna, Lambert, Peters Canyon, Rattlesnake, Sand Canyon and Siphon Reservoirs

20. The beneficial uses of these water bodies include: municipal and domestic supply, agricultural supply, industrial service and process supply, groundwater recharge, navigation, hydropower generation, water contact recreation, non-contact water recreation, commercial and sport fishing, warm freshwater and limited warm freshwater habitats, cold freshwater habitat, preservation of biological habitats of special significance, wildlife habitat, preservation of rare, threatened or endangered species, marine habitat, shellfish harvesting, spawning, reproduction and development of aquatic habitats, and estuarine habitat. The ultimate goal of this storm water management program is to achieve water quality objectives in the receiving waters, thereby protecting their beneficial uses.
21. Federal regulations, 40 CFR 131.10(a), prohibits the states from designating a water body for waste transport or waste assimilation. This order prohibits the construction of treatment BMPs within waters of the US. However, if the discharges are sufficiently treated to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters, further polishing of the discharge within waters of the US may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Federal authorization under Section 404 and Water Quality Standards Certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act may be required for waste treatment or conveyance within waters of the US. Pursuant to Water Code Section 13260, Waste Discharge Requirements may be required for such facilities within waters of the State. Under certain conditions, stream flows may be diverted for treatment (see Section III for conditions on return flows from facilities that extract, treat and return flows from the waters of the US).

## H. INTERRELATED WATERSHEDS AND STORM WATER PERMITS

22. The Santa Ana River Basin is the major watershed within the jurisdiction of the Regional Board. The lower Santa Ana River Basin (downstream from Prado Basin) includes the Orange County drainage areas, and the Upper Santa Ana River Basin includes the San Bernardino County and the Riverside County drainage areas. Generally, the San Bernardino County drainage areas drain to the Riverside County drainage areas, and Riverside County drainage areas discharge to Orange County.
23. Within the Region, runoff from the San Bernardino County areas is generally conveyed to the Riverside County areas through the Santa Ana River or other drainage channels tributary to the Santa Ana River. These flows are then discharged to Reach 2 of the Santa Ana River through Prado Basin (Reach 3 of the Santa Ana River). During dry weather conditions, most of the flow in Reach 2 is recharged in Orange County. During wet weather, some of the flow is discharged to the Pacific Ocean through Reach 1 of the Santa Ana River.
24. The three county areas within this Region are regulated under three areawide permits for urban storm water runoff. These areawide NPDES permits are:
  - Orange County, NPDES No. CAS618030;
  - Riverside County, NPDES No. CAS618033; and,
  - San Bernardino County, NPDES No. CAS618036.

For an effective watershed management program, cooperation and coordination among the regulators, the municipal permittees, the public, and other entities are essential.

25. Studies conducted by the USEPA, the states, flood control districts and other entities indicate the following major sources for urban storm water pollution nationwide:
  - Industrial sites where appropriate pollution control and BMPs are not implemented;
  - Construction sites where erosion and siltation controls and other BMPs are not implemented; and,
  - Urban runoff where the drainage area is not properly managed.
26. A number of permits have been adopted to address pollution from the sources identified in Finding 25, above. The State Board issued three statewide general NPDES permits: one for storm water runoff from industrial activities (NPDES No. CAS000001, General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit), a second permit for storm water runoff from construction activities (NPDES No. CAS000002, General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit) and a third permit for Storm Water Runoff Associated with Small Linear Underground/Overhead Construction Projects (CAS000005). Industrial activities (as identified in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)) and construction sites of one acre or more, are required to obtain coverage under these statewide general permits. The permittees have developed project conditions of approval requiring coverage under the State's General Permits for new

developments to be implemented at the time of grading or building permit issuance for construction sites on one acre or more and at the time of local permit issuance for industrial facilities.

27. The State Board also adopted NPDES No. CAS000003 for storm water runoff from facilities (including freeways and highways) owned and/or operated by California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and NPDES No. CAS000004, for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. The Regional Board adopted Order No. R8-2007-0001, NPDES No. CAG018001, for concentrated animal feeding operations, including dairies. The Regional Board also issues individual storm water permits for certain industrial facilities within the Region. Currently there are two facilities located within Orange County. Additionally, for a number of facilities that discharge process wastewater and storm water, storm water discharge requirements are included with the facilities' NPDES permit for process wastewater.
28. In most cases, the industries and construction sites covered under the Statewide General Industrial and Construction Permits discharge into storm drains and/or flood control facilities owned and operated by the permittees. These industries and construction sites are also regulated under local laws and regulations. Federal regulations, 40 CFR Part 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C), also require the permittees to develop and implement programs to control the discharge of pollutants from these sites. A coordinated effort between the permittees and Regional Board staff is critical to avoid duplicative and overlapping efforts when overseeing the compliance of dischargers covered under the Statewide General Permits. As part of this coordination, the permittees have been notifying Regional Board staff when they observe conditions that pose a threat or potential threat to water quality, or when an industrial facility or construction activity has failed to obtain required coverage under the appropriate general storm water permit.
29. Each watershed has unique receiving water issues, land uses, topography, soils and stream stability and habitat issues. The Regional Board and the permittees recognize the importance of integrated watershed management initiatives and regional planning and coordination in the development and implementation of programs and policies related to water quality protection. A number of such efforts are underway in which the permittees are active participants (e.g., Orange County Flood Control Master Plan, Irvine Ranch Water District Natural Treatment System Master Plan, Orange County Watershed Plans, Nutrient and Selenium Management Program, etc.). As recommended in the 2008 National Academy of Sciences Report on Urban Stormwater Management, this order provides an option for the permittees to develop and implement watershed master plans integrating water quality, hydromodification, water supply and habitat protection issues. The Regional Board recognizes that a watershed master plan should integrate all other related programs, including the storm water program and TMDL processes. Consistent with this approach, some of the municipal storm water monitoring programs have already been integrated into a regional monitoring program. The Regional Board also recognizes that, in certain cases, diversion of funds targeted for certain monitoring programs to regional monitoring programs may be necessary. The

Executive Officer is authorized to approve, after proper public notification and consideration of all comments received, the integrated watershed management initiatives and regional planning and coordination programs and regional monitoring programs. The permittees are required to submit all documents, where appropriate, in an electronic format. All such documents will be posted at the Regional Board's website and all interested parties will be notified. In addition, the website will include the administrative and civil procedures for appealing any decision made by the Executive Officer. Some urban runoff issues, such as monitoring, public education and training can be more effectively addressed on a regional or statewide basis, thereby increasing program consistency and efficiency. This order encourages continued participation in such programs and policies.

30. The permittees are required to conduct inspections (40 CFR Part 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C)(2)) of construction sites, industrial facilities and commercial establishments. Inspection requirements, including criteria for prioritization of facilities for the inspection, were included in the third term permit. The construction and industrial inspection programs in the third term permit had established criteria/examples. However, the commercial inspection program only included a preliminary list of types of facilities to be inspected. Further refinements to the commercial inspection program are included in this order and these include: moving mobile businesses into their own program; including eating establishments (previously their own pilot program); and the addition of some key categories, not included on the 3<sup>rd</sup> term permit list. It should also be noted that some of these additional categories are directly related to current categories or identified in the Model Urban Runoff Program<sup>11</sup> and all of the additional categories are proposed for inclusion in other Southern California MS4 permits. To avoid duplicative efforts, the permittees need not inspect facilities that have been inspected by Regional Board staff, if the inspection was conducted during the specified time period. It is anticipated that many of the inspections required under this order can and will be carried out by inspectors currently conducting other types of inspections for the permittees (i.e., grading, building, code enforcement, etc.), during their normal duties. It is critical that these inspectors be properly trained in storm water pollution prevention and related issues.

#### **I. POTENTIAL POLLUTANTS IN STORM WATER RUNOFF/IMPACTS ON BENEFICIAL USES**

31. The permittees have conducted urban runoff and receiving water monitoring as required under the first, second and third term permits. The third term permit required monitoring using a wider array of methods to assess impacts caused by pollutants in urban runoff. In addition to monitoring the water column under wet and dry weather conditions, the permittees were required to monitor: water column toxicity, mass emission rates, estuary/wetlands including sediment and benthic monitoring, bacteriological/pathogen concentrations and bioassessment analysis. These monitoring programs indicate exceedances of Basin Plan, CTR and/or AB

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<sup>11</sup> Model Urban Runoff Program, prepared by the City of Monterey, California Coastal Commission, et. al., revised February 2002 by California Coastal Commission.

411 objectives for a number of constituents. The Report of Waste Discharge identifies copper and zinc, trash and debris, pesticide toxicity and pathogens as the major pollutants of concern. Monitoring data indicate that storm water and dry weather urban runoff continue to have pollutants at levels that could cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality objectives in the receiving waters. The permittees are proposing to conduct special studies to address these pollutants of concern during the fourth term permit.

32. The annual reports submitted by the permittees indicate that urban runoff is still causing or contributing to water quality standards violations. Some of the samples collected during both dry and wet weather exceeded the water quality standards. However, the exceedances during wet weather were more widespread compared to dry weather runoff. The monitoring reports indicate that there is some reduction in the mass loading rates for some of the metals, such as copper and zinc.
33. The results from the monitoring programs did not establish a clear correlation between pollutants in dry or wet weather runoff and impacts on beneficial uses in the receiving waters. However, exceedances of water quality objectives, including exceedances of AB411 standards, were reported for a number of monitoring locations by the permittees. Shoreline monitoring data indicate that AB411 exceedances are higher during the summer months (AB411 season) compared to the winter months. For the interior channels, AB411 exceedances were higher than shoreline, but were not significantly different for summer and winter months<sup>12</sup>. The index of biotic integrity rating is generally poor for most urban streams. The monitoring data also indicated sporadic exceedances of water quality objectives for dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, ammonia-nitrogen, surfactants, and some of the metals<sup>13</sup>.
34. During the summers of 1999 and 2000, a number of locations along the Orange County coast exhibited elevated bacterial levels. Since then a number of studies have been conducted that indicate that urban runoff, especially dry weather runoff, is a major contributing factor to the Orange County coastal bacterial contamination problems. To address this bacterial problem, the permittees currently divert dry weather low flows from some of these areas to the sanitary sewer. With the diversion of dry weather flows to the sanitary sewer, there have been significant improvements in the beach water quality. A number of studies have been conducted to determine the source of this microbial contamination and to develop permanent remedial measures. These studies have not conclusively determined the sources or solutions to this problem.
35. Monitoring results have indicated the presence of elevated concentrations of pesticides in storm water runoff from urban areas. The permittees have developed and implemented a model plan entitled, "Management Guidelines for Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides". The Report of Waste Discharge indicates that through implementation of this program, the municipalities have reduced the use of fertilizers

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<sup>12</sup> Unified Annual Progress Report, 2005-2006, Page C-11-31.

<sup>13</sup> Unified Annual Progress Report, 2005-2006, Attachment C-11-VII.

and pesticides. The permittees are required to review this plan to make any needed changes. TMDLs are being developed for some of the pesticides for the Newport Bay watershed. This order may be reopened to include any TMDL requirements.

36. Pollutants in urban runoff can impact the beneficial uses of the receiving waters and can cause or threaten to cause a condition of pollution or nuisance. Pathogens, such as bacteria, viruses, protozoa, (from sanitary sewer overflows, septic system leaks, spills and leaks from portable toilets, pets, wildlife and human activities) can impact water contact recreation, non-contact water recreation and shellfish harvesting. Microbial contamination of the beaches from urban runoff and other sources has resulted in a number of health advisories issued by the Orange County Health Officer. Oil and grease (from automobiles, industrial sites, etc.) can coat birds and aquatic organisms, adversely affecting respiration and/or thermoregulation. Other petroleum hydrocarbon components can cause toxicity to aquatic organisms and can impact human health. Suspended and settleable solids (from sediment, trash, and industrial activities) can be deleterious to benthic organisms and may cause anaerobic conditions. Sediments and other suspended particulates (from construction sites, erosion due to hydromodification, etc.) can cause turbidity, clog fish gills and interfere with respiration in aquatic fauna. These pollutants can also screen out light, hindering photosynthesis and normal aquatic plant growth and development. Toxic substances (from pesticides, herbicides, petroleum products, metals) can cause acute and/or chronic toxicity, and can bioaccumulate in organisms to levels that may be harmful to human health. Nutrients (from fertilizers, confined animal feeding operations, wildlife, pets and birds) can cause excessive algal blooms. These blooms can lead to problems with taste, odor, color and increased turbidity, and can depress the dissolved oxygen content, leading to fish kills. Stagnant water trapped in trash and debris creates breeding conditions for disease vectors (e.g., mosquitoes). Trash and debris, in particular plastics, have long been recognized as both aesthetic nuisances and as threats to freshwater and marine environments. Plastic debris, in the form of broken-down packaging and pre-production plastic pellets or 'nurdles', harms hundreds of wildlife species through ingestion, entanglement and entrapment. These plastic nurdles have the capability of absorbing pollutants, such as PCBs, and when ingested by wildlife, expose those animals to pollutant concentrations that are orders of magnitude higher than the surrounding water. Water Code Section 13367 requires the State Board and the regional boards to implement a program to control discharges of preproduction plastic from point and nonpoint sources. In collaboration with the permittees, Regional Board staff is currently trying to address this problem through the State's General Storm Water Permit for Industrial Activities and local controls.
37. Pollutants in urban runoff could adversely impact human health and the environment. Human illnesses have been linked to recreational activities in coastal waters especially near storm drain outlets<sup>14</sup>. Bioaccumulation of pollutants, present

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<sup>14</sup> The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project, Epidemiology Study, 1996.

in urban runoff, can occur in fish and other aquatic organisms. These organisms may be consumed by birds and humans. Pollutants in urban runoff can also cause mortality, impair growth and reproduction anomalies in aquatic organisms. If not properly designed and maintained, urban storm water treatment systems could provide breeding areas for disease vectors, such as mosquitoes, which are a public health concern (e.g., West Nile Virus).

38. It is important to control litter in order to eliminate trash and other materials in storm water runoff. In addition to the municipal ordinances prohibiting litter, the permittees participate or organize a number of other programs such as "Coastal Cleanup Day", "Pride Days", "Volunteer Collection Day", etc. The permittees also organize solid waste collection programs, household hazardous waste collections, and recycling programs to reduce litter and illicit discharges. Additionally, the permittees have installed debris booms at a number of locations to capture trash and debris preventing it from depositing on beaches.
39. The pollutants from urbanized areas are also a significant threat to environmentally sensitive areas, such as waterbodies designated as supporting a RARE beneficial use (supporting rare, threatened or endangered species), areas of special biological significance (ASBSs) and Clean Water Act Section 303(d) listed impaired waterbodies. The State Board is developing Special Protections for Storm Water and Non-point Source Discharges to ASBSs. Where applicable, the permittees are expected to comply with these Special Protection requirements for the ASBSs.

**J. CWA SECTION 303(d) LISTED WATERBODIES AND TMDLS**

40. Water quality assessments conducted by Regional Board staff have identified a number of water quality standards impairments due, in part, to urban runoff. Section 305(b) of the CWA requires each of the regional boards to routinely monitor and assess the quality of waters of the region. If this assessment indicates that beneficial uses and/or water quality objectives are not being met, then that waterbody must be listed under Section 303(d) of the CWA as an impaired waterbody. The 2006 State water quality assessment listed a number of water bodies within the Region under Section 303(d) as impaired waterbodies. For many of these impaired waterbodies, one of the listed causes of impairment is urban runoff. In the Orange County area, these include:
  - San Diego Creek, Reach 1 (listed for toxaphene, selenium, fecal coliform, nutrients, pesticides, sediment/siltation);
  - San Diego Creek, Reach 2 (listed for metals, nutrients, sediment/siltation, unknown toxicity);
  - Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve (listed for sediment toxicity, metals, copper, chlordane, PCBs, DDT, nutrients, pathogens, pesticides, sediment/siltation);
  - Lower Newport Bay (listed for chlordane, copper, DDT, sediment toxicity, PCBs, nutrients, pathogens, pesticides);
  - Anaheim Bay (listed for nickel, dieldrin, sediment toxicity, PCBs);

Huntington Harbour (listed for copper, lead, nickel, chlordane, pathogens, PCBs, sediment toxicity);  
Santiago Creek, Reach 4 (listed for salinity, TDS, chlorides);  
Seal Beach (listed for enterococcus, PCBs);  
Silverado Creek (listed for pathogens, salinity, TDS, chlorides);  
Rhine Channel (listed for copper, lead, mercury, zinc, sediment toxicity, PCBs);  
Peters Canyon Channel (listed for DDT, toxaphene);  
Los Trancos Creek (Crystal Cove Creek) (listed for total and fecal coliform);  
Huntington Beach State Park (listed for enterococcus, indicator bacteria, PCBs);  
Bolsa Chica State Beach (listed for copper and nickel);  
Buck Gully Creek (listed for total and fecal coliform); and  
Balboa Beach (listed for dieldrin, DDT, PCBs).

41. Federal regulations require that a total maximum daily load (TMDL) be established for each 303(d) listed waterbody for each of the pollutants causing impairment. The TMDL is the total amount of the pollutant that can be discharged while water quality standards in the receiving water are attained, i.e., water quality objectives are met and the beneficial uses are protected. A TMDL is the sum of the individual wasteload allocations (WLA) for point source inputs, load allocations (LA) for non-point source inputs and natural background, plus a margin of safety. TMDLs are one of the bases for limitations established in waste discharge requirements.
42. For 303(d) listed waterbodies without a TMDL, the permittees are required to provide special protections through development and implementation of Watershed Action Plans or other focused control measures that would address the pollutant of concern. If a TMDL has been developed and an implementation plan is yet to be developed, the permittees are required to develop constituent specific source control measures, conduct additional monitoring and/or cooperate with the development of an implementation plan.
43. TMDLs have been established by the Regional Board for sediment, fecal coliform, diazinon, chlorpyrifos and nutrients for the Newport Bay watershed. Organochlorine compounds TMDLs were adopted by the Regional Board on September 7, 2007. In addition, toxics TMDLs were promulgated by USEPA on June 14, 2002, including TMDLs for metals and selenium, and a TMDL specific to the Rhine Channel located in Lower Newport Bay.
44. TMDLs for diazinon and chlorpyrifos in San Diego Creek, and for chlorpyrifos in Upper Newport Bay, were adopted by the Regional Board on April 4, 2003, and subsequently approved by the State Board, State Office of Administrative Law, and EPA. The diazinon and chlorpyrifos TMDLs require all MS4 permittees in the

Newport Bay Watershed to develop and implement monitoring programs for diazinon and chlorpyrifos. The TMDLs also impose limits on the discharge of these compounds. This order incorporates these requirements.

45. The fecal coliform TMDL specifies WLAs for urban runoff to protect water contact recreation and shellfish harvesting beneficial uses. The implementation plan for the fecal coliform TMDL requires that monitoring and certain investigations be conducted, including a source identification and characterization investigation of urban runoff. An updated TMDL report is to be prepared based on the data and information collected, and the TMDL is to be adjusted, as necessary, based on the updated TMDL report. This order may be reopened to incorporate additional requirements based on findings in the source identification and characterization plan that is expected to be completed in 2009. This order may be reopened to incorporate additional or revised requirements based on the updated TMDL report and/or approved changes to the TMDL.
46. As indicated above, nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) TMDLs have been established by the Regional Board for the Newport Bay watershed. The current and future (year 2012) targets for the nutrient TMDLs are already being met. However, Board staff is currently reevaluating the nutrient TMDLs in light of evidence that there remains impairment of these waters due to eutrophication. The EPA promulgated TMDLs for selenium but, an implementation plan is yet to be developed. The Regional Board adopted Orders No. R8-2004-021 and R8-2007-0041 as interim control measures to address nitrogen and selenium in groundwater-related discharges to the Newport Bay watershed. In response to Order No. R8-2004-0021, stakeholders established a Nitrogen Selenium Management Program (NSMP) Working Group. The Working Group is implementing an approved workplan that is expected to identify comprehensive management plans for both selenium and nitrogen in groundwater in the Newport Bay watershed. Board staff is currently developing selenium TMDLs that will update and revise those established by EPA and that will include an implementation plan. The implementation plan will rely heavily on the findings and recommendations made by the NSMP Working Group. It is expected that the implementation plan will include the opportunity for an adaptive, collaborative approach by stakeholders in the watershed to address selenium and nitrogen in comprehensive and efficient fashion. This approach may be implemented through a cooperative agreement or, alternatively, through waste discharge requirements or a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements.
47. In support of the nutrient TMDLs implementation plan, a regional monitoring program (RMP) was developed to monitor nutrients in San Diego Creek and Newport Bay. This order requires the permittees listed under the RMP to continue their participation in the RMP program.
48. On September 7, 2007, the Regional Board adopted TMDLs for organochlorine compounds (OCs) that specify WLAs for urban runoff for DDT and toxaphene in San Diego Creek, and DDT, chlordane, and PCBs in Upper and Lower Newport Bay. The OCs TMDLs also specify informational TMDLs with informational urban

runoff WLAs for chlordane and PCBs in San Diego Creek. The OCs TMDLs require approval from the State Board, the State Office of Administrative Law, and EPA. The implementation plan for the OCs TMDLs includes monitoring and, where necessary, enhanced implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to reduce erosion and sediment transport as organochlorine compounds tend to adhere to fine sediment. In addition, the OCs TMDL implementation plan provides an opportunity for dischargers to participate in the development and implementation of a comprehensive Work Plan that would address the OCs and other sources of toxicity in the San Diego Creek and Newport Bay watersheds. Once a Work Plan is developed, it is required to be approved by the Regional Board at a public hearing. Participation by the permittees in this process will obviate the need for individual actions on the tasks in Table NB-OCs-13<sup>15</sup> by members of the Working Group. The County of Orange and Newport Bay watershed MS4 permittees have initiated efforts to develop a Work Plan. MS4 permittees not electing to participate in the Work Plan approach will be required to implement the tasks shown in Table NB-OCs-13, as appropriate.

49. The State Board awarded a grant to the South Coast Resource Conservation and Development Council in partnership with the University of California Cooperative Extension to investigate and demonstrate strategies to reduce pesticide runoff from urban areas. A pesticide management plan for the Newport Bay watershed has been developed under this program<sup>16</sup>.
50. If the TMDL implementation plans include compliance schedules beyond the permit term, monitoring and other requirements are being included in this order to monitor progress towards achieving future compliance.
51. Certain portions of the San Gabriel River watershed are under the Los Angeles Regional Board's jurisdiction. Urban runoff from cities and county areas within the northwestern portions of Orange County discharge into the San Gabriel River and/or its tributaries. On July 13, 2006, the Los Angeles Regional Board adopted TMDLs for metals in the San Gabriel River watershed. However, because of the state's inability to meet the March 2007 deadline for an approved TMDL prescribed in a consent decree (*Heal the Bay Inc., et al. v. Browner* C98-4825 SBA), on March 26, 2007, the EPA promulgated TMDLs for metals and selenium for the San Gabriel River. The upper portions of Coyote Creek flow through Orange County to join the San Gabriel River above the tidal prism. Other unnamed tributaries located in northwestern Orange County also discharge into the San Gabriel River estuary. The EPA promulgated TMDLs include wet weather wasteload allocations for Coyote Creek for copper, lead and zinc and dry weather wasteload allocations for copper for Coyote Creek. The permittees are expected to implement programs and policies consistent with the metals and selenium TMDLs for the San Gabriel River watershed. This includes constituent-specific source control programs or other equally effective programs to control

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<sup>15</sup> Attachment 2 to Resolution No. R8-2007-0024.

<sup>16</sup> Darren L. Haver and John N. Kabashima, June 30, 2008, Pesticide Runoff Management Plan, Newport Bay Watershed.

the discharge of copper, lead and zinc into Coyote Creek and other tributaries in Orange County that discharge into the San Gabriel River.

52. This order requires permittees to comply with established TMDL wasteload allocations specified for urban runoff and/or storm water by implementing the necessary BMPs. NPDES regulations at 40 CFR 122.44(d)(vii)(B) require that permits be consistent with wasteload allocations approved by U. S. EPA. This order requires the permittees to comply with the urban runoff/storm water wasteload allocations specified in (1) Regional Board-adopted and USEPA approved TMDLs (including TMDLs for nutrients, fecal coliform, diazinon and chlorpyrifos); (2) Regional Board-adopted TMDLs that are approved by the State Board and State Office of Administrative Law and that are thereby effective (approval of organochlorine compounds TMDLs by the State is pending); and, (3) USEPA-promulgated TMDLs (including toxics TMDLs for the Newport watershed). Continuation of water quality/biota monitoring and analysis of the data are essential to better understand the impacts of storm water discharges on the water quality of the receiving waters, impairment caused by urban runoff, compliance with the wasteload allocations and for assessing the effectiveness of control measures.
53. Permittees will be required to comply with established TMDLs and other water quality standards or discharge requirements that may be imposed by the EPA or the State prior to the expiration of this order. This order may be reopened to address established or revised TMDLs and/or other requirements developed and adopted by the Regional Board, EPA or the State Board.

#### **K. DRAINAGE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN (DAMP)**

54. Urban development increases population density and pollutant sources<sup>17</sup> such as construction activities, industrial facilities, auto emissions, wastes related to automobile maintenance activities, sanitary wastes, pesticides, pet wastes, household hazardous wastes and trash<sup>18</sup>. If appropriate BMPs are not implemented, retail gasoline outlets and automobile service stations could be significant sources of pollutants in urban runoff including petroleum hydrocarbons, oil and grease, metals and solvents<sup>19</sup>.
55. The local agencies (the permittees) are the owners and operators of the storm water conveyance systems and have established appropriate legal authority to control discharge of pollutants to the MS4s. The permittees have adopted grading and erosion control ordinances and guidelines for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) for municipal, commercial, and industrial activities.

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<sup>17</sup> U.S. EPA (1992). *Environmental Impacts of Storm Water Discharges: A National Profile*, EPA 841-R-92-001; Office of Water, Washington, DC.

<sup>18</sup> National Management Measures to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution from Urban Areas. USEPA Publication No. EPA 841-B-05-004, November 2005.

<sup>19</sup> Retail Gasoline Outlet and Commercial Parking Lot Storm Water Runoff Study, Western States. Petroleum Association and American Petroleum Institute (1994) at p 13. The study concludes that pollutant concentrations in storm water discharges from properly managed RGOs are similar to concentrations from commercial parking lots and diffuse urban runoff.

The permittees must exercise a combination of these programs, policies, and legal authority to ensure that pollutant loads resulting from urbanization are properly controlled and managed.

56. One of the major tools that the permittees use for urban runoff pollution prevention is the development and implementation of an appropriate DAMP, including best management practices (BMPs). The ultimate goal of the urban storm water management program is to support attainment of water quality objectives for the receiving waters and to protect beneficial uses through the implementation of the DAMP. The permittees developed and submitted a revised draft 2007 DAMP.
57. The DAMP is a dynamic document and the permittees have implemented, or are in the process of implementing, various elements of the DAMP. This order requires the permittees to continue to implement the BMPs listed in the revised DAMP; update or modify the DAMP, when appropriate, consistent with the MEP and other applicable standards; and to effectively prohibit illicit discharges to the storm drain system.
58. The Orange County DAMP defined: (1) a management structure for the permittees' compliance effort; (2) a formal agreement to underpin cooperation; and (3) a detailed municipal effort to develop, implement, and evaluate various BMPs or control programs in the areas of public agency activities, public information, new development and construction, public works construction, industrial discharger identification, and illicit discharger/connection identification and elimination.
59. In order to meet DAMP requirements and characterize and manage pollutant sources on a local level, the permittees developed LIPs. Each jurisdiction has developed its own LIP and is implementing the LIP to properly manage, reduce and mitigate potential and actual pollution sources within the boundaries of each permittee's jurisdiction.

#### **L. NEW DEVELOPMENT/SIGNIFICANT REDEVELOPMENT – WQMP/LIP/LID**

60. A major portion of Orange County is urbanized with residential, commercial and industrial developments. Urban development increases impervious surfaces and storm water runoff volume and velocity and decreases vegetated, pervious surface areas available for infiltration and evapotranspiration of storm water. Increase in runoff volume and velocity can cause scour, erosion (sheet, rill and/or gully), aggradation (raising of a streambed from sediment deposition) and can change fluvial geomorphology, hydrology and aquatic ecosystems. This order includes requirements to address increases in imperviousness and changes in water quality and quantity, including hydrologic conditions of concern.
61. Recent studies have indicated that low impact development<sup>20</sup> (LID) BMPs are effective storm water management tools that minimize adverse impacts on storm water runoff quality and quantity resulting from urban developments. The Southern

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<sup>20</sup> Low impact development is an approach to land development (or re-development) that works with nature to manage storm water as close to its source as possible by using structural and non-structural best management practices to reduce environmental impacts.

California Monitoring Coalition (SMC), including the project lead agency, the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, in collaboration with SMC member Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) and the California Storm Water Quality Association (CASQA), with funding from the State Water Resources Control Board and CASQA, is developing a Low Impact Development Manual for Southern California. A preliminary draft of this manual indicates that effective implementation of site design LID BMPs should occur during the earliest stages of planning such as site assessment, environment review and site planning. This manual will be incorporated into the CASQA BMP Handbooks. The permittees are encouraged to utilize the manual as a resource to implement LID techniques. This order requires the project proponents to first consider preventative and conservation techniques (e.g., preserve and protect natural features to the maximum extent practicable) prior to considering mitigative techniques (structural treatment, such as infiltration systems). The mitigative measures should be prioritized with the highest priority for BMPs that remove storm water pollutants and reduce runoff volume, such as infiltration, then other BMPs, such as harvesting and re-use, evapotranspiration and bio-treatment should be considered. These LID BMPs must be implemented at the project site in a manner consistent with the maximum extent practicable standard. Where LID BMPs are not feasible at the project site, more traditional, but equally effective control measures should be implemented.

62. The USEPA has determined that LID/green infrastructure can be a cost-effective and environmentally preferable approach for the control of storm water pollution and will minimize downstream impacts by limiting the effective impervious area of development. LID and the reduction of impervious areas may achieve multiple environmental and economic benefits in addition to reducing downstream water quality impacts, such as enhanced water supplies, cleaner air, reduced urban temperatures, increased energy efficiency and other community benefits, such as aesthetics, recreation, and wildlife areas. USEPA has reviewed studies<sup>21</sup> that have evaluated the percent EIA<sup>22</sup> concept (also see the SCCWRP study<sup>23</sup>). The limited study conducted by Dr. Richard Horner<sup>24</sup> concluded that a 3% EIA standard for development is feasible in Ventura County. EPA believes that EIA is a reasonable metric for incorporating LID principles into storm water permits and EPA supports

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<sup>21</sup> See for example the analysis prepared by Dr. Richard Horner entitled, "Investigation of the Feasibility and Benefits of Low-Impact Site Design Practices ("LID") for Ventura County" submitted to the Los Angeles Regional Board by NRDC.

<sup>22</sup> EIA=effective impervious area. These are areas where little or no infiltration of storm water occur, such as paved areas.

<sup>23</sup> Studies conducted by Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) and others indicate that environmental impacts from developments could be minimized by limiting the effective impervious area.

<sup>24</sup> Dr. Richard Horner, Investigation of the Feasibility and Benefits of Low-Impact Site Design Practices ("LID") for Ventura County, Development (undated).

other equally effective metrics for compliance determination. A review of the analysis of the LID metrics in storm water permitting<sup>25</sup> and its critique<sup>26</sup> indicates that there are certain shortcomings in specifying a percentage EIA as a metric. A series of stakeholder meetings<sup>27</sup> conducted after issuance of the first draft of this order concluded that other equally effective metrics could be used to quantify implementation of LID. It was generally agreed by the stakeholders that a numeric metric, such as a metric based on a specified volume capture may be an equally effective metric. A 5% EIA metric was included in the first draft of this order. The second draft replaces the 5% EIA metric with a volume capture metric based on the design volume specified in the WQMP.

63. On October 5, 2000, the State Board adopted Order No. WQ-2000-11, which is a precedential order. Order No. WQ-2000-11 required that urban runoff generated by 85th percentile storm events from specific types of development categories should be infiltrated, filtered or treated. The essential elements of this precedential order were incorporated into the Region 8 Orange County third term permit. In accordance with the requirements specified in the third term permit, the permittees developed a model Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) by amending their Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP). The model WQMP provides a framework to incorporate watershed protection principles into the permittees planning, construction and post-construction phases of defined new and redevelopment projects. The model WQMP includes site design, source control and treatment control elements to reduce the discharge of pollutants in urban runoff. On September 26, 2003, the Regional Board approved the model WQMP. The permittees have incorporated provisions of the model WQMP into their LIPs. The permittees are requiring new developments and significant redevelopments to develop and implement appropriate project WQMPs. This order requires continued implementation of structural and non-structural BMPs for new developments and significant redevelopments as per the approved model WQMP, and the priority project threshold for commercial/industrial developments has been changed to 10,000 square feet, making it consistent with the threshold for residential subdivisions. However, with the implementation of LID techniques, some of the structural treatment control BMPs may not be necessary. The project WQMPs are required to include a discussion on how LID principles are incorporated into the project. Section 7.II-3.2.4 of the WQMP requires identification of hydrologic conditions of concern (HCOC). An HCOC exists when a site's hydrologic regime is

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<sup>25</sup> Low Impact Development Metrics in Stormwater Permitting, Prepared for the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program and the Orange County Stormwater Program by Geosyntec Consultants and Larry Walker Associates with Assistance from Hawks and Associates (January 2009).

<sup>26</sup> Critique of Certain Elements of "Low Impact Development Metrics in Stormwater Permitting" by Dr. Richard Horner (undated, submitted by NRDC on February 13, 2009).

<sup>27</sup> The stakeholder group included representatives from Permittees, NRDC, Orange County Coastkeeper, BIA/CICWQ, The Irvine Company, Regional Board staff, USEPA and a number of consultants and attorneys.

altered and there are significant impacts on downstream channels and aquatic habitats, alone or in conjunction with impacts of other projects. Currently, new development and significant re-development projects are required to perform this assessment and incorporate appropriate BMPs to ensure existing hydrologic conditions are maintained. Certain jurisdictions have employed HCOC mapping efforts to assist developers in identifying areas where HCOC conditions exist. Within six months of adoption of this order, the permittees are required to conduct an HCOC mapping to identify HCOC areas in the permitted area.

64. The Region 8 Orange County third term permit required the permittees to review their planning (CEQA, General Plan, etc.) and approval processes to determine the need to revise those processes to address appropriate storm water protection principles. The model WQMP provides a framework for addressing these issues. However, Regional Board staff's audit of the permittees MS4 program indicated that all the permittees had not fully implemented the program. This order requires the permittees to reevaluate and to revise the current program implementation processes. Pollution prevention techniques, appropriate planning processes and early identification of potential storm water impacts and mitigation measures can significantly reduce storm water pollution problems. The permittees shall consider these impacts and appropriate mitigation measures during the planning and approval processes.
65. The intent of the WQMP, SWPPP and other programs and policies incorporated into this order is to minimize the impact from the project on water quality and the environment. However, compliance with this order and the DAMP does not necessarily constitute mitigation that is sufficiently specific to satisfy the requirements of CEQA with regards to projects.
66. Treatment control BMPs include vortex systems, catch basin inserts, detention basins, infiltrations areas (including LID-based), retention basins, regional treatment systems, constructed wetlands, various types of storm water filters, etc. If not properly designed and managed, these systems could be sources of pollutants and could become a nuisance and/or cause the spreading of surface water pollution, and those treatment systems with a hydraulic connection to groundwater (e.g., detention basins, infiltration systems, constructed wetlands, etc.) could be sources of groundwater pollution. Restrictions placed on urban runoff infiltration in this order (Section XII.B.5.) are based on recommendations provided by the U.S. EPA Risk Reduction Laboratory. The requirements specified in this order include identification of responsible agencies for maintaining the systems and for providing funding for operation and maintenance.
67. If not properly designed and maintained, the BMPs identified in Finding 66 could create a nuisance and/or habitat for vectors<sup>28</sup> (e.g., mosquitoes and rodents). Third term permit required the permittees to closely collaborate with the Orange County

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<sup>28</sup> Managing Mosquitoes in Stormwater Treatment Devices, Marco E. Metzger, University of California Davis, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Publication 8125.

Vector Control District during the development and implementation of such treatment systems. The permittees should continue these collaborative efforts with the Vector Control District to ensure that treatment control systems do not become a nuisance or a potential source of pollutants. There are other site conditions that limit the applicability of infiltration, including site soils, contaminant plumes, potential mobilization of naturally occurring contaminants such as selenium, high groundwater levels, etc. Such factors should be considered in the design and implementation of storm water control measures.

#### **M. NON-STORM WATER/DE-MINIMUS DISCHARGES**

68. The MS4s generally contain non-storm water flows such as irrigation runoff, runoff from non-commercial car washes, runoff from miscellaneous washing and cleaning operations, and other nuisance flows generally referred to as de-minimus discharges. Federal regulations, 40 CFR Part 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B), prohibit the discharge of non-storm water containing pollutants into the MS4s and to waters of the U.S. unless they are regulated under a separate NPDES permit, or are exempt, as indicated in Discharge Prohibitions, Section III.3 of this order. The Regional Board adopted a number of NPDES permits<sup>29</sup> to address de-minimus type of pollutant discharges. However, the permittees need not get coverage under the de-minimus permits for the types of discharges listed under Section III.3, except for discharges to the Newport Bay watershed (where coverage under the Newport Bay watershed-specific de-minimus permit is required, see Finding 69), as long as they are in compliance with the conditions specified under Section III of this order.
69. Many areas of the San Diego Creek/Newport Bay watershed have high nitrate and/or selenium levels in the soils and/or groundwater. Dewatering operations, construction activities and agricultural and other operations could mobilize these pollutants and carry them into San Diego Creek and Newport Bay. The Regional Board has adopted a General Permit, Order No. R8-2007-0041, to regulate dewatering wastes into the San Diego Creek/Newport Bay watershed. In addition, stakeholders in the watershed are in the process of developing a comprehensive nitrogen/selenium management plan to address the nitrogen/selenium issues.

#### **N. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS AND NUMERIC EFFLUENT LIMITS**

70. The first term permit required the permittees to: (1) develop and implement the DAMP and a storm water and receiving water monitoring plan; (2) eliminate illicit discharges<sup>30</sup> to the MS4s; and (3) enact the necessary legal authority to effectively

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<sup>29</sup> E.g., R8-2003-0061, as amended by R8-2004-0021.

<sup>30</sup> Illicit Discharge means any discharge to the municipal separate storm system that is prohibited under local, state, or federal statutes, ordinances, codes, or regulations. The term illicit discharge includes all discharges that contain non storm-water discharges except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit, discharges that are identified in Section III, Discharge Limitations/Prohibitions, of this order, and discharges authorized by the Regional Board Executive Officer.

prohibit such discharges. The overall goal of these requirements was to reduce pollutant loadings to surface waters from urban runoff to the MEP. The second term permit required continued implementation of the DAMP and the monitoring plan, and required the permittees to focus on those areas that threaten beneficial uses. The third term permit required the permittees to inspect construction sites and industrial and commercial facilities. The permittees were also required to develop and implement a model WQMP to address runoff from new development and significant redevelopment projects. The principal permittee, in co-operation with the co-permittees, developed administrative strategies and implementation procedures for each program element. Each permittee incorporated these tools into its LIP. The permittees are required to continue to implement each of these program elements and to aggressively pursue implementation of LID techniques during the fourth term permit. As required under the third term permit, the principal permittee, in collaboration with the co-permittees, evaluated the effectiveness of the overall program during the permit term. The permittees, in consultation with Regional Board staff, evaluated each program element and proposed new and improved program commitments in their 2006 Report of Waste Discharge. Regional Board staff audited each of the permittee programs during the third term permit and determined that some of the permittees had significant violations with respect to implementation of certain program elements. Enforcement actions were taken to bring these permittees into compliance. The permittees were required to address problems identified during the audit. Some of the permittees were to amend their LIPs to address deficiencies noted during the audit.

71. Based on the results of the audits performed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> term permit, a number of permit requirements have been incorporated into the current permit. While the 2001 DAMP listed criteria by which co-permittees were to assess the priority ranking of commercial sites, a number of co-permittees had interpreted those criteria in such a manner as to ensure that only a very small number of sites would be ranked 'High' and in some cases, all commercial sites within a municipality were ranked 'Low,' resulting in the least number of inspections possible. To address this situation, commercial site ranking now requires that a minimum 10% of the sites with the highest potential for pollutant discharge, be ranked 'High' and next 40% of highest potential sites be ranked 'Medium,' for inspection purposes.
72. The Report of Waste Discharge proposes to enhance implementation of various program elements through the development of performance indicators and auditable systems, and by focusing on addressing problems on a watershed-specific basis. To improve program management efficiencies, the permittees are proposing to define expertise and competencies for program managers and inspectors, and to develop and implement an effective training program for them. The principal permittee in collaboration with the co-permittees is required to develop guidelines for defining the expertise and competencies for various positions and training programs and schedules for training for these positions. In the event that co-permittees want to design their own training program, it should be prepared in collaboration with the principal permittee, and at a minimum, should contain all information present in the principal permittee-prepared training program. The permittees are required to document procedures used to determine the defined

competencies for each storm water position (this may be accomplished through a test at the end of the training program or through an on-the-job testing procedure).

73. This order includes wasteload allocations for those constituents for which either the U.S. EPA has promulgated or the Regional Board has established TMDLs. Federal regulations (40 CFR 122.44(d)(vii)(B)) require that the Permits be consistent with the applicable wasteload allocations in the TMDLs. Consistent with the federal storm water laws and regulations, the order does not include numeric effluent limits for other potential pollutants. Federal Clean Water Act requires the permittees to have appropriate controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and systems, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants (33 USC 1342(p)(3)(B)). MEP is a dynamic performance standard and it evolves as our knowledge of urban runoff control measures increases.
74. On June 17, 1999, the State Board adopted Water Quality Order No. 99-05. This is a precedential order that incorporates the receiving water limitations language recommended by the USEPA. Consistent with the State Board's order, this order requires the permittees to comply with the applicable water quality standards, which is to be achieved through an iterative approach requiring the implementation of increasingly more effective BMPs. This approach is consistent with most of the municipal storm water permits issued in California that specify certain minimum control measures and incorporate an iterative process that requires increasingly more effective control measures if the water quality objectives are not met.

#### **O. MUNICIPAL FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES**

75. The permittees own and operate MS4s and appurtenances, build and maintain roads and other transportation facilities, sanitary waste collection and conveyance systems, recreational facilities such as parks, hiking trails, etc., and other infrastructures of the urban environment. This order requires the permittees to consider water quality impacts during the planning stages of these projects, during construction and post-construction use, and during operation and maintenance of these facilities. This order includes requirements for the control of trash and debris, for street sweeping, and for drainage facilities maintenance. The permittees have already installed eleven trash and debris booms in flood control channels and harbors to recover floatable material. The permittees have promoted a number of public awareness and volunteer cleanup programs. The Orange County Integrated Waste Management Board administers the household hazardous waste collection program. Most of the permittees, in collaboration with the Orange County Health Care Agency, implement the oil recycling program.
76. The permittees own and/or operate facilities where industrial or related activities take place that may have an impact on storm water quality. Some of the permittees also enter into contracts with outside parties to carry out municipal related activities that may also have an impact on storm water quality. The permittees have developed and are implementing a Model Municipal Activities Program that

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established a framework for conducting a systematic program of evaluation and BMP implementation for fixed facilities, field operations and drainage facilities. Non-storm water discharges from these facilities and/or activities could also affect water quality. This order prohibits non-storm water discharges from public facilities, unless the discharges are exempt under Section III, Discharge Limitations, of this order, or are permitted by the Regional Board under an individual NPDES permit or the de-minimus permits.

77. Successful implementation of the provisions and limitations in this order will require the cooperation of public agency organizations within Orange County having programs/activities that have an impact on storm water quality. A list of these organizations is included in Attachment C. As such, these organizations should actively participate in implementing the Orange County NPDES Storm Water Program. The Regional Board has the discretion and authority to require certain non-cooperating entities to participate in this areawide permit or obtain individual storm water discharge permits, pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(a). The permittees have developed a Storm Water Implementation Agreement among the County, the cities and the Orange County Flood Control District. The Implementation Agreement establishes the responsibilities of each party, a funding mechanism for the shared costs, and recognizes the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).
78. The permittees have developed and implemented programs and policies to address fixed facilities, fertilizer and pesticide use, employee training, storm drain inspection and maintenance activities, and other related planning, inspection and maintenance programs. This order requires the permittees to continue these programs and propose any needed changes to these programs.
79. Some of the permittees own and operate sewage collection systems. Sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) have been a significant source of water quality impairments and beach closures in Orange County. On May 2, 2006, the State Board adopted Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003 to provide a consistent statewide regulatory approach to address SSOs. In addition, the principal permittee, in collaboration with the Orange County Sanitation District and a number of the co-permittees, has developed the Countywide Area Spill Control Program to address SSOs in certain areas of Orange County. These two programs are expected to address issues related to SSOs.

**P. PUBLIC EDUCATION/PARTICIPATION**

80. Urban runoff contains pollutants from privately owned and operated facilities, such as residences, businesses, private and/or public institutions, and commercial establishments. Therefore, a successful storm water management plan should include the participation and cooperation of the public, businesses, the permittees and the regulators. The DAMP has a strong emphasis on public education. Public education includes education of the public at large, commercial establishments, industrial facilities and developers. It also includes proper training for municipal planning, inspection and maintenance activities. The permittees have developed

inter-departmental training programs and have made commitments to conduct a certain number of these training programs during the term of this permit.

81. Public education is an important part of storm water pollution prevention. The permittees have employed a variety of means to educate the public, business and commercial establishments, industrial facilities and construction sites, and in 1999 developed a long term public education strategy. In 2002, the permittees created a public and business outreach strategy and developed the "Orange County Stormwater Public Education Program Recommendations." This strategy was updated in 2004 and established a long-term cost-effective approach to educate the public and targeted businesses about the effects of storm water pollution and encourages their participation in protecting water quality. In accordance with this strategy the permittees conducted a public awareness survey and translated relevant public education materials into Spanish and Vietnamese. The permittees employed a variety of media, including newspapers, radio, television, movie theaters, advertisements on public transportation vehicles, schools and printed brochures to provide information regarding storm water pollution and the public's role in controlling it. In addition to the multi-media approach, the permittees have started to work with business establishments such as Home Depot and PetsMart, utilities such as Waste Management and Southern California Edison, organizations such as Chamber of Commerce and Welcome Express, and a number of other organizations and establishments. The permittees also established a countywide 24-hour, bilingual, hotline for reporting illegal activities that could impact water quality. This order requires implementation of LID techniques. If not properly designed and maintained, some of the LID BMPs could provide breeding areas for vectors. Public education and outreach materials should include a discussion on the association between disease vectors, urban runoff, storm water treatment control and LID BMPs.
82. The storm water regulations require public participation in the development and implementation of the storm water management program. As such, the permittees are required to solicit and consider all comments received from the public and submit copies of the comments to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board with the annual reports due on November 15 of each year. It is expected that the permittees would include comments received on any significant revisions to the Monitoring Plan, LIPs and WQMPs. In response to public comments, the permittees may modify reports, plans, or schedules prior to submittal to the Executive Officer.

#### **Q. MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM AND EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT**

83. In order to characterize storm water discharges, to identify problem areas, to determine the impact of urban runoff on receiving waters, and to determine the effectiveness of the various BMPs, an effective monitoring program is critical. The principal permittee administers the monitoring program for the permittees. During the previous permit term, the permittees completed the 99-04 Monitoring Plan. This plan included storm water monitoring, receiving water monitoring, dry weather

monitoring and sediment monitoring in previously identified critical aquatic resources areas, as well as, mass emissions monitoring of both wet and dry season flows. On July 1, 2003, the permittees submitted the Third Term Monitoring Plan. This plan was approved by the Executive Officer on July 15, 2005. Monitoring under this plan was expanded to cover monitoring requirements for the development and implementation of TMDLs for impaired waters in Orange County. The Monitoring Plan approved in 2005, included mass emissions monitoring, estuary/wetlands monitoring, bacteriological/pathogen monitoring, bioassessment monitoring, illicit discharge reconnaissance monitoring, and land use correlations. Three different approaches were used for these monitoring programs: core monitoring, regional monitoring, and special studies. The permittees are required to review the monitoring program on an annual basis to determine the need for any revisions. The monitoring program may have to be revised to meet TMDL and ASBS monitoring requirements and/or to make the program consistent with any statewide or regional monitoring guidance developed either by the State Board or the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition.

## **R. ILLICIT DISCHARGES, ILLICIT CONNECTIONS AND LEGAL AUTHORITY**

84. Illicit discharges to the storm drains can contribute to storm water and surface water contamination. A reconnaissance survey of the municipal storm drain systems (open channels and underground storm drains) was completed by the permittees during the third term permit, the permittees significantly enhanced the programmatic framework for detecting and quickly controlling discharges into the MS4s. The permittees have initiated a dry weather monitoring program that is based on statistically derived benchmarks to detect illicit discharges and illicit connections. The program also facilitates public reporting of illicit discharges by providing 24-hour access to a toll free hotline. The program has a number of mechanisms in place to identify and eliminate illicit discharges to the MS4s, including: construction, commercial and industrial facility inspections, drainage facility inspections, water quality monitoring programs, and public education including a 24-hour hotline. The permittees developed a ten module training program for training municipal staff to identify and eliminate illicit discharges to the MS4s and to take appropriate enforcement actions.
85. In order to insure countywide consistency and to provide a legal underpinning to the entire Orange County storm water program, a model water quality ordinance was completed on August 15, 1994 and has been adopted by all the permittees. A countywide Enforcement Consistency Guide was established by the permittees in 1995. These documents establish legal authority for enforcing storm water ordinances and countywide uniformity in the enforcement actions. The permittees have the authority to control pollutants into the MS4s, to prohibit illicit connections and illicit discharges, to control spills, to require compliance with local water quality ordinances and to carry out inspections of the storm drain systems within their jurisdictions.

86. During the third term permit, the principal permittees in collaboration with the Orange County Sanitation District developed and implemented a coordinated sewage spill prevention and response demonstration project. This program is being evaluated for implementation throughout the Orange County Sanitation District's service area.
87. There may be discharges that are not within the permittees jurisdiction. The permittees may petition the Regional Board to issue a separate NPDES permit to any discharger of non-storm water into storm drain systems that they own or operate.

#### **S. COMPLIANCE WITH CZARA, CEQA AND THE ANTI-DEGRADATION POLICY**

88. The Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA), Section 6217(g), requires coastal states with approved coastal zone management programs to address non-point source pollution impacting or threatening coastal water quality. CZARA addresses five sources of non-point pollution: agriculture, silviculture, urban, marinas, and hydromodification. This order addresses the management measures required for the urban category, with the exception of septic systems. Compliance with requirements specified in this order relieves the permittees for developing a non-point source plan, for the urban category, under CZARA. The Regional Board addresses septic systems through the administration other programs.
89. In accordance with California Water Code Section 13389, the issuance of waste discharge requirements for this discharge is exempt from those provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act contained in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100), Division 13 of the Public Resources Code.
90. The permitted discharge is consistent with the anti-degradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and the State Board Resolution 68-16. This order requires implementation of programs (i.e., BMPs) to reduce the level of pollutants in the storm water discharges. The combination of programs and policies required to be implemented under this order for new and existing developments are designed to improve urban storm water quality.

#### **T. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC HEARING**

91. The Regional Board has notified the permittees and interested parties of its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for this discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
92. The Regional Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge and to the tentative requirements.

**PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:**

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the permittees, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the California Water Code and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the Clean Water Act, as amended, and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

**I. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRINCIPAL PERMITTEE**

- A. The principal permittee shall be responsible for the overall program management and shall:
1. Conduct chemical and biological water quality monitoring, as required by this order and any additional monitoring as directed by the Executive Officer.
  2. Conduct inspections and maintain the storm drain systems within its jurisdiction.
  3. Review and revise, if necessary, policies/ordinances necessary to establish legal authority as required by the Federal Storm Water Regulations.
  4. Respond and/or arrange for responding to emergency situations, such as accidental spills, leaks, illicit discharges and illicit connections, etc., to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to storm drain systems and waters of the US within its jurisdiction.
  5. Take appropriate enforcement actions for illicit discharges to the MS4 systems owned or controlled by the principal permittee.
  6. Prepare and submit to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board unified reports, plans, and programs as required by this order, including the annual report.
- B. The activities of the principal permittee shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
1. Coordinate and conduct Management Committee meetings on an as needed basis. The principal permittee will take the lead role in initiating and developing areawide programs and activities necessary to comply with this order.
  2. Coordinate permit activities and participate in any subcommittees formed as necessary to coordinate compliance activities with this order.
  3. Provide technical and administrative support and inform the co-permittees of the progress of other pertinent municipal programs, pilot projects, research studies, etc.
  4. Coordinate the implementation of areawide storm water quality management activities such as public education, pollution prevention, household hazardous waste collection, etc.
  5. Develop and implement mechanisms, performance standards, etc., to promote uniform and consistent implementation of BMPs among the permittees.
  6. Pursue enforcement actions as necessary within its jurisdiction to ensure compliance with storm water management programs, ordinances and implementation plans, including physical elimination of undocumented connections and illicit discharges.

7. In conjunction with the other permittees, implement the BMPs listed in the DAMP, and take such other actions as may be necessary to meet the MEP standard.
8. Monitor the implementation of the plans and programs required by this order and determine their effectiveness in protecting beneficial uses.
9. Coordinate all the activities with the Regional Board, including the submittal of all reports, plans, and programs, as required under this order.
10. Obtain public input for any proposed management and implementation plans, such as Monitoring Plans, Local Implementation Plans and significant changes to Water Quality Management Plans.
11. Cooperate in watershed management programs and regional and/or statewide monitoring programs.
12. In collaboration with the co-permittees, develop guidelines for defining expertise and competencies of storm water program managers and inspectors and develop and submit for approval a training program for various positions in accordance with these guidelines.

## **II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CO-PERMITTEES**

- A. The co-permittees shall be responsible for the management of storm drain systems within their jurisdictions and shall:
  1. Implement management programs, monitoring programs, implementation plans and all BMPs outlined in the DAMP/LIP within each respective jurisdiction, and take any other actions as may be necessary to meet the MEP standard.
  2. Coordinate among their internal departments and agencies, as appropriate, to facilitate the implementation of this order and the DAMP/LIP.
  3. Establish and maintain adequate legal authority, as required by the Federal Storm Water Regulations.
  4. Conduct storm drain system inspections and maintenance in accordance with the criteria developed by the principal permittee.
  5. Take appropriate enforcement actions for illicit discharges to the MS4 systems owned or controlled by the co-permittee.
- B. The co-permittees' activities shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  1. Participate in the Management Committee comprised of the principal permittee and one representative of each co-permittee. The principal permittee will take the lead role in initiating and developing areawide programs and activities necessary to comply with this order. The Committee will meet on a regular basis (at least six times per year). Each permittee shall designate one official representative to the Management Committee and attend at least 75% of the meetings each calendar year.

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2. Review, approve, implement, and comment on all plans, strategies, management programs, and monitoring programs, as developed by the principal permittee or any permittee subcommittee to comply with this order.
3. Pursue enforcement actions as necessary to ensure compliance with the storm water management programs, ordinances and implementation plans, including physical elimination of undocumented connections and illicit discharges to drainage systems owned or controlled by the co-permittees.
4. Conduct and coordinate with the principal permittee any surveys and characterizations needed to identify pollutant sources and drainage areas.
5. Submit storm drain system maps, including any periodic revisions, with each annual report.
6. Respond to emergency situations, such as accidental spills, leaks, illicit discharges, illicit connections, etc., to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to storm drain systems and waters of the US.
7. Prepare and submit all required reports to the principal permittee in a timely manner.

### **III. DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS/PROHIBITIONS**

1. In accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(F), the permittees shall prohibit illicit/illegal discharges (non-storm water) from entering into the municipal separate storm sewer systems unless such discharges are either authorized by a NPDES permit, or not prohibited in accordance with Section III.3, below.
2. The discharge of storm water from the MS4s to waters of the US containing pollutants that have not been reduced to the maximum extent practicable is prohibited.
3. The permittees shall effectively prohibit the discharge of non-storm water into the MS4s, unless such discharges are authorized by a separate NPDES permit or as otherwise specified in this provision. For purposes of this order, a discharge may include storm water or other types of discharges identified below.
  - i. The discharges identified below need not be prohibited by the permittees unless such discharges are identified either by the permittees or by the Executive Officer as a significant source of pollutants. The DAMP shall include public education and outreach activities directed at reducing these discharges even if they are not substantial contributors of pollutants to the MS4s.
    - a) Discharges composed entirely of storm water;
    - b) Air conditioning condensate;
    - c) Irrigation water;
    - d) Passive foundation drains;
    - e) Passive footing drains;

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- f) Water from crawl space pumps;
  - g) Non-commercial vehicle washing;
  - h) Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges (Cleaning wastewater and filter backwash shall not be discharged to the MS4).
  - i) Diverted stream flows;
  - j) Rising ground waters and natural springs;
  - k) Ground water infiltration as defined in 40 CFR 35.2005 (20) and uncontaminated pumped groundwater;
  - l) Flows from riparian habitats and wetlands;
  - m) Emergency fire fighting flows (i.e., flows necessary for the protection of life and property) do not require BMPs and need not be prohibited. However, where possible, when not interfering with health and safety issues, BMPs should be implemented (also see Section XXI, Provision 5);
  - n) Waters not otherwise containing wastes as defined in California Water Code Section 13050 (d); and
  - o) Other types of discharges identified and recommended by the permittees and approved by the Regional Board.
- ii. The permittees shall prohibit the following categories of non-storm water discharges from permittee owned and/or operated facilities and activities unless the stated conditions are met:
- a) For discharges outside the Newport Bay watershed the de minimus types of discharges listed in the Regional Board's General De Minimus Permit for Discharges to Surface Waters, Order No. R8-2009-0003, NPDES No. CAG 998001 (General De Minimus Permit), shall be in compliance with the terms and conditions of the General De Minimus Permit. Separate coverage under the General De Minimus Permit is not required. For discharges within the Newport Bay watershed, separate permit authorization for these de minimus discharges will be required when the discharges contain selenium, nitrogen or other pollutants at levels of concern.
  - b) Discharges from potable water sources, including water line flushing, superchlorinated water line flushing, fire hydrant system flushing, and pipeline hydrostatic test water: Planned discharges shall be dechlorinated to a concentration of 0.1 ppm<sup>31</sup> or less, pH adjusted if necessary, and volumetrically and velocity controlled to prevent causing hydrologic conditions of concern in receiving waters.

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<sup>31</sup> Total residual chlorine = 0.1 mg/l or parts per million (ppm) or less; compliance determination shall be at a point before the discharge mixes with any receiving water.

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- c) Discharges from lawn, greenbelt and median watering and other irrigation runoff from non-agricultural operations<sup>32</sup>: These discharges shall be minimized through a Model Municipal Activity Maintenance Program designed to control irrigation runoff.
- d) Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges: Dechlorinated to a concentration of 0.1 ppm<sup>33</sup> or less, pH adjusted and reoxygenated if necessary, and volumetrically and velocity controlled to prevent causing hydrologic conditions of concern in receiving waters. Swimming pool cleaning wastewater and filter backwash shall not be discharged to the MS4s.
- e) Construction dewatering wastes: The maximum daily concentration limit for total suspended solids shall not exceed 75mg/l, sulfides 0.4mg/l, oil and grease 15mg/l, total petroleum hydrocarbons 0.1mg/l.
- f) Discharges from facilities that extract, treat and discharge water diverted from waters of the US: These discharges shall meet the following conditions:
  - (1) The discharges to waters of the US must not contain pollutants added by the treatment process or pollutants in greater concentration than the influent;
  - (2) The discharge must not cause or contribute to a condition of erosion;
  - (3) The extraction and treatment must be in compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; and
  - (4) Conduct monitoring in accordance with Monitoring and Reporting Program attached to this order.

The Regional Board may add categories of non-storm water discharges that are not significant sources of pollutants or remove categories of non-storm water discharges listed above based upon a finding that the discharges are a significant source of pollutants.

- 4. Non-storm water discharges from public agency activities into waters of the US are prohibited unless the non-storm water discharges are permitted by an NPDES permit or are included in Section III.3.
- 5. The permittees shall reduce the discharge of pollutants, including trash and debris, from the storm water conveyance systems to the maximum extent practicable (also see Section VII).
- 6. Discharges from the MS4s shall be in compliance with the applicable discharge prohibitions contained in Chapter 5 of the Basin Plan.
- 7. Discharges from the MS4s of storm water or non-storm water, as defined in Section III.3, shall not cause or contribute to a condition of pollution, contamination or nuisance, as those terms are defined in Section 13050 of the Water Code.

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<sup>32</sup> Non-agricultural irrigation using recycled water must comply with the statewide permit for Landscape Irrigation Using Recycled Water and the State Department Health guidelines.

<sup>33</sup> See previous footnote.

8. All discharges to Areas of Special Biological Significance shall be consistent with the Special Protections/Exceptions granted by the State Board, or waste discharges shall be prohibited in accordance with the Ocean Plan.

#### **IV. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS**

1. Discharges from the MS4s shall not cause or contribute to exceedances of receiving water quality standards (designated beneficial uses and water quality objectives) for surface waters or groundwaters.
2. The DAMP and its components shall be designed to achieve compliance with receiving water limitations. It is expected that compliance with receiving water limitations will be achieved through an iterative process and the application of increasingly more effective BMPs. The permittees shall comply with Sections III.2 and IV.1 of this order through timely implementation of control measures and other actions to reduce pollutants in urban runoff in accordance with the DAMP and other requirements of this order, including any modifications thereto.
3. If exceedance of water quality standards persist, notwithstanding implementation of the DAMP and other requirements of this order, the permittees shall assure compliance with Sections III.2 and IV.1 of this order by complying with the following procedure:
  - a) Upon a determination by either the permittees or the Executive Officer that the discharges from the MS4 systems are causing or contributing to an exceedance of an applicable water quality standard, the permittees shall promptly notify and thereafter submit a report to the Executive Officer that describes BMPs that are currently being implemented and additional BMPs that will be implemented to prevent or reduce any pollutants that are causing or contributing to the exceedance of water quality standards. The report may be incorporated in the annual update to the DAMP, unless the Executive Officer directs an earlier submittal. The report shall include an implementation schedule. The Executive Officer may require modifications to the report;
  - b) Submit any modifications to the report required by the Executive Officer within 30 days of notification;
  - c) Within 30 days following approval by the Executive Officer of the report described above, the permittees shall revise the DAMP and monitoring program to incorporate the approved modified BMPs that have been and will be implemented, the implementation schedule, and any additional monitoring required; and,
  - d) Implement the revised DAMP and monitoring program in accordance with the approved schedule.

So long as the permittees have complied with the procedures set forth above and are implementing the revised DAMP, the permittees do not have to repeat the same procedure for continuing or recurring exceedances of the same receiving water

limitations unless the Executive Officer determines it is necessary to develop additional BMPs.

4. Nothing in Section IV.3 must prevent the Regional Board from enforcing any provision of this order while the permittee prepares and implements the above programs.

## **V. IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT**

1. Within 6 months of adoption of this order, the existing Implementation Agreement shall be reviewed and revised, if necessary, to include any cities that were not signatories to this agreement. A copy of the signature page and any revisions to the Agreement shall be included in the annual report.
2. Within 6 months of adoption of this order and annually thereafter, the permittees shall evaluate the storm water management structure and the Implementation Agreement and determine the need for any revisions. The corresponding annual report shall include the findings of this review and a schedule for any needed revisions.

## **VI. LEGAL AUTHORITY/ENFORCEMENT**

1. The permittees shall maintain adequate legal authority to control the discharge of pollutants to the MS4s from urban runoff and enforce those authorities. This may be accomplished through ordinance, statute, permit, contract or similar means. Such legal authority must address all illicit connections and illicit discharges into the MS4s, including those from all industrial and construction sites. The permittees may use the Enforcement Consistency Guide or develop its own enforcement program and shall incorporate the enforcement program into their Local Implementation Plan.
2. The permittees shall carry out inspections, surveillance, and monitoring necessary to determine compliance with their ordinances and permits. The Permittees' ordinance must include adequate legal authority, to the extent permitted by California and Federal Law and subject to the limitations on municipal action under the constitutions of California and the United States, to enter, inspect and gather evidence (pictures, videos, samples, documents, etc.) from industrial, construction and commercial establishments. The permittees shall progressively and decisively take enforcement actions against any violators of their Water Quality Ordinance. These enforcement actions must, at a minimum, meet the guidelines and procedures listed in the Enforcement Consistency Guide.
3. Permittees' ordinances or other local regulatory mechanisms shall include sanctions and follow up inspection milestones to ensure compliance. Sanctions shall include, but are not limited to: monetary penalties, non-monetary penalties, bonding requirements, and/or permit denials/revocations/stays for non-compliance. Follow up inspection milestones shall be consistent with applicable sections of this order. Permittees' ordinances shall have a provision for civil or criminal penalties for violations of their water quality ordinances. These penalties shall be issued in a

decisive manner within a predetermined timeframe, from the time of the violation's occurrence and/or respective follow-up inspection.

4. Within one year of the adoption of this order, each permittee shall submit a statement, signed by legal counsel, that the permittee has obtained all necessary legal authority in accordance with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(A-F) and to comply with this order through adoption of ordinances and/or municipal code modifications.
5. If necessary, the permittees shall revise their LIPs to include citations of appropriate local ordinances, identification of departmental jurisdictions in the implementation and enforcement of these ordinances, and key personnel. The LIP shall include procedures and timeframes for progressive enforcement actions.
6. The permittees shall continue to provide notification to Regional Board staff regarding storm water related information gathered during site inspections of industrial and construction sites regulated by the Statewide General Storm Water Permits and at sites that should be regulated under those Statewide General Permits. The notification shall be provided on a quarterly basis<sup>34</sup> and shall include any observed violations, or threat of potential violations of the General Permits (e.g., problematic housekeeping issues) prior history of violations, any enforcement actions taken by the permittee, and any other relevant information. (Also see notification requirements under Sections VIII, IX, and X of this Order.)
7. The permittees shall annually review their water quality ordinances and provide findings within the annual report each year on the effectiveness of these ordinances and associated enforcement programs, in prohibiting the following types of discharges to the MS4s (the permittees may propose appropriate control measures in lieu of prohibiting these discharges, where the permittees are responsible for ensuring that dischargers adequately maintain those control measures):
  - a) Sewage (also prohibited under the Statewide SSO order<sup>35</sup>);
  - b) Wash water resulting from the hosing or cleaning of gas stations, auto repair garages, and other types of automobile service stations;
  - c) Discharges resulting from the cleaning, repair, or maintenance of any type of equipment, machinery, or facility, including motor vehicles, concrete mixing equipment, portable toilet servicing, etc.;
  - d) Wash water from mobile auto detailing and washing, steam and pressure cleaning, carpet/upholstery cleaning, pool cleaning and other such mobile commercial and industrial activities;
  - e) Water from cleaning of municipal, industrial, and commercial sites, including parking lots, streets, sidewalks, driveways, patios, plazas, work yards and outdoor eating or drinking areas, etc.;

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<sup>34</sup> The reporting schedule may be revised with the approval of the Executive Officer.

<sup>35</sup> State Board WQO No. 2006-0003.

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- f) Runoff from material storage areas or uncovered receptacles that contain chemicals, fuels, grease, oil, or other hazardous materials<sup>36</sup>;
  - g) Discharges of runoff from the washing of toxic materials<sup>37</sup> from paved or unpaved areas;
  - h) Discharges of pool or fountain water containing chlorine, biocides, or other chemicals; pool filter backwash containing debris and chlorine;
  - i) Pet waste, yard waste, litter, debris, sediment, etc.; and,
  - j) Restaurant or food processing facility wastes such as grease, floor mat and trash bin wash water, food waste, etc.
8. The permittees are encouraged to enter into interagency agreements with owners of other MS4 systems, such as Caltrans, school and college districts, universities, Department of Defense, Native American Tribes, etc., to control the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the MS4s to another portion. The Regional Board will continue to notify the owner/operator of the MS4 systems and the local municipality if the Board issues a permit for discharges into the MS4 systems.

## **VII. ILLICIT DISCHARGES/ILLICIT CONNECTIONS; LITTER, DEBRIS AND TRASH CONTROL**

1. The permittees shall continue to prohibit all illicit connections to the MS4s through their ordinances, inspections, monitoring programs, and enforcement actions. The permittees shall conduct inspections for illicit connections and illicit discharges during routine maintenance of all MS4 facilities. If routine inspections or dry weather screening and/or monitoring indicate any illicit connections, they shall be investigated and eliminated or permitted within 120 days of discovery and identification.
2. The permittees shall control the discharge of spills, leaks, or dumping of any materials other than storm water and authorized non-storm water per Section III, above, into the MS4s. All reports of spills, leaks, and/or illegal dumping shall be promptly investigated and reported as specified under Section XVII.
3. Within six months of adoption of this order, the permittees shall evaluate the current Illicit Discharges/Illicit Connections Training Program. If necessary, the program shall be revised to meet the expected expertise and competencies of the municipal inspectors.

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<sup>36</sup> Hazardous material is defined as any substance that poses a threat to human health or the environment due to its toxicity, corrosiveness, ignitability, explosive nature or chemical reactivity. These also include materials named by EPA to be reported if a designed quantity of the material is spilled into the waters of the United States or emitted into the environment.

<sup>37</sup> Toxic material is a chemical or a mixture that may present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment.

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4. The permittees shall continue to implement appropriate control measures to reduce and/or to eliminate the discharge of trash and debris to waters of the US. These control measures shall be reported in the annual report.
5. By July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year the permittees shall review their litter/trash control ordinances to determine the need for any revision. At least once during the permit term, the principal permittee shall characterize trash, determine its main source(s) and develop and implement appropriate BMPs to control trash in urban runoff. The findings of this review shall be included in the annual report.
6. The permittees shall determine the need for any additional debris control measures. The findings shall be included in each annual report.
7. The permittees who are regulated under State Board's Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003 shall continue to comply with that order to control sanitary system overflows. The principal permittee shall continue to evaluate the applicability of the "Countywide Area Spill Control Program (CASC)" to all areas within the Santa Ana Regional Board's jurisdiction to control and mitigate sanitary sewer overflows. This evaluation shall be included in the first annual report due after adoption of this order. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee in collaboration with the Orange County Sanitation District, Irvine Ranch Water District and the co-permittees shall implement essential elements of the CASC or other equally effective programs (such as the Statewide SSO order) to control and mitigate sanitary sewer overflows in Orange County areas that are within the Region.

### **VIII. MUNICIPAL INSPECTIONS OF CONSTRUCTION SITES**

1. Each permittee shall ensure that all construction activities within its jurisdiction are consistent with the Model Construction Program developed by the permittees.
2. Each permittee shall continue to maintain and update (at least on a biannual basis, once in September and the second update in May) an inventory of all construction sites within its jurisdiction for which building or grading permits have been issued and where activities at the site include: soil movement; uncovered storage of materials or wastes, such as dirt, sand or fertilizer; or exterior mixing of cementaceous products, such as concrete, mortar or stucco. All construction sites, as described above, shall be included regardless of whether the construction site is subject to the General Construction Permit or other individual NPDES permit. This inventory shall be maintained in the 2002 Spreadsheet developed by the permittees or a similar computer-based database system and shall include relevant information on site ownership, General Construction Permit WDID number (if any), size, location (latitude/longitude [in decimals] or NAD83/WGS84<sup>38</sup> compatible formatting ), inspection data, etc.
3. The permittees shall continue to prioritize construction sites within their jurisdictions as a high, medium or low threat to water quality. Evaluation of construction sites

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<sup>38</sup> NAD83/WGS84=North American Datum of 1983 and World Geodetic System of 1984 are systems to define three-dimensional coordinates of a single physical point.

shall be based on factors, which shall include, but not be limited to: soil erosion potential, project size, site slope, proximity to and sensitivity of receiving waters and any other relevant factors. At a minimum, high priority construction sites shall include: sites 20 acres and larger; sites over 1 acre that are tributary to Clean Water Act Section 303(d) waters listed for sediment or turbidity impairments; and sites that are tributary to and within 500 feet of an area defined by the Ocean Plan as an Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). At a minimum, medium priority construction sites shall include sites between 5 to 20 acres of disturbed soil.

4. Each permittee shall conduct construction site inspections, subject to limitations on municipal action under the constitutions of California and the United States, for compliance with its ordinances (grading, Water Quality Management Plans, etc.), local permits (construction, grading, etc.), the Model Construction Program and the Construction Runoff Guidance Manual, both developed by the permittees. The permittees must develop a checklist for conducting construction site inspections. Inspections of construction sites shall include, but not be limited to:
  - a) Verification of coverage under the General Construction Permit (Notice of Intent or Waste Discharge Identification Number, WDID Number) during the initial inspection;
  - b) A documented review of the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) to ensure that the BMPs to be implemented on-site are consistent with the appropriate phase of construction (Preliminary Stage, Mass Grading Stage, Streets and Utilities Stage, etc.);
  - c) Visual observation for non-storm water discharges and potential pollutant sources;
  - d) Determination of compliance with local ordinances, permits, Water Quality Management Plans, Construction Runoff Guidance Manual and other relevant requirements including the implementation and maintenance of BMPs required under local requirements; and,
  - e) An assessment of the effectiveness of BMPs implemented at the site and the need for any additional BMPs.
5. At a minimum, the inspection frequency shall include the following:
  - a) During the dry season (i.e., May 1 through September 30 of each year), all construction sites shall be inspected at a frequency sufficient to ensure that sediment and other pollutants are properly controlled and that unauthorized, non-storm water discharges are prevented.
  - b) During the wet season (i.e., October 1 through April 30 of each year), all high priority sites are to be inspected, in their entirety, once a month. All medium priority sites are to be inspected at least twice during the wet season. All low priority sites are to be inspected at least once during the wet season. When BMPs or BMP maintenance is deemed inadequate or out of compliance, an

inspection frequency of once every week will be maintained until BMPs and BMP maintenance are brought into compliance.

6. To establish a consistent enforcement program for non-compliant construction sites, the permittees shall enforce their ordinances and permits at all construction sites in a fair, firm and consistent manner. If necessary, the permittees shall revise their LIPs within 12 months of adoption of this order to include a mechanism to notify and to establish a clear and coordinated enforcement linkage for further enforcement action with Regional Board staff. Sanctions for non-compliance must include: a written enforcement order at the time of inspection and other appropriate actions, such as Administrative Compliance Orders, Cease and Desist Orders, Stop Work Orders, Misdemeanor/Infractions, monetary penalties, bonding requirements and/or permit denial or administrative termination.
7. All violations shall be notified as per Section XVII.
8. Each permittee shall respond to complaints received from third parties in a timely manner to ensure that the construction sites are not a source of pollutants in the MS4s and the receiving waters.
9. All construction site inspectors shall be trained in accordance with Section XVI.

## **IX. MUNICIPAL INSPECTIONS OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES**

1. Each permittee shall continue to maintain an inventory of industrial facilities within its jurisdiction. All sites that have the potential to discharge pollutants to the MS4 should be included in this inventory regardless of whether the facility is subject to business permits, licensing, the State's General Industrial Permit or other individual NPDES permit. This database must be updated on an annual basis. This inventory must be maintained in a computer-based database system and must include relevant information on ownership, SIC code(s), General Industrial Permit WDID # (if any), size, location, etc. Inclusion of a Geographical Information System (GIS) is required, with latitude/longitude (in decimals) or NAD83/WGS84<sup>39</sup> compatible formatting.
2. To establish priorities for inspection requirements under this order, the permittees shall continue to prioritize industrial facilities within their jurisdiction as a high, medium or low threat to water quality. Continuous evaluation of these facilities should be based on such factors as type of industrial activities (SIC codes), materials or wastes used or stored outside, pollutant discharge potential, facility size, proximity and sensitivity of receiving waters and any other relevant factors. At a minimum, a high priority shall be assigned to: facilities subject to section 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA); facilities requiring coverage under the General Industrial Permit; facilities with a high potential for, or history of, unauthorized, non-storm water discharges; and facilities that are tributary to, and within 500 feet of, an area defined by the Ocean Plan as an Area of Special Biological Significance.

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<sup>39</sup> See Footnote 38.

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3. Each permittee shall conduct industrial facility inspections, subject to limitations on municipal action under the constitutions of California and the United States, for compliance with its ordinances, permits and this order. Inspections shall include a review of material and waste handling and storage practices, written documentation of pollutant control BMP implementation and maintenance procedures and digital photographic documentation for any water quality violations, as well as, evidence of past or present unauthorized, non-storm water discharges and enforcement actions issued at the time of inspection. All high priority facilities identified in Section IX.2 shall be inspected at least once a year and a report on these inspections shall be submitted in the annual report for each year.
4. All medium priority sites are to be inspected at least once every two years; and all low priority sites are to be inspected at least once per permit cycle. In the event that inappropriate material or waste handling or storage practices are observed, or there is evidence of past or present unauthorized, non-storm water discharges, an enforcement order shall be issued and a re-inspection frequency schedule adequate to bring the site into compliance, must be maintained (at a minimum, once a month). Once compliance is achieved, a minimum inspection frequency of once every six months will be maintained for the next calendar year.
5. Each permittee shall continually identify any industrial facilities within their jurisdiction and shall add them to the database, as identified in Section IX.1. Additionally, each facility shall be listed with its respective prioritization in accordance with the specifications identified in Section IX.2, within 15 days from the initial date of discovery of the facility.
6. Information including, at a minimum, inspection dates, inspectors present, the photographic and written results of the inspection and any enforcement actions taken must be maintained in the database identified in Section IX.1 or must be linked to that database. A copy of this database must be provided to the Regional Board with each annual report.
7. Each permittee shall enforce its ordinances and permits at all industrial facilities in accordance with the Enforcement Consistency Guide to maintain compliance with this order. At a minimum, each facility shall be required to implement source control and pollution prevention measures consistent with the BMP Fact Sheets developed by the permittees. Sanctions for non-compliance shall be adequate to bring the site into compliance and must include: an oral or written warning for minor violations at the time of inspection, a written enforcement order for violations that pose a threat to water quality that should include consideration of monetary penalties, bonding requirements and/or permit denial or revocation depending on the severity of the violation and in accordance with the Enforcement Consistency Guide.
8. Regional Board shall be notified of all violations in accordance with Section XVII.
9. Industrial site inspectors shall be trained as stipulated in Section XVI.

10. The permittees need not inspect facilities already inspected by Regional Board staff, if the inspection was conducted within the specified time period<sup>40</sup>.

## **X. MUNICIPAL INSPECTIONS OF COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

1. Each permittee shall continue to maintain and update quarterly an inventory of the types of commercial facilities/businesses listed below within its jurisdiction<sup>41</sup>. As required under the third term permit, this inventory must be maintained in a computer-based database system (Commercial Database) and must include relevant information on ownership, size, location, etc. For fixed facilities, inclusion of a Geographical Information System (GIS), with latitude/longitude (in decimals) or NAD83/WGS84<sup>42</sup> compatible formatting is required. For water quality planning purposes, the permittees should consider using a parcel-level GIS that contains an inventory of the types of facilities/discharges listed below.

Commercial facilities may include, but may not be limited to<sup>43</sup>:

- a) Transport, storage or transfer of pre-production plastic pellets.
- b) Automobile mechanical repair, maintenance, fueling or cleaning;
- c) Airplane maintenance, fueling or cleaning;
- d) Marinas and boat maintenance, fueling or cleaning;
- e) Equipment repair, maintenance, fueling or cleaning;
- f) Automobile impound and storage facilities;
- g) Pest control service facilities;
- h) Eating or drinking establishments, including food markets and restaurants;
- i) Automobile and other vehicle body repair or painting;
- j) Building materials retail and storage facilities;
- k) Portable sanitary service facilities;
- l) Painting and coating;
- m) Animal facilities such as petting zoos and boarding and training facilities;
- n) Nurseries and greenhouses;
- o) Landscape and hardscape installation;
- p) Pool, lake and fountain cleaning;
- q) Golf courses;
- r) Other commercial sites/sources that the permittee determines may contribute a significant pollutant load to the MS4; and,
- s) Any commercial sites or sources that are tributary to and within 500 feet of an area defined by the Ocean Plan as an Area of Special Biological Significance.

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<sup>40</sup> An appropriate framework for inspection coordination will be developed by Regional Board staff and the permittees.

<sup>41</sup> The inventory update schedule may be revised with the approval of the Executive Officer.

<sup>42</sup> See Footnote 38.

<sup>43</sup> Mobile cleaning services are addressed in X.8, below.

2. Each permittee shall conduct, or require to be completed, inspections of its commercial facilities as indicated below and subject to limitations on municipal action under the constitutions of California and the United States. To establish priorities for inspection, the permittees shall continue to prioritize commercial facilities/businesses within their jurisdiction as a high, medium or low threat to water quality based on such factors as the type, magnitude and location of the commercial activity, potential for discharge of pollutants to the MS4, any history of unauthorized, non-storm water discharges, proximity and sensitivity of receiving waters, material used and wastes generated at the site. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the permittees shall develop a prioritization and inspection schedule for the commercial facilities in Section X.1 for review and approval by the Executive Officer. Until that plan is approved, the following minimum criteria must be met for prioritization of commercial sites for inspections: 10% of commercial sites (not including restaurants/food markets) must be ranked 'high' and these represent the greatest threat to water quality<sup>44</sup>; 20% of commercial sites (not including restaurants/food markets) must be ranked 'medium'; and, the remainder may be ranked 'low'.
3. Each permittee shall conduct, or require to be completed, commercial facility inspections, at frequencies as determined by the threat to water quality prioritization, for compliance with its ordinances, permits and this order. All high priority sites shall be inspected at least once a year; all medium priority sites shall be inspected at least every two years; and all low priority sites shall be inspected at least once per permit cycle. At a minimum, each facility shall be required to implement source control and pollution prevention measures consistent with the BMP Fact Sheets developed by the permittees. Inspections should include a review of control measures implemented, their effectiveness and maintenance; written and photographic documentation of materials and waste handling and storage practices; evidence of past or present unauthorized, non-storm water discharges; and an assessment of management/employees awareness of storm water pollution prevention measures.
4. In the event that inappropriate material or waste handling or storage practices are observed, or there is evidence of past or present unauthorized, non-storm water discharges, a written enforcement order shall be issued, at the time of inspection, to bring the site into compliance.
5. Information, including inspection dates, inspectors present, the written and photographic documentation results of the inspection and any enforcement actions including mitigative compliance orders must be maintained in the Commercial Database or must be linked to that database. A copy of this database must be provided to the Regional Board with each annual report.
6. Each permittee shall enforce its ordinances and permits at commercial facilities. Sanctions for non-compliance must include: enforcement orders issued at the time of inspections, monetary penalties, bonding requirements and/or permit denial or

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<sup>44</sup> Where there are less than 100 commercial sites within a municipality, at least 10 sites must be ranked 'High'.

revocation. Sanctions shall be consistent with methods and protocols established in the Enforcement Consistency Guide.

7. All violations shall be notified as specified in Section XVII.
8. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the permittees shall develop a mobile business pilot program. The pilot program shall address one category of mobile business from the following list: mobile auto washing/detailing; equipment washing/cleaning; carpet, drape and furniture cleaning; mobile high pressure or steam cleaning. The pilot program shall include at least two notifications of the individual businesses operating within the County regarding the minimum source control and pollution prevention measures that the business must implement. The pilot program shall include outreach materials for the business and an enforcement strategy to address mobile businesses. The permittees shall also develop and distribute the BMP Fact Sheets for the selected mobile businesses. At a minimum, the mobile business Fact Sheets should include: laws and regulations dealing with urban runoff and discharges to storm drains; appropriate BMPs and proper procedure for disposing of wastes generated.
9. The principal permittee shall continue to maintain a restaurant inspection program, or coordinate and collaborate with the Orange County Health Care Agency's restaurant inspection program. The restaurant inspection program shall, at a minimum, continue to conduct annual inspections that address:
  - a) Oil and grease disposal to verify that these wastes are not poured onto a parking lot, street or adjacent catch basin;
  - b) Trash bin areas to verify that these areas are clean, the bin lids are closed, the bins are not filled with liquid and the bins have not been washed out;
  - c) Parking lot, alley, sidewalk and street areas to verify that floor mats, mops, filters and garbage containers are not washed in those areas and that no washwater is poured in those areas or discharged to the MS4;
  - d) Parking lot areas to verify that they are cleaned by sweeping, not by hosing down and that the facility operator uses dry methods for spill cleanup; and,
  - e) Inspection of existing devices designed to separate grease from wastewater (e.g., grease traps or interceptors) to ensure adequate capacity and proper maintenance is currently performed under the Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program (the FOG inspections conducted under the Statewide SSO order (Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003) could be substituted for this inspection).

All violations of the Water Quality Ordinance should be enforced by the permittees and all violations of the Health and Safety Code should be enforced by the Health Care Agency.

10. All commercial site inspectors shall be trained as specified in Section XVI.

11. The permittees need not inspect facilities already inspected by Regional Board staff if the inspection was conducted within the specified time period<sup>45</sup>.

## **XI. RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM**

1. Each permittee shall develop and implement a residential program to reduce the discharge of pollutants from residential facilities to the MS4s consistent with the maximum extent practicable standard so as to prevent discharges from the MS4s from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards in the receiving waters.
2. The permittees should identify residential areas and activities that are potential sources of pollutants and develop Fact Sheets/BMPs. At a minimum, this should include: residential auto washing and maintenance activities; use and disposal of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and household cleaners; and collection and disposal of pet wastes. The permittees shall encourage residents to implement pollution prevention measures. The permittees should work with sub-watershed groups (e.g., the Serrano Creek Conservancy) to disseminate latest research information, such as the UC Master Gardeners Program<sup>46</sup> and USDA's Backyard Conservation Program<sup>47</sup>.
3. The permittees, collectively or individually, shall facilitate the proper collection and management of used oil, toxic and hazardous materials, and other household wastes. Such facilitation should include educational activities, public information activities, and establishment of curbside or special collection sites managed by the permittees or private entities, such as solid waste haulers.
4. Within 18 months of adoption of this order, the permittees shall develop a pilot program to control pollutant discharges from common interest areas and areas managed by homeowner associations or management companies. The permittees should evaluate the applicability of programs such as the Landscape

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<sup>45</sup> An appropriate framework for inspection coordination will be developed by Regional Board staff and the permittees.

<sup>46</sup> The UC Master Gardener volunteer program provides gardening and horticulture information to the residents of Orange County through trained volunteers who disseminate University research based scientific information.

<sup>47</sup> Backyard Conservation, Bringing Conservation from the Countryside to Your Backyard, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Association of Conservation Districts, Wildlife Habitat Council and National Audubon Society.

Performance Certification Program<sup>48</sup> to encourage efficient water use and to minimize runoff<sup>49</sup>.

5. The permittees shall enforce their Water Quality Ordinance for all residential areas and activities. The permittees should encourage new developments to use weather-based evapotranspiration (ET) irrigation controllers<sup>50</sup>.
6. Each permittee shall include an evaluation of its Residential Program in the annual report starting with the first annual report after adoption of this order.

## **XII. NEW DEVELOPMENT (INCLUDING SIGNIFICANT RE-DEVELOPMENT)**

### **A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. The permittees shall continue to maintain a computerized database to ensure (prior to issuance of any local permits or other approvals) that all construction sites that are required to obtain coverage under the State's General Construction Permit have filed with the State Board a Notice of Intent for coverage under the General Permit.
2. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee, in collaboration with the co-permittees, shall develop a guidance document for the preparation of conceptual or preliminary WQMPs to more effectively ensure that water quality protection, including LID principles, is considered in the earliest phases of a project. Within 18 months of adoption of this order, each permittee shall revise its LIP to be consistent with the guidance. The permittees are encouraged to require submission of a conceptual WQMP as early in the planning process as possible.
3. Each permittee shall minimize the short and long-term impacts on receiving water quality from new developments and significant re-developments, as required in Section XII.B.2., below, by requiring the submittal of a WQMP, emphasizing implementation of LID principles and addressing hydrologic conditions of concern, prior to issuance of any grading or building permits and/or prior to recordation of any subdivision maps.
4. In the first annual report following adoption of this permit, the permittees shall include a summary of their review of the watershed protection principles and policies in their General Plan and related documents (such as Development Standards, Zoning Codes, Conditions of Approval, Development Project Guidance, Local Coastal Plan, etc.) to ensure that these principles and policies,

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<sup>48</sup> For example, see the Metropolitan Water District of Orange County's Evaluation of the Landscape Performance Certification Program, January 2004.

<sup>49</sup> The Residential Runoff Reduction Study, Municipal Water District of Orange County, Irvine Ranch Water District and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, July 2004.

<sup>50</sup> Westpark Study, Municipal Water District of Orange County, Irvine Ranch Water District and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, 2001.

- including LID principles, are properly considered and are incorporated into these documents. These principles and policies should include, but not be limited to, LID principles discussed in Section XII. C and hydrologic conditions of concern discussed in Section XII. D. Within 6 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee shall facilitate the formation of a technical advisory committee (TAC) consisting of the Community Development/Planning Department directors of the co-permittees to effectively incorporate watershed protection principles (including LID) and policies during the early stages of a project. The TAC shall meet at least on an annual basis to develop common development standards, zoning codes, conditions of approval and other principles and policies necessary for water quality protection. Each annual report shall include a brief summary of the TAC meetings including its recommendations.
5. Each permittee shall provide the Regional Board with the draft amendment or revision when a pertinent General Plan element or the General Plan is noticed for comment in accordance with Govt. Code § 65350 et seq.
  6. The permittees shall review their planning procedures and CEQA document preparation processes at the time of DAMP finalization and no later than 24 months after adoption of this order, to ensure that urban runoff-related issues are properly considered and addressed. If necessary, these processes shall be revised to consider and mitigate impacts to storm water quality. Should findings of the review result in changes to the above processes, the permittee shall include these changes in the LIP and submit a revised copy of the LIP to the Regional Board with the next annual report. The permittees shall ensure that the following potential impacts are considered during CEQA reviews:
    - a) Potential impact of project construction on storm water runoff;
    - b) Potential impact of project's post-construction activity on storm water runoff;
    - c) Potential for discharge of storm water pollutants from areas of material storage, vehicle or equipment fueling, vehicle or equipment maintenance (including washing), waste handling, hazardous materials handling or storage, delivery areas, loading docks or other outdoor work areas;
    - d) Potential for discharge of storm water to affect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters;
    - e) Potential for significant changes in the flow velocity or volume of storm water runoff to cause environmental harm; and,
    - f) Potential for significant increases in erosion of the project site or surrounding areas.
    - g) Potential decreases in quality and quantity of recharge to groundwater.
    - h) Potential impact of pollutants in storm water runoff from the project site on any 303(d) listed waterbodies.
  7. The permittees shall modify the project approval process in conjunction with preparation of the DAMP finalization, consistent with the guidance for conceptual

or preliminary WQMP, to ensure that proper conditions of approval, design specifications and tracking mechanisms are included.

8. The permittees shall train their employees involved with the preparation and/or review of CEQA documents as specified in Section XVI.

**B. WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (WQMP) FOR URBAN RUNOFF (FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT/SIGNIFICANT REDEVELOPMENT):**

1. The permittees shall annually review the existing structural treatment control and other BMPs for New Developments and submit any changes for review and approval by the Executive Officer. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee shall revise the appropriate tables in the Water Quality Management Plan with the latest information on BMPs and provide additional clarification regarding their effectiveness and applicability.
2. Each permittee shall ensure that an appropriate WQMP is prepared for the following categories of new development/significant redevelopment projects (priority development projects). The WQMP shall be developed in accordance with the approved Model WQMP and shall incorporate LID principles in the WQMP.
  - a. All significant redevelopment projects, where significant redevelopment is defined as projects that include the addition or replacement of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface on a developed site. Redevelopment does not include routine maintenance activities that are conducted to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, original purpose of the facility, or emergency redevelopment activity required to protect public health and safety. Where redevelopment results in the addition or replacement of less than fifty percent of the impervious surfaces of a previously existing developed site, and the existing development was not subject to WQMP requirements, the numeric sizing criteria discussed below applies only to the addition or replacement, and not to the entire developed site. Where redevelopment results in the addition or replacement of more than fifty percent of the impervious surfaces of a previously existing developed site, the numeric sizing criteria applies to the entire development.
  - b. New development projects that create 10,000 square feet or more of impervious surface (collectively over the entire project site) including commercial, industrial, residential housing subdivisions (i.e., detached single family home subdivisions, multi-family attached subdivisions (town homes), condominiums, apartments, etc.), mixed-use, and public projects. This category includes development projects on public or private land, which fall under the planning and building authority of the permittees.
  - c. Automotive repair shops (with SIC codes 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534, 7536-7539).
  - d. Restaurants where the land area of development is 5,000 square feet or more.

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- e. All hillside developments on 5,000 square feet or more, which are located on areas with known erosive soil conditions or where the natural slope is twenty-five percent or more.
  - f. Developments of 2,500 square feet of impervious surface or more, adjacent to (within 200 feet) or discharging directly<sup>51</sup> into environmentally sensitive areas, such as areas designated in the Ocean Plan as Areas of Special Biological Significance or waterbodies listed on the CWA Section 303(d) list of impaired waters.
  - g. Parking lots of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface exposed to storm water. Parking lot is defined as a land area or facility for the temporary storage of motor vehicles.
  - h. Streets, roads, highways and freeways of 5,000 square feet or more of paved surface shall incorporate USEPA guidance, "Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure: Green Streets" in a manner consistent with the maximum extent practicable standard. This category includes any paved surface used for the transportation of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles and other vehicles and excludes any routine road maintenance activities where the footprint is not changed.
  - i. Retail gasoline outlets of 5,000 or more square feet with a projected average daily traffic of 100 or more vehicles per day.
  - j. Emergency and public safety projects in any of the above-listed categories may be excluded if the delay caused due the requirement for a WQMP compromises public safety, public health and/or environmental protection.
3. WQMPs shall include BMPs for source control, pollution prevention, site design, LID implementation (see Section C., below) and structural treatment control BMPs. For all structural treatment controls, WQMPs shall identify the responsible party for maintenance of the treatment system, vector minimization and control measures, and a funding source or sources for its operation and maintenance. WQMPs shall include control measures for any listed pollutant<sup>52</sup> to an impaired waterbody on the 303(d) list such that the discharge shall not cause or contribute to an exceedance of receiving water quality objectives. The permittees shall require the following source control BMPs for each priority development project, unless formally substantiated as unwarranted in a written submittal to the permittee:
- a) Minimize contaminated runoff, including irrigation runoff, from entering the MS4s;

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<sup>51</sup> Discharging directly means a drainage or conveyance which carries flows entirely from the subject development and not commingled with any other flows.

<sup>52</sup> For a waterbody listed under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, the pollutant that is causing the impairment is the "listed pollutant".

- b) Provide appropriate secondary containment and/or proper covers or lids for materials storage, trash bins, and outdoor processing and work areas;
  - c) Minimize storm water contact with pollutant sources;
  - d) Provide community car wash and equipment wash areas that discharge to sanitary sewers;
  - e) Minimize trash and debris in storm water runoff through regular street sweeping and through litter control ordinances.
  - f) The pollutants in post-development runoff shall be reduced using controls that utilize best management practices, as described in the California Stormwater Quality Handbooks, Caltrans Storm Water Quality Handbook or other reliable sources.
4. At a minimum, structural BMPs shall be designed and built in accordance with the approved model WQMP and must be sized to comply with one of the following numeric sizing criteria:

A. Volume

Volume-based BMPs shall be designed to infiltrate, filter, or treat either:

- 1) The volume of runoff produced from a 24-hour, 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event, as determined from the County of Orange's 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Precipitation Isopluvial Map<sup>53</sup>; or,
- 2) The volume of annual runoff produced by the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, 24-hour rainfall event, determined as the maximized capture storm water volume for the area, from the formula recommended in Urban Runoff Quality Management, WEF Manual of Practice No. 23/ASCE Manual of Practice No. 87 (1998); or,
- 3) The volume of annual runoff based on unit basin storage volume, to achieve 80% or more volume treatment by the method recommended in California Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbook – Industrial/Commercial; or,
- 4) The volume of runoff, as determined from the local historical rainfall record, that achieves approximately the same reduction in pollutant loads and flows as achieved by mitigation of the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile, 24-hour runoff event;

OR

B. Flow

Flow-based BMPs shall be designed to infiltrate, filter, or treat either:

- 1) The maximum flow rate of runoff produced from a rainfall intensity of 0.2 inch of rainfall per hour, for each hour of a storm event; or,

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<sup>53</sup> The isopluvial map is available from: [http://www.ocwatersheds.com/StormWater/PDFs/2003\\_DAMP\\_Section\\_7\\_New\\_Development\\_Significant\\_Redevelopment.pdf](http://www.ocwatersheds.com/StormWater/PDFs/2003_DAMP_Section_7_New_Development_Significant_Redevelopment.pdf).

- 2) The maximum flow rate of runoff produced by the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile hourly rainfall intensity, as determined from the local historical rainfall record, multiplied by a factor of two; or,
  - 3) The maximum flow rate of runoff, as determined from the local historical rainfall record, which achieves approximately the same reduction in pollutant loads and flows as achieved by mitigation of the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile hourly rainfall intensity multiplied by a factor of two.
5. To protect ground water resources any structural infiltration BMPs shall meet the following minimum requirements:
- a) Use of structural infiltration treatment BMPs shall not cause or contribute to an exceedance of groundwater water quality objectives.
  - b) Source control and pollution prevention control BMPs shall be implemented in conjunction with structural infiltration BMPs to protect groundwater quality. The need for sedimentation or filtration should be evaluated prior to infiltration.
  - c) Structural infiltration treatment BMPs shall not cause a nuisance or pollution, as defined in Water Code Section 13050.
  - d) The vertical distance from the bottom of the infiltration system to the seasonal high groundwater must be at least 10 feet. Where the groundwater basins do not support beneficial uses, this vertical distance criteria may be reduced, provided groundwater quality is maintained.
  - e) The infiltration systems must be located at least 100 feet horizontally from any water supply wells.
  - f) Infiltration systems must not be used for areas of industrial or light industrial activity; areas subject to high vehicular traffic (25,000 or more daily traffic) automotive repair shops; car washes; fleet storage areas; nurseries; or any other high threat to water quality land uses or activities<sup>54</sup>.
  - g) Within 18 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee shall develop a pilot program to monitor the impact of groundwater infiltration systems on the quality of groundwater. This monitoring program may be conducted by: (1) analyzing the quality of the runoff prior to infiltration; (2) by monitoring the quality of the infiltrate through the vadose zone; or (3) by monitoring groundwater quality upstream and downstream of the infiltration systems. The results of the pilot study shall be submitted with the next annual report.
6. Within 12 months from the date of adoption of this order, the principal permittee shall develop recommendations for streamlining regulatory agency approval of

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<sup>54</sup> This restriction applies only to sites that are known to have soil and/or groundwater water contamination. Recent studies by the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Watershed Council of Storm Water Recharge has shown that there is no statistically significant degradation of groundwater quality from the infiltration of storm water-borne constituents.

- regional treatment control BMPs. The recommendations should include information needed to be submitted to the Regional Board for consideration of regional treatment control BMPs. At a minimum, it should include: BMP location; type and effectiveness in removing pollutants of concern; projects tributary to the regional treatment system; engineering design details; funding sources for construction, operation and maintenance; and parties responsible for monitoring effectiveness, operation and maintenance.
7. The permittees shall require non-priority development projects to document, via a WQMP or similar mechanism, site design, source control and any other BMPS which may or may not include treatment control BMPs.

### **C. LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT TO CONTROL POLLUTANTS IN URBAN RUNOFF FROM NEW DEVELOPMENT/SIGNIFICANT REDEVELOPMENT:**

1. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the permittees shall update the model WQMP to incorporate LID principles (as per Section XII.C) and to address the impact of urbanization on downstream hydrology (as per Section XII.D) and a copy of the updated model WQMP shall be submitted for review and approval by the Executive Officer<sup>55</sup>. As provided in Section XII.J, 90 days after approval of the revised model WQMP, priority development projects shall implement LID principles described in this section, Section XII.C. To the extent that the Executive Officer has not approved the feasibility criteria within 18 months of adoption of this order as provided in Section XII.E.1, the infeasibility of implementing LID BMPs shall be determined through project specific analyses, each of which shall be submitted to the Executive Officer, 30 days prior to permittee approval.
2. The permittees shall reflect in the WQMP and otherwise require that each priority development project infiltrate, harvest and re-use, evapotranspire, or bio-treat<sup>56</sup> the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event ("design capture volume"), as specified in Section XII.B.4.A.1, above. Any portion of the design capture volume that is not infiltrated, harvested and re-used, evapotranspired or bio-treated<sup>57</sup> onsite by LID BMPs shall be treated and discharged in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section XII.C.7 and/or Section XII.E, below.

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<sup>55</sup> The Executive Officer shall provide members of the public with notice and at least a 30-day comment opportunity for all documents submitted in accordance with this order. If the Executive Officer, after considering timely submitted comments, concludes that the document is adequate or adequate with specified changes, the Executive Officer may approve the document or present it to the Board for its consideration at a regularly scheduled and noticed meeting. If there are significant issues that cannot be resolved by the Executive Officer, the document will be presented to the Board for its consideration at a regularly scheduled meeting.

<sup>56</sup> A properly engineered and maintained bio-treatment system may be considered only if infiltration, harvesting and reuse and evapotranspiration cannot be feasibly implemented at a project site (feasibility criteria will be established in the model WQMP [Section XII.C.1] and the technically-based feasibility criteria [Section XII.E.1]). Specific design, operation and maintenance criteria for bio-treatment systems shall be part of the model WQMP that will be produced by the permittees.

<sup>57</sup> For all references to bio-treat/bio-treatment, see footnote 56.

3. The permittees shall incorporate LID site design principles to reduce runoff to a level consistent with the maximum extent practicable standard during each phase of priority development projects. The permittees shall require that each priority development project include site design BMPs during development of the preliminary and final WQMPs. The design goal shall be to maintain or replicate the pre-development hydrologic regime through the use of design techniques that create a functionally equivalent post-development hydrologic regime through site preservation techniques and the use of integrated and distributed micro-scale storm water infiltration, retention, detention, evapotranspiration, filtration and treatment systems as close as feasible to the source of runoff. Site design considerations shall include, but not be limited to:
  - a) Limit disturbance of natural water bodies and drainage systems; conserve natural areas; preserve trees; minimize compaction of highly permeable soils; protect slopes and channels; and minimize impacts from storm water and urban runoff on the biological integrity of natural drainage systems and water bodies;
  - b) Minimize changes in hydrology and pollutant loading; require incorporation of controls, including structural and non-structural BMPs, to mitigate the projected increases in pollutant loads and flows; ensure that post-development runoff durations and volumes from a site have no significant adverse impact on downstream erosion and stream habitat; minimize the quantity of storm water directed to impermeable surfaces and the MS4s; minimize paving, minimize runoff by disconnecting roof leader and other impervious areas and directing the runoff to pervious and/or landscaped areas, minimize directly connected impervious areas; design impervious areas to drain to pervious areas; consider construction of parking lots, walkways, etc., with permeable materials; minimize pipes, culverts and engineered systems for storm water conveyance thereby minimizing changes to time of concentration on site; utilize rain barrels and cisterns to collect and re-use rainwater; maximize the use of rain gardens and sidewalk storage; and maximize the percentage of permeable surfaces distributed throughout the site's landscape to allow more percolation of storm water into the ground;
  - c) Preserve wetlands, riparian corridors, vegetated buffer zones and establish reasonable limits on the clearing of vegetation from the project site;
  - d) Use properly designed and well maintained water quality wetlands, bio-retention areas, filter strips and bio-filtration swales; consider replacing curbs gutters and conventional storm water conveyance systems with bio-treatment systems, where such measures are likely to be effective and technically and economically feasible;
  - e) Provide for appropriate permanent measures to reduce storm water pollutant loads in storm water from the development site;
  - f) Establish development guidelines for areas particularly susceptible to erosion and sediment loss;

- g) Implement effective education programs to educate property owners to use pollution prevention measures and to maintain on-site hydrologically functional landscape controls; and
  - h) During the early planning stages of a project, the LID principles shall be considered to address pollutants of concern identified in the Watershed Action Plans and TMDL Implementation Plans, and the LID BMPs shall be incorporated into the sites conceptual WQMP.
4. The selection of LID principles shall be prioritized in the following manner (from highest to the lowest priority): (1) Preventative measures (these are mostly non-structural measures, e.g., preservation of natural features to a level consistent with the maximum extent practicable standard; minimization of runoff through clustering, reducing impervious areas, etc.) and (2) Mitigation (these are structural measures, such as, infiltration, harvesting and reuse, bio-treatment, etc. The mitigation or structural site design BMPs shall also be prioritized (from highest to lowest priority): (1) Infiltration (examples include permeable pavement with infiltration beds, dry wells, infiltration trenches, surface and sub-surface infiltration basins. All infiltration activities should be coordinated with the groundwater management agencies, such as the Orange County Water District); (2) Harvesting and Re-use (e.g., cisterns and rain barrels); and (3) Bio-treatment such as bio-filtration/bio-retention.
  5. Even though the LID principles are universally applicable, there could be constraining factors, such as: soil conditions, including soil compaction, saturation (e.g., hydric soils) and permeability, groundwater levels, soil and/or groundwater contaminants (Brownfield developments), space restrictions (in-fill projects, redevelopment projects, high density development, transit-oriented developments), naturally occurring contaminants (e.g., selenium in the soil and the groundwater in the Newport Bay Watershed), etc. In such cases, the LID principles could be integrated into other programs, such as: Smart Growth<sup>58</sup>, New Urbanism<sup>59</sup> or regional or sub-watershed management approaches. Also see Section E, below, for alternatives and in-lieu programs.
  6. The LID BMPs shall be designed to mimic pre-development site hydrology through technically and economically feasible preventive and mitigative site design techniques. LID combines hydrologically functional site design with pollution prevention methods to compensate for land development impact on hydrology and water quality.

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<sup>58</sup> Smart Growth refers to the use of creative strategies to develop ways that preserve natural lands and critical environmental areas, protect water and air quality, and reuse already-developed land.

<sup>59</sup> New Urbanism is somewhat similar to Smart Growth and is based on principles of planning and architecture that work together to create human-scale, walkable communities that preserve natural resources.

7. If site conditions do not permit infiltration, harvesting and re-use, and/or evapotranspiration, and/or bio-treatment of the design capture volume at the project site as close to the source as possible, the alternatives discussed below should be considered and the credits and in-lieu programs discussed under Section E, below, may be considered:
  - a. Implement LID principles at the project site. This is the preferred approach. For example, in a single family residential development: connect roof drains to a landscaped area, divert driveway runoff to a vegetated strip and minimize any excess runoff generated from the development. The pervious areas to which the runoff from the impervious areas are connected should have the capacity to infiltrate, harvest, evapotranspire and/or bio-treat and re-use at least the design capture volume.
  - b. Implement as many LID principles as possible at the project site close to the point of storm water generation and infiltrate and/or harvest and re-use at least the design capture volume through designated infiltration/treatment areas elsewhere within the project site. For example, at a condominium development: connect the roof drains to landscaped areas, construct common parking areas with pervious asphalt with a sub-base of rocks or other materials to facilitate percolation of storm water, direct road runoff to curbsless, vegetated sidewalks. The pervious areas which receive runoff from impervious areas should have the capacity to infiltrate, harvest and re-use, evapotranspire and/or bio-treat at least the design capture volume.
  - c. Implement LID on a sub-regional basis. For example, at a 100 unit high density housing unit with a small strip mall and a school: connect all roof drains to vegetated areas (if there are any vegetated areas, otherwise storm water storage and reuse may be considered or else divert to the local storm water conveyance system, to be conveyed to the local treatment system), construct a storm water infiltration gallery below the school playground to infiltrate and/or harvest and re-use the design capture volume. The pervious areas to which the runoff from the impervious areas are connected should have the capacity to infiltrate, harvest and re-use, evapotranspire and/or bio-treat at least the design capture volume. (Also see discussion on hydrologic conditions of concern, below.)
  - d. Implement LID on a regional basis. For example, several developments could propose a regional system to address storm water runoff from all the participating developments. The pervious areas to which the runoff from the impervious areas are connected should have the capacity to infiltrate, harvest and re-use, evapotranspire and/or bio-treat at least the design capture volume from the entire tributary area. (Also see discussion on hydrologic conditions of concern, below.)

**D. HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS OF CONCERN (HYDROMODIFICATION<sup>60</sup>)**

1. Each priority development project shall be required to ascertain the impact of the development on the site's hydrologic regime and include the findings in the WQMP, including the following for a two-year frequency storm event:
  - a) Increases in runoff volume;
  - b) Decreases in infiltration;
  - c) Changes in time of concentration;
  - d) Potential for increases in post development downstream erosion; and,
  - e) Potential for adverse downstream impacts on physical structure, aquatic and riparian habitat.
2. The project does not have a hydrologic condition of concern if any one of the following conditions is met:
  - a) The volumes and the time of concentration of storm water runoff for the post-development condition do not significantly exceed those of the pre-development condition for a two-year frequency storm event (a difference of 5% or less is considered insignificant). This may be achieved through site design and source control BMPs.
  - b) All downstream conveyance channels that will receive runoff from the project are engineered, hardened and regularly maintained to ensure design flow capacity, and no sensitive stream habitat areas will be affected.
  - c) The site infiltrates at least the runoff from a two-year storm event. The permittees may request for a variance from these criteria, based on studies conducted by the Storm Water Monitoring Coalition, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, or other regional studies. Requests for consideration of any variances should be submitted to the Executive Officer.
3. If a hydrologic condition of concern exists, then the WQMP shall include an evaluation of whether the project will adversely impact downstream erosion, sedimentation or stream habitat. This evaluation should include a hydrograph with pre- and post-development time of concentration for a 2-year frequency storm event. If the evaluation determines adverse impacts are likely to occur, the project proponent shall implement additional site design controls, on-site management controls, structural treatment controls and/or in-stream controls to mitigate the impacts. The project proponent should first consider site design controls and on-site controls prior to proposing in-stream controls; in-stream controls must not adversely impact beneficial uses or result in sustained degradation of water quality of the receiving waters.

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<sup>60</sup> Hydromodification is the alteration of natural flow characteristics.

4. The project proponent may also address hydrologic conditions of concern by mimicking the pre-development hydrograph with the post-development hydrograph, for a two year return frequency storm. Generally, the hydrologic conditions of concern are not significant, if the post-development hydrograph is no more than 10% greater than pre-development hydrograph. In cases where excess volume cannot be infiltrated or captured and reused, discharge from the site must be limited to a flow rate no greater than 110% of the pre-development 2-year peak flow.
5. The permittees shall address the hydrologic conditions of concern on a watershed basis by preparing a Watershed Master Plan as described below:

The Watershed Master Plans shall integrate water quality, hydromodification, water supply, and habitat for the following watersheds: Coyote Creek-San Gabriel River; Anaheim Bay-Huntington Harbour; Santa Ana River; and Newport Bay-Newport Coast. Components of the Plan shall include: (1) maps to identify areas susceptible to hydromodification including downstream erosion, impacts on physical structure, impacts on riparian and aquatic habitats and areas where storm water and urban runoff infiltration is possible and appropriate; and, (2) a hydromodification model to make available as a tool to enable proponents of land development projects to readily select storm water preventive and mitigative site BMP measures.

The maps shall be prepared within 12 months of the adoption of this order and a model Plan for one watershed shall be prepared within 24 months of adoption of this order. The model Plan should specify hydromodification management standards for each sub-watershed and provide assessment tools. In the preparation of the model Plan, the permittees are encouraged to use currently available information from other sources such as: (1) Orange County Flood Control Master Plan; (2) Irvine Ranch Water District's Natural Treatment System Master Plan; (3) Orange County Watershed Plans; (4) Nutrient and Selenium Management Program; (5) TMDL and 303(d) Listing information from the U.S. EPA and/or the Regional Board, and (6) and water districts.

The model Watershed Master Plan shall be submitted to the Executive Officer for approval. Watershed Master Plans shall be completed for all watersheds 24 months after approval of the model Watershed Master Plan.

The Watershed Master Plans shall be designed to meet applicable water quality standards and the Federal Clean Water Act.

## **E. ALTERNATIVES AND IN-LIEU PROGRAMS**

1. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee, in collaboration with the co-permittees, shall develop technically-based feasibility criteria for project evaluation to determine the feasibility of implementing LID BMPs (feasibility to be based in part, on the issues identified in Section XII.C). This plan shall be submitted to the Executive Officer for approval. Only those projects that have completed a vigorous feasibility analysis as per the criteria developed by the permittees and approved by the Executive Officer should be considered for alternatives and in-lieu programs. If a particular BMP is not technically feasible, other BMPs should be implemented to achieve the same

- level of compliance, or if the cost of BMP implementation greatly outweighs the pollution control benefits, a waiver of the BMPs may be granted. All requests for waivers, along with feasibility analysis including waiver justification documentation, must be submitted to the Executive Officer in writing, 30 days prior to permittee approval.
2. The permittees may collectively or individually propose to establish an urban runoff fund to be used for urban water quality improvement projects within the same watershed that is funded by contributions from developers granted waivers. The contributions should be at least equivalent to the cost savings for waived projects and the urban runoff fund shall be expended for water quality improvement or other related projects approved by the Executive Officer within two years of receipt of the funds. If a waiver is granted and an urban runoff fund is established, the annual report for the year should include the following information with respect to the urban runoff fund:
    - a) Total amount deposited into the funds and the party responsible for managing the urban runoff fund;
    - b) Projects funded or proposed to be funded with monies from the urban runoff fund;
    - c) Party or parties responsible for design, construction, operation and maintenance of urban runoff funded projects; and
    - d) Current status and a schedule for project completion.
  3. The obligation to install structural treatment control BMPs at a new development is met if, for a common plan of development, BMPs are constructed with the requisite capacity to serve the entire common project, even if certain phases of the common project may not have BMP capacity located on that phase in accordance with the requirements specified above. The goal of the WQMP is to develop and implement practicable programs and policies to minimize the effects of urbanization on site hydrology, urban runoff flow rates, velocities and pollutant loads. This goal may be achieved through watershed-based structural treatment controls, in combination with site-specific BMPs. All treatment control BMPs should be located as close as possible to the pollutant sources, should not be located within waters of the US, and pollutant removal should be accomplished prior to discharge to waters of the US. Regional treatment control BMPs shall be operational prior to occupation of any of the priority project sites tributary to the regional treatment BMP.
  4. The permittees may establish a water quality credit system for alternatives to infiltration, harvesting and reuse, evapotranspiration, and other LID BMPs and hydromodification requirements specified above. A summary of any waivers of LID, hydromodification and treatment control BMPs should be included in the annual report for each year. Any credit system that the permittees establish

should be submitted to the Executive Officer for review and approval. The following types of projects may be considered for the credit system:

- a) Redevelopment projects that reduce the overall impervious footprint
- b) Brownfield redevelopment
- c) High density developments (>7 units per acre)
- d) Mixed use and transit-oriented development (within ½ mile of transit)
- e) Dedication of undeveloped portions of the project to parks, preservation areas and other pervious uses
- f) Regional treatment systems with a capacity to treat flows from all upstream developments
- g) Contribution to an urban runoff fund (see 1, above)
- h) Offsite mitigation or dedications within the same watershed
- i) City Center area
- j) Historic Districts and Historic Preservation areas
- k) Live-work developments
- l) In-fill projects

#### **F. APPROVAL OF WQMPs**

1. The permittees shall utilize a mechanism for review and approval of WQMPs, including a checklist that incorporates the minimum requirements from the model WQMP.
2. The permittees shall maintain a database to track all structural treatment control BMPs, including the location of BMPs, parties responsible for construction, operation and maintenance (also see I.3, below).
3. The permittees shall train those involved with WQMP reviews in accordance with Section XVI, Training Requirements.

#### **G. FIELD VERIFICATION OF BMPS**

1. The permittees shall establish and implement a mechanism (a checklist or other tools) to verify that treatment control BMPs are designed and constructed in accordance with the approved WQMP.
2. Prior to occupancy of each priority development project, the permittees shall field verify that the site design, source control and treatment control BMPs have been implemented in accordance with the approved WQMP.
3. Prior to occupancy, the permittees shall verify through visual observation, that the BMPs are operating and functional.
4. The permittees may accept self-certification or third-party certification of BMPs from State licensed professional engineers.

## **H. CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND RECORDATION**

1. The permittees shall establish a mechanism not only to track treatment control BMPs, but also to ensure that appropriate easements and ownerships are properly recorded in public records at the County and/or the city and the information is conveyed to all appropriate parties when there is a change in project or site ownership.

## **I. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF POST-CONSTRUCTION BMPS**

1. The permittees shall ensure that all structural treatment control BMPs are designed and implemented with control measures necessary to effectively minimize the creation of nuisance or pollution associated with vectors, such as mosquitoes, rodents, flies, etc. The permittees should consult the Orange County Vector Control District to ensure that structural treatment control systems are designed to minimize the potential for vector breeding. The operation and maintenance plans for all post-construction structural treatment controls should include specific vector control mitigation measures to avoid and/or minimize vector breeding.
2. The permittees shall specify conditions of approval that require proper maintenance and operation of all structural treatment control BMPs installed in new developments, including requirements for vector control. The parties responsible for the long-term maintenance and operation of the structural treatment control BMPs for the life of the project and a funding mechanism for operation and maintenance, shall be identified prior to approval of the WQMP.
3. The permittees shall develop a database with information regarding each structural treatment control BMP installed after adoption of this order. At a minimum, it should include: type of BMP, watershed where it is located, date of construction, party responsible for maintenance, source of funding for operation and maintenance, maintenance verification, and any problems identified during inspections including any vector or nuisance problems. If vector or nuisance problems are identified, the site should be referred to the Orange County Vector Control District. The permittees should work with the Vector Control District to remedy the problems associated with vectors.
4. The annual report shall include a list of all structural treatment control BMPs approved, constructed and/or operating within each permittee's jurisdiction.
5. Within 12 months of adoption of this order and annually thereafter, all public agency structural treatment control BMPs, and at least 25% of priority development project structural treatment control BMPs, shall be inspected prior to the rainy season. All structural treatment control BMPs shall be inspected within every four year period. The permittees shall ensure that the BMPs are operating and are maintained properly and all control measures are working effectively to remove pollutants in runoff from the site. All inspections shall be documented and kept as permittee record. The permittees may accept inspections conducted and certified by state licensed professional engineers in lieu of permittee inspections.

## **J. PRE-APPROVED PROJECTS**

1. The above provisions for LID and hydrologic conditions of concern are not applicable to projects that have an approved Water Quality Management Plan. The above provisions shall be implemented in a manner consistent with the maximum extent practicable standard for all other projects 90 days from the date of approval of the revised model WQMP (per Section XII.C.1). The Regional Board recognizes that full implementation may not be feasible for certain projects which have received tentative tract or parcel map or other discretionary approvals.

## **XIII. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

1. The permittees shall continue to implement the public education efforts already underway and shall implement the most effective elements of the comprehensive public and business education strategy contained in the Report of Waste Discharge/DAMP. By July 1, 2012, the permittees shall complete a public awareness survey to determine the effectiveness of the current public and business education strategy and any need for changes to the current multimedia public education efforts. The findings of the survey and any proposed changes to the current program shall be included in the annual report for 2011-2012.
2. The permittees shall sponsor or staff a storm water table or booth at community, regional, and/or countywide events to distribute public education materials to the public. Each permittee shall participate in at least one event per year.
3. The permittees shall continue to participate in the Public Education Committee to review and update existing guidance for the implementation of the public education program. The Public Education Committee shall meet at least twice per year. The Public Education Committee shall continue to make recommendations for any changes to the public and business education program including: how to make the multimedia efforts more effective; a reevaluation of audiences and key messages for targeted behaviors; and opportunities for participation in regional and statewide public education efforts. The goal of the public and business education program shall be to target 100% of the residents, including businesses, commercial and industrial establishments. Through use of local print, radio and television, the permittees must ensure that the public and business education program makes a minimum of 10 million impressions per year and that those impressions measurably increase the knowledge and measurably change the behavior of the targeted groups.
4. The permittees shall continue their outreach and other public education activities. Each permittee should try to reach the following sectors: manufacturing facilities; mobile service industry; commercial, distribution and retail sales industry; residential/commercial landscape construction and services industry; residential and commercial construction industry; and residential and community activities. Individual workshops (or regional workshops) for each of the aforementioned elements shall be administered by each permittee (or on a countywide basis) by July 1, 2010 and on an annual basis thereafter. Commercial and industrial facility inspectors shall distribute developed educational information (Fact Sheets) to these facilities during inspections.

Further, for restaurant, automotive service centers and gasoline service station corporate chains, new information or that which has been previously developed shall be provided to corporate environmental managers during outreach visits that should take place twice during the permit term. Some of these outreach activities could be conducted through the chamber of commerce or other similar establishments. The outcomes from all outreach requirements contained herein shall be reported in the applicable annual reports.

5. The permittees shall further develop and maintain public education materials to encourage the public to report illegal dumping and unauthorized, non-storm water discharges from residential, industrial, construction and commercial sites into public streets, storm drains and to surface waterbodies and their tributaries; clogged storm drains; faded or missing catch basin stencils and general storm water and BMP information. Hotline and web site information shall be included in the public and business education program and shall be listed in the governmental pages of all regional phone books and on the permittees' website.
6. Within 12 months from the date of adoption of this order, the permittees shall further develop and maintain BMP guidance for the control of those potentially polluting activities identified during the previous permit cycle, which are not otherwise regulated by any agency, including guidelines for the household use of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals, and guidance for mobile vehicle maintenance, carpet cleaners, commercial landscape maintenance, and pavement cutting. These guidance documents shall be distributed to the public, trade associations, etc., through participation in community events, trade association meetings and/or by mail.
7. The principal permittee, in collaboration with the co-permittees, shall develop and implement a mechanism for public participation in the updating and implementation of the Drainage Area Management Plans, monitoring plans, Water Quality Management Plan guidance and Fact Sheets for various activities. The public shall be informed of the availability of these documents through public notices in local newspapers, County and/or city websites, local libraries/city halls and/or courthouses.

#### **XIV. MUNICIPAL FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES**

1. The permittees shall continue to implement the Model Municipal Activities Program developed by the permittees for fixed facilities, field operations and drainage facilities to ensure that public agency facilities and activities do not cause or contribute to a pollution or nuisance in receiving waters. By July 1 of each year, the permittees shall review all their activities and facilities to determine the need for any revisions to the facility inventories, prioritization, and maintenance programs. The annual report shall include the findings of this review and a schedule for any needed revisions. All revisions should consider a pollution prevention strategy to ensure that the public agency facilities and/or activities that are currently not required to obtain coverage under the State's general storm water permits reduce the discharge of pollutants into waters of the US to the maximum extent practicable.
2. The permittees shall continue to implement BMPs as per the Fact Sheets developed by the permittees for fixed facilities, field programs and drainage facilities for public

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agency and contract field operations and maintenance staff. A reporting of these activities shall be included in each annual report.

3. The permittees shall conduct inspections of open channel systems at least on an annual basis and record the findings in the inspection forms developed by the permittees. At a minimum the following municipal areas should be inspected:
  - a) Parking facilities;
  - b) Flood management and storm water conveyance systems (open channels);
  - c) Areas or facilities discharging directly to lagoons, the ocean, or environmentally sensitive areas such as 303(d) listed waterbodies and Areas of Special Biological Significance; and
  - d) Municipal landfills, solid waste transfer facilities, land application sites, corporate yards, sewage collection and treatment facilities, parks and recreation facilities including golf courses, and airfields.
4. All applicable public agency staff shall be trained as specified under Section XVI.
5. In collaboration with the University of California Cooperative Extension and consistent with the Model Integrated Pest Management, Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Guidelines, the permittees shall:
  - a) Conduct annual integrated pest management self-audits;
  - b) Implement the Model Integrated Pest Management, Pesticide and Fertilizer Guidelines;
  - c) Provide proper training to municipal and contract staff involved in the above activities;
  - d) Within one year of adoption of this order, revise the LIP to include an integrated pest management program.
6. The permittees shall evaluate the need for any revisions to the Integrated Pest Management, Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Guidelines and determine the need for developing pesticide use indicators.
7. Within one year of adoption of this order, the principal permittee shall evaluate the effectiveness of debris booms and determine if additional debris booms are needed to address floatables in inland streams. This evaluation should also include an evaluation of other control measures such as more effective street sweeping program, litter control measures, and drain inlet screens and /or other inlet controls.
8. Within twelve months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee shall develop an intragency agreement with the County Integrated Waste Management Department to ensure that household solid and hazardous waste collection, transfer and disposal practices do not cause or contribute to a water quality problem.
9. The permittees shall ensure that their flood management processes and projects do not contribute pollutants to receiving waters to the MEP.
10. Each permittee shall examine opportunities to retrofit existing storm water conveyance systems and parks and other recreational areas with water quality protection measures, where feasible. The 2005 RBF Retrofit Study may be used by the principal permittee for a system-wide evaluation in lieu of each permittee conducting its own evaluation. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee shall

submit a proposal for additional retrofit studies that incorporates opportunities for addressing any applicable TMDL implementation plans.

11. The permittees shall continue to implement the established model maintenance procedure for drainage facilities (catch basins, storm drains inlets, open channels, etc.). Each permittee shall clean and maintain at least 80% of its drainage facilities on an annual basis, with 100% of the facilities included in a two-year period, using the model maintenance procedures developed by the permittees. Each permittee shall keep a record of its inspections, maintenance and cleaning activities, and overall quantity of waste removed. This record shall be included in the annual report.
12. The permittees shall determine whether a more aggressive maintenance frequency is necessary for the cleaning of drainage facilities, including catch basins, based on the data generated by the historic and ongoing inspections of these facilities. This program shall be based on a list of drainage facilities and prioritized on such factors as: proximity to receiving waters, receiving water beneficial uses and impairments of beneficial uses, historical pollutant types and loads from past inspections/cleanings and the presence of downstream regional facilities that would remove the types of pollutants found in the drainage facility. Using this list, the permittees shall revise clean out schedules and frequency and provide justification for any proposed clean out frequency that is less than once a year. This information shall be included in the annual report.
13. Within six months of adoption of this order, the permittees shall evaluate the applicability of the Model Municipal Activities Program to municipal maintenance contracts, contracts for field maintenance operations, and leases. The findings from the evaluation shall be included in the next annual report.
14. Each permittee shall implement control measures necessary to minimize infiltration of seepage from sanitary sewers to the storm drain systems through routine preventive maintenance of the storm drain system. The permittees who are also owners and/or operators of sewage collection systems shall also implement a routine maintenance program for the sewage collection systems in accordance with the State Board's Water Quality Order No. 2006-0003. Each permittee shall cooperate and coordinate with the sewage collection/treatment agencies (Orange County Sanitation District and/or Irvine Ranch Water District) to swiftly respond to and contain any sewage spills.

#### **XV. MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES**

1. This order authorizes the discharge of storm water runoff from construction projects that may result in land disturbance of one (1) acre or more (or less than one acre, if it is part of a larger common plan of development or sale which is one acre or more) that are under ownership and/or direct responsibility of any of the permittees. All permittee construction activities shall be in accordance with DAMP Sections 7 and 8.
2. All construction activities shall be in compliance with the latest version of State's General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities except that an NOI need not be filed with the State Board.
3. Prior to commencement of construction activities, the permittees shall notify the Executive Officer of the Regional Board concerning the proposed construction project. Upon completion of the construction project, the Executive Officer shall be notified of the completion of the project.

4. The permittees shall develop and implement a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) and a monitoring program that is specific for the construction project greater than one acre, prior to the commencement of any of the construction activities, except for routine maintenance activities. The SWPPP shall be kept at the construction site and released to the public and/or Regional Board staff upon request.
5. The SWPPP (and any other plans and programs required under the General Permit) and the monitoring program for the construction projects shall be consistent with the requirements of the latest version of the State's General Construction Permit.
6. The permittees shall give advance notice to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board concerning any planned changes in the construction activity, which may result in non-compliance with the latest version of the State's General Construction Permit.

#### **XVI. TRAINING PROGRAM FOR STORM WATER MANAGERS, PLANNERS, INSPECTORS AND MUNICIPAL CONTRACTORS**

1. Within 12 months from the date of adoption of this order, the principal permittee, in coordination with the co-permittees, shall develop a training program including a training schedule, curriculum content, and defined expertise and competencies for storm water managers, inspectors, maintenance crew, those involved in the review and approval of WQMPs, public works employees, community planners and for those preparing and/or reviewing CEQA documentation and for municipal contractors.
2. The curriculum content should include: federal, state and local water quality laws and regulations as they apply to construction and grading activities, industrial and commercial activities; the potential effects of construction, industrial and commercial activities and urbanization on water quality; implementation and maintenance of erosion control and pollution prevention measures and sediment control BMPs; the proper use and maintenance of erosion and sediment controls; the enforcement protocols and methods established in the Drainage Area Management Plan, Local Implementation Plan, the Construction Runoff Guidance Manual, Enforcement Consistency Guide and Illicit Discharge/Illegal Connection Training Program. Each permittee may develop its own training program curriculum consistent with the general principles discussed in this and the next paragraph. The training program should be coordinated with the Orange County Vector Control District to insure that vector control issues related to post-construction BMPs are incorporated into the training curriculum.
3. The training modules for each category of trainees (managers, inspectors, planners, contractors, public works crew, etc.) should define the required competencies, outline the curriculum, a testing or other procedure at the end of the training program to determine that the trainees have acquired the requisite knowledge in the storm water program to carry out their duties and proof of completion of training, such as Certificate of Completion, attendance sheets or other proof that training has been completed. .
4. At least every two years, the principal permittee shall provide and document training to applicable public agency staff on Fixed Facility Model Maintenance Procedure, Field Program Model Training and Drainage Facility Model Maintenance Training. The field program training should include Model Integrated Pest Management, Pesticide and Fertilizer Guidelines. Each permittee shall attend at least three of these training sessions during the term of this permit. The training sessions may be conducted in classrooms or using videos, DVDs, or other multimedia with appropriate documentation

and a final test to verify that the material has been properly reviewed and understood. The permittees have the option to develop and conduct their own training program as indicated in Paragraph 2, above.

5. The principal permittee shall conduct and document public employee training for model environmental review, and on how to conduct public/business education for preparation of environmental documents. The permittees have the option to develop and conduct their own training program as indicated in Paragraph 2, above.
6. The principal permittee shall provide BMP and training information to municipal contractors to assist the contractors in training their staff. In instances where applicable municipal operations are performed by contract staff, the permittees shall require evidence that contract staff have received a level of training equivalent to that listed above. The permittees have the option to develop and conduct their own training program as indicated in Paragraph 2, above.
7. The principal permittee shall notify designated Regional Board staff via e-mail at least 30 days prior to conducting any of these training sessions.
8. Each permittee shall have adequately trained all its staff involved with storm water related projects within 60 days from being assigned these duties and on an annual basis thereafter, prior to the rainy season.
9. Each permittee shall maintain a written record of all training provided to its storm water and related program staff.

## **XVII. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Within 24 hours of discovery, each permittee shall provide oral or e-mail notification to Regional Board staff of non-compliant sites within its jurisdiction that are determined to pose imminent threat to human health or the environment (e.g., sewage spills that could impact water contact recreation, an oil spill that could impact wildlife, a hazardous substance spill where residents are evacuated, etc.). Following oral or email notification, a written report must be submitted to the Regional Board office within 5 business days, detailing the nature of the non-compliance, any corrective action taken by the site owner, other relevant information (e.g., past history of non-compliance, environmental damage resulting from the non-compliance, site owner responsiveness) and the type of enforcement that will be carried out by the permittee. Further, incidences of non-compliance shall be recorded along with the information noted in the written report and the final outcome/enforcement for the incident in the databases for construction, industrial and commercial inspections<sup>61</sup>.
2. At a minimum, all sewage spills above 1,000 gallons and all reportable quantities of hazardous waste spills as per 40CFR 117 and 302 shall be reported within 24 hours. All spill incidents shall be also included in the annual report. The permittees may propose a reporting program, including reportable incidents and quantities, jointly with other agencies, such as the County Health Care Agency, for approval by the Executive Officer.

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<sup>61</sup> The reporting schedule may be revised with the approval of the Executive Officer.

**XVIII. WATERSHED ACTION PLANS AND TMDL IMPLEMENTATION****A. IMPAIRED WATERBODIES WITH NO TMDLS**

1. The principal permittee, in collaboration with the co-permittees, shall develop Watershed Action Plans for areas where such a Plan has not been developed. Existing Watershed Action Plans and those under development shall be updated as new TMDLs are approved by the Regional Board.
2. Each Watershed Action Plan shall identify impaired waters [CWA § 303(d) listed], pollutants causing impairment, monitoring programs for these pollutants, control measures, including any BMPs that the permittees are currently implementing, and any BMPs that the permittees are proposing to implement. All construction sites that are adjacent to (within 200 feet) or discharging directly to a waterbody listed for sediments or turbidity shall be treated as high priority sites. In selecting control measures, the listed pollutants shall be treated as primary pollutants of concern and these pollutants shall be addressed through source control, site design, pollution prevention and structural treatment control BMPs.

**B. WATERBODIES WITH TECHNICAL TMDLS (NO IMPLEMENTATION PLANS)**

1. As required under a consent decree, in 2002, the EPA promulgated technical TMDLs for toxic pollutants in San Diego Creek and Newport Bay, including metals, organochlorine compounds, selenium and organophosphate pesticides. EPA and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board established technical TMDLs for metals in Coyote Creek. Technical TMDLs do not include implementation plans or compliance schedules.
2. In collaboration with stakeholders, Regional Board staff are developing revised TMDLs that are expected to supplant the toxics TMDLs promulgated by EPA for the Newport watershed. The TMDLs will include implementation plans and compliance schedules. Implementation plans for the Coyote Creek TMDLs are also being developed.
3. In summary, work related to the following established TMDLs is ongoing:
  - a) Metals (San Diego Creek and Newport Bay (including Rhine Channel))
  - b) Metals (Mercury, Chromium) (Rhine Channel)
  - c) Organochlorine compounds (San Diego Creek and Newport Bay; also see Paragraphs 5 and 6, below)
  - d) Selenium (San Diego Creek and Newport Bay)
  - e) Copper, lead and zinc (Coyote Creek, TMDL developed by the EPA and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board for wet weather)
  - f) Copper (Coyote Creek, TMDL developed by the EPA and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board for dry weather)
4. The permittees in the Newport Watershed shall comply with the wasteload allocations specified in the established TMDLs and shown in Tables 1 A/B/C, 2 A/B/C/D and 3. These wasteload allocations shall remain in effect unless and

until alternative wasteload allocations are established in TMDLs approved by the Regional Board, State Board, Office of Administrative Law and EPA.

**Tables 1 A/B/C/D – Urban Runoff Waste Load Allocations for Metals  
(TMDLs promulgated by U.S. EPA)<sup>62</sup>**

**A- San Diego Creek and Tributaries – Concentration based TMDL**

	Base flows (<20 cfs) Hardness- 400 mg/L		Small flows (21-181 cfs) Hardness- 322 mg/L		Med. flows (182-815 cfs) Hardness- 236 mg/L		Large Flows (>815 cfs) Hardness- 197 mg/L
	Acute	Chronic	Acute	Chronic	Acute	Chronic	Acute
Cd (ug/L)	19.1	6.2	15.1	5.3	10.8	4.2	8.9
Cu (ug/L)	50	29.3	40	24.3	30.2	18.7	25.5
Pb (ug/L)	281	10.9	224	8.8	162	6.3	134
Zn (ug/L)	379	382	316	318	243	244	208

**B- Newport Bay**

Cd *	Cu	Pb	Zn
9,589 lbs/yr	3,403 lbs/yr	17,638 lbs/yr	174,057 lbs/yr

\* (Applies to Upper Bay only, estimated as 40% of Newport Bay volume)

**C- Rhine Channel**

Mercury (Hg)	Chromium (Cr)
0.0171 kg/yr	5.66 kg/yr

**D- Concentration-based Dissolved Metal TMDLs, WLAs and LAs for Newport Bay**

	Dissolved saltwater TMDLs and allocations which apply to direct discharges to the bay, including storm drains/channels and metals loading associated with boats	
	Acute	Chronic
Cd* (ug/L)	42	9.3
Cu (ug/L)	4.8	3.1
Pb (ug/L)	210	8.1
Zn (ug/L)	90	81

\* (Applies to Upper Bay only, estimated as 40% of Newport Bay volume).

<sup>62</sup> From Total Maximum Daily Loads For Toxic Pollutants San Diego Creek and Newport Bay, California, U.S. EPA – Region 9, established June 14, 2002.

**Tables 2 A/B/C/D – Urban Runoff Waste Load Allocations for Organochlorine Compounds  
(TMDLs promulgated by U.S. EPA)<sup>63</sup>**

**A- San Diego Creek and Tributaries**

Total DDT	Chlordane	Dieldrin	PCBs	Toxaphene
302.8 g/yr	220.3 g/yr	183.4 g/yr	177.7 g/yr	6.2 g/yr

**B- Upper Newport Bay**

Total DDT	Chlordane	PCBs
207.4 g/yr	120.5 g/yr	609.7 g/yr

**C – Lower Newport Bay**

Total DDT	Chlordane	Dieldrin	PCBs
76.3 g/yr	12.6 g/yr	4.45 g/yr	303.3 g/yr

**D – Rhine Channel**

	Total DDT	Chlordane	Dieldrin	PCBs
<b>WLA</b>	0.7 g/yr	0.1 g/yr	0.13 g/yr	4.1 g/yr

**Table 3 – Urban Runoff Waste Load Allocation for Selenium – San Diego  
Creek and Tributaries**

**(TMDL promulgated by U.S. EPA)<sup>64</sup>**

Base flows (<20 cfs)	Small flows (21-181 cfs)	Med. flows (182–814 cfs)	Large Flows (>814 cfs)
0.4 lbs/yr	1.0 lbs/yr	1.0 lbs/yr	5.3 lbs/yr

5. The Regional Board adopted TMDLs, including an implementation plan, for organochlorine compounds in September 2007. These TMDLs must be submitted for approval by the State Board, Office of Administrative Law and EPA. These TMDLs have not yet been submitted to the State Board for its approval. However, stakeholders in the watershed are already taking steps to implement the TMDLs through a Toxicity Reduction and Investigation Program (TRIP) that will address the organochlorine compounds and other toxic pollutants, including metals, in the Newport Bay watershed. These TMDLs will become effective upon approval by the State Board and Office of Administrative

<sup>63</sup> From Total Maximum Daily Loads For Toxic Pollutants San Diego Creek and Newport Bay, California, U.S. EPA – Region 9, established June 14, 2002.

<sup>64</sup> From Total Maximum Daily Loads For Toxic Pollutants San Diego Creek and Newport Bay, California, U.S. EPA – Region 9, established June 14, 2002.

Law but will not supplant the EPA organochlorine compounds TMDLs until they are approved by EPA. Accordingly, upon approval of the Regional Board-adopted organochlorine compounds TMDLs by the State Board and the Office of Administrative Law, the permittees shall comply with both the EPA and Regional Board wasteload allocations specified in Tables 2 A/B/C/D and Table 4, respectively. In accordance with the Regional Board TMDLs, compliance with the allocations specified in Table 4 shall be achieved as soon as possible but no later than December 31, 2015. Upon approval of the Regional Board-approved organochlorine compounds TMDLs by EPA, the applicable wasteload allocations shall be those specified in Table 4.

**Table 4 – Urban Runoff Waste Load Allocations for Organochlorine Compounds (TMDLs approved by Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board)<sup>65</sup>**

	<b>Total DDT</b>	<b>Chlordane</b>	<b>Total PCBs</b>	<b>Toxaphene</b>
<b>San Diego Creek</b>	128.3 g/yr			1.9 g/yr
<b>Upper Newport Bay</b>	51.8 g/yr	30.1 g/yr	29.8 g/yr	
<b>Lower Newport Bay</b>	19.1 g/yr	11.0 g/yr	78.1 g/yr	

- The organochlorine compounds are carried by fine sediment into the water column. Since the use of organochlorine pesticides has been banned, the levels of these compounds have been steadily decreasing in the watershed. The implementation plan requires monitoring to verify the decreasing trend and strict controls on sediment discharges. The stakeholders in the San Diego Creek/Newport Bay watershed have an established Regional Monitoring Program (RMP), and in early 2008, initiated the Toxicity Reduction and Investigation Program (TRIP) consistent with the Regional Board-approved implementation plan for the organochlorine compounds TMDLs. Recognizing the difficulties inherent in measuring the allocations presented in Table 4, the permittees shall evaluate the monitoring results with the targets shown in Tables 5A/B and determine the need for any additional control measures to achieve the targets. Monitoring shall be conducted at representative locations within San Diego Creek and Newport Bay and include water column, sediment and fish tissue monitoring. The permittees may use current monitoring locations.

<sup>65</sup> From Resolution No. R8-2007-0024, Table NB-OCs-10.

**Tables 5 A /B - Water Column Targets for Protection of  
Aquatic Life, Wildlife & Human Health<sup>66</sup>**

**A - San Diego Creek and Tributaries**

	Total DDT	Toxaphene
Acute Criterion	1.1 µg/l	0.73 µg/l
Chronic Criterion	0.001 µg/l	0.0002 µg/l
Human Health Criterion	0.00059 µg/l	0.00075 µg/l

**B - Upper and Lower Newport Bay**

	Total DDT	Chlordane	Total PCBs
Acute Criterion	0.13 µg/l	0.09 µg/l	
Chronic Criterion	0.001 µg/l	0.0004 µg/l	0.03 µg/l
Human Health Criterion	0.00059 µg/l	0.00059 µg/l	0.00017 µg/l

7. Regional Board staff, in collaboration with the stakeholders, is developing TMDLs for metals and selenium that will include implementation plans and monitoring programs and that are intended to replace the EPA TMDLs. The permittees within the Newport Bay watershed shall continue to participate in the development and implementation of these TMDLs. This Order will be reopened to incorporate revised allocations based upon TMDLs, including implementation plans, for metals and selenium approved by the Regional Board, State Board and Office of Administrative Law. As for the organochlorine compounds, the EPA promulgated allocations for these constituents will also remain in effect unless and until EPA approves the Regional Board's TMDLs for these constituents.
8. Selenium is a naturally occurring element in the soil but its presence in surface waters in the Newport Bay watershed is largely the result of changes in the hydrologic regime as the result of extensive drainage modifications. Selenium-laden shallow and rising groundwater enters the storm water conveyance systems and flows into San Diego Creek and its tributaries. Groundwater inputs are the major source of selenium in San Diego Creek and Newport Bay. Currently, there are no economically and technically feasible treatment techniques to remove selenium from the water column.

<sup>66</sup> From Resolution No. R8-2007-0024, Table NB-OCs-4.

The stakeholders have initiated pilot studies to determine the most efficient methods for treatment and removal of selenium. Through the Nitrogen and Selenium Management Program, the watershed stakeholders are developing comprehensive selenium (and nitrogen) management plans, which are expected to form the basis, at least in part, for the selenium implementation plan (and a revised nutrient TMDL implementation plan). A collaborative watershed approach to implement the nitrogen and selenium TMDLs for San Diego Creek and Newport Bay is expected. A proposed Cooperative Watershed Program that will fulfill applicable requirements of the selenium TMDL implementation plan must be submitted by the stakeholders covered by this order within 24 months of adoption of this order, or one month after approval of the selenium TMDLs by OAL, whichever is later. The Program must be implemented upon Regional Board approval. As long as the stakeholders are participating in and implementing the approved Cooperative Watershed Program, they will not be in violation of this order with respect to the nitrogen and selenium TMDLs for San Diego Creek and Newport Bay. In the event that any of the stakeholders does not participate, or if the collaborative approach is not approved or fails to achieve the TMDLs, the Regional Board will exercise its option to issue individual waste discharge requirements or waivers of waste discharge requirements.

9. The permittees with discharges tributary to Coyote Creek or the San Gabriel River shall develop and implement a constituent-specific source control plan for copper, lead and zinc until a TMDL implementation plan is developed. The source control plan shall include a monitoring program and shall be completed within 12 months from the date of adoption of this order. The source control plan shall be designed to ensure compliance with the following wasteload allocations:

**Table 6 – Municipal Storm Water Wasteload Allocations - Coyote Creek**

	Copper	Lead	Zinc
Dry Weather	0.941 kg/day		
Wet Weather	9.41 kg/day	36.9 kg/day	55.0 kg/day

10. Within 12 months of adoption of this order, the principal permittee, in collaboration with the co-permittees with discharges to the San Gabriel River/Coyote Creek and/or their tributaries, shall develop a monitoring program to monitor dry weather (for copper) and wet weather (for copper,

lead and zinc) flows in Coyote Creek. The monitoring results shall be evaluated against the following numeric targets:

**Table 7 – Numeric Targets - Coyote Creek  
(total recoverable metals)**

	Copper	Lead	Zinc
Dry Weather <sup>67</sup>	3.7 µg/l		
Wet Weather	27 µg/l	106 µg/l	158 µg/l

**C. WATERBODIES WITH TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS AND COMPLIANCE SCHEDULES BEYOND THE PERMIT TERM**

1. The Regional Board adopted a TMDL implementation plan for fecal coliform bacteria in Newport Bay that included a compliance date for water contact recreation standards no later than December 30, 2013 (within the permit term), and with shellfish standards no later than December 30, 2019. The allocations are shown in the tables below.

**Table 8A – Fecal Coliform TMDL and Allocations for Newport Bay  
To be achieved no later than December 30, 2013**

Urban Runoff Waste Load Allocation for Fecal Coliform	As soon as possible, but no later than December 30, 2013	5-Sample/30-days Geometric Mean less than 200 organisms/100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 400 organisms/100 mL for any 30- day period.
Total Maximum Daily Load for Fecal Coliform		5-Sample/30-days Geometric Mean less than 200 organisms/100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 400 organisms/100 mL for any 30-day period.
Load Allocations for Fecal Coliform in Agricultural Runoff, including stormwater, Discharges		5-Sample/30-days Geometric Mean less than 200 organisms/ 100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 400 organisms/100 mL for any 30-day period.
Load Allocations for Fecal Coliform from Natural Sources in all Discharges	In effect	5-Sample/30-days Geometric Mean less than 200 organisms/100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 400 organisms/100 mL for any 30-day period.
Allocations for Vessel Waste		0 MPN/100 mL - No discharge.

<sup>67</sup> Based on saltwater CTR criterion in San Gabriel River estuary.

**Table 8B – Fecal Coliform TMDL and Allocations for Newport Bay  
Before December 30, 2019**

Urban Runoff Waste Load Allocation for Fecal Coliform	As soon as possible, but no later than December 30, 2019	Monthly Median less than 14 MPN/100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 43 MPN/100 mL.
Total Maximum Daily Load for Fecal Coliform		Monthly Median less than 14 MPN/100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 43 MPN/100 mL.
Load Allocations for Fecal Coliform in Agricultural Runoff, including stormwater, Discharges		Monthly Median less than 14 MPN/100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 43 MPN/100 mL.
Load Allocations for Fecal Coliform from Natural Sources in all Discharges		Monthly Median less than 14 MPN/100 mL, and not more than 10% of the samples exceed 43 MPN/100 mL.
Allocations for Vessel Waste	In effect	0 MPN/100 mL - No discharge.

The permittees shall comply with the wasteload allocations for urban runoff in Tables 8A and 8B in accordance with the deadlines in Tables 8A and 8B. Compliance determination for fecal coliform shall be based on monitoring conducted at representative sampling locations within San Diego Creek and Newport Bay. (The permittees may use the current sampling locations for compliance determination.)

2. The fecal coliform TMDL implementation plan includes a number of studies that are expected to inform possible revision of the TMDL, including the wasteload allocations for urban runoff and the implementation plan. The permittees shall revise the Watershed Action Plans to include implementation measures and schedules for further studies related to the TMDL for fecal coliform in Newport Bay, as set forth in the January 2000, March 2000 and April 2000 Newport Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Technical Reports submitted by the permittees. The permittees within this watershed shall complete the ongoing source identification and characterization plan for urban runoff by December 31, 2009 and continue their participation in the studies and monitoring programs as specified in the implementation plan. Recommendations for an updated TMDL report and revisions to the fecal coliform TMDL shall be provided within twelve months of completion of the Source Identification and Characterization Investigation and Report submittal, as specified in the implementation plan.
3. The fecal coliform TMDL includes waste load allocations for storm water in urban runoff and load allocations in agricultural runoff. The University of California Cooperative Extension and Orange County Coastkeeper are working with the agricultural operators in the area to reduce runoff from their operations.

**D. WATERBODIES WITH TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS AND COMPLIANCE SCHEDULES WITHIN THE PERMIT TERM**

1. The Regional Board/EPA developed TMDLs for diazinon and chlorpyrifos in San Diego Creek and for chlorpyrifos in Newport Bay. The following allocations are included in the TMDLs (Tables 9A and 9B are extracted from the Implementation Plan<sup>68</sup>). The permittees in the Newport Bay Watershed shall comply with the allocations in Tables 9 A and B.

**Table 9A****Diazinon and Chlorpyrifos Allocations for San Diego Creek\***

Category	Diazinon (ng/l)		Chlorpyrifos (ng/l)	
	Acute	Chronic	Acute	Chronic
Wasteload Allocation	72	45	18	12.6

Chronic means 4-consecutive day average

\* Pursuant to the TMDLs, compliance with these allocations was achieved no later than December 1, 2007

**Table 9B****Chlorpyrifos Allocations for Upper Newport Bay\***

Category	Acute (ng/l)	Chronic (ng/l)
Wasteload allocation	18	8.1

Chronic means 4-consecutive day average

\* Pursuant to the TMDLs, compliance with these allocations was achieved no later than December 1, 2007

The Regional Board adopted an implementation plan for these TMDLs. In accordance with the implementation plan, the Regional Monitoring Program was modified to include analysis for organophosphate pesticides and toxicity. The Regional Board also performed simulation studies to predict contaminant concentrations in the Bay. Based on the results of these studies, the Regional Board will reevaluate the TMDLs every three years. The permittees shall continue to participate in any additional monitoring that is needed to confirm that the permittees are in compliance with the allocations.

Compliance determination for diazinon and chlorpyrifos for San Diego Creek shall be based on monitoring conducted at representative monitoring locations within San Diego Creek (the permittees may use current monitoring locations for this purpose).

Compliance determination for chlorpyrifos for Upper Newport Bay shall be based on monitoring conducted at representative monitoring locations within Upper Newport Bay (the permittees may use current monitoring locations for this purpose).

<sup>68</sup> Attachment to Resolution No. R8-2003-0039.

2. The waste load allocations established in the nutrient TMDLs adopted by the Regional Board in 1998 for Newport Bay included 5, 10 and 15 year allocations. The overall allocations for 2012 have been met.

**Table 10 - Seasonal Load Allocations of Total Nitrogen for the Newport Bay Watershed (Urban Runoff)<sup>69</sup>**

Nutrient TMDL	1990-1997 Loading	2002 Summer Allocation (Apr-Sept) <sup>70</sup>	2007 Summer Allocation (Apr-Sept) <sup>71</sup>	2012 Winter Allocation (Oct-Mar) <sup>72</sup>
Newport Bay Watershed	lbs/year TN <sup>73,74</sup>	lbs/season TN	lbs/season TN	lbs/season TN
Urban runoff	277,131 <sup>75</sup>	20,785	16,628	55,442
		5 year target	10 year target	15 year target

**Table 11 - Annual Total Nitrogen Load Allocations for San Diego Creek, Reach 2 During Non-Storm Conditions.<sup>76</sup>**

	2012 Allocation lbs/day TN <sup>77</sup>
TMDL	14 lbs/day (TN)
Waste Load Allocation (Urban runoff)	5.5 lbs/day (TN)

3. The permittees shall verify, through monitoring or other mechanisms, that they have met the following load allocations for phosphorous for urban runoff (recent

<sup>69</sup> From Attachment to Resolution No. 98-9 as amended by Resolution No. 98-100, Table 5-9b. Compliance dates are as soon as possible but no later than December 31 of the years specified (Table 5-9a of Resolution No. 98-9, as amended).

<sup>70</sup> Compliance to be achieved no later than this date. The Regional Board may require earlier compliance with these targets when it is feasible and reasonable.

<sup>71</sup> See previous footnote.

<sup>72</sup> Total nitrogen winter loading limit applies between October 1 and March 31 when the mean daily flow rate at San Diego Creek at Campus Drive is below 50 cubic feet per second (cfs), and when the mean daily flow rate in San Diego Creek at Campus Drive is above 50 cubic feet per second (cfs), but not as the result of precipitation. Compliance to be achieved no later than this date. The Regional Board may require earlier compliance with these targets when it is feasible and reasonable. Assumes 67 non-storm days.

<sup>73</sup> TIN = (NO<sub>3</sub>+NH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>74</sup> TN = (TIN + Organic N).

<sup>75</sup> Estimated annual average (summer and winter loading).

<sup>76</sup> From Attachment to Resolution No. 98-9 as amended by Resolution No. 98-100, Table 5-9d. Total nitrogen loading limit applies when the mean daily flow rate at San Diego Creek at Culver Drive is below 25 cubic feet per second (cfs), and when the mean daily flow rate in San Diego Creek at Culver Drive is above 25 cubic feet per second (cfs), but not as the result of precipitation.

<sup>77</sup> Compliance to be achieved no later than December 31, 2012. The Regional Board may require earlier compliance with these targets when it is feasible and reasonable.

monitoring data indicate that these target load allocations have been already met).

**Table 12 - Annual Total Phosphorous Load Allocations  
For The Newport Bay Watershed<sup>78</sup>**

	2002 Allocation lbs/year TP <sup>79</sup>	2007 Allocation lbs/year TP <sup>80</sup>
TMDL	86,912	62,080
Urban areas	4,102	2,960

The permittees shall comply with the waste load allocations for urban runoff in Tables 10, 11 and 12 in accordance with the schedules in Tables 10, 11 and 12. Compliance determination for nutrients in San Diego Creek and Newport Bay shall be based on monitoring conducted at representative monitoring locations within San Diego Creek and Newport Bay.

4. The permittees shall meet the following target load allocations for sediment in urban runoff by implementing the BMPs contained in Sections 7 and 8 of the DAMP and the "March 1999 Technical Report on the Implementation of the TMDL for Sediment in the Newport Bay Watershed, the October 1999 Preliminary Sediment Load Allocation Analysis for San Diego Creek and Newport Bay, and the February 2000 Sediment Yield and Transport Investigation for San Diego Creek and Newport Bay".
  - a) The load allocations for sediment discharges to Newport Bay from urban areas shall not exceed 2,500 tons per year, implemented as a 10-year running annual average.
  - b) The load allocations for sediment discharges to San Diego Creek and its tributaries from urban areas shall not exceed 2,500 tons per year, implemented as a 10-year running annual average.

Compliance determination for sediment in San Diego Creek and Newport Bay shall be based on monitoring conducted at San Diego Creek at Campus, starting from year 2000 and based on a 10-year running average. The data from this monitoring is to be submitted annually on February 27.

<sup>78</sup> From Attachment to Resolution No. 98-9 as amended by Resolution No. 98-100, Table 5-9c. Compliance dates are as soon as possible but no later than December 31 of the years specified (Table 5-9a of Resolution No. 98-9, as amended).

<sup>79</sup> Compliance to be achieved no later than this date. The Regional Board may require earlier compliance with these targets when it is feasible and reasonable.

<sup>80</sup> See previous footnote.

5. This order may be reopened to include additional requirements based on new or revised TMDLs.

#### **E. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION WITH TMDLs AND BMP IMPLEMENTATION**

1. Except for sediment TMDLs in San Diego Creek and Newport Bay, compliance determinations shall be based on monitoring within the receiving waters. For sediment TMDLs, compliance determination shall be based on monitoring in the Creek.
2. Based on the TMDLs, effluent limits have been specified to ensure consistency with the wasteload allocations. If the monitoring results indicate an exceedance of the wasteload allocations, the permittees shall reevaluate the current control measures and propose additional BMPs/control measures. This reevaluation and proposal for revisions to the current BMPs/control measures (revised plan) shall be submitted to the Executive Officer within 12 months of determining that an exceedance has occurred. Upon approval, the permittees shall immediately start implementation of the revised plan.

#### **XIX. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT/DAMP REVIEW**

1. By July 1 of each year, the permittees shall evaluate the DAMP to determine whether any revisions are necessary in order to reduce pollutants in MS4 discharges to the maximum extent practicable. In addition, the first annual review after adoption of this order shall include the following:
  - a) Review of the formal training needs of municipal employees
  - b) Review of coordinating meeting/training for the designated NPDES inspectors.
2. The annual report shall include the findings of this review and a schedule for any needed revisions or a copy of the amended DAMP with the proposed changes.
3. Upon the effective date of this Order, the permittees shall start implementing the 2007 DAMP. If modifications to the 2007 DAMP are determined to be necessary, the permittees shall prepare and submit DAMP modifications to the Regional Board Executive Officer, for consideration by the Regional Board at a public hearing. Such modifications may include regional and watershed-specific requirements and/or waste load allocations developed and approved pursuant to the TMDL process.
4. The Management Committee shall meet at least six times a year to discuss issues related to permit implementation and regional and statewide issues. Each permittee's designated representative or a designated alternate should attend at least 75% of these meetings.

#### **XX. FISCAL ANALYSIS**

1. Each permittee shall secure the resources necessary to meet all requirements of this order.

2. The permittees shall prepare and submit a unified fiscal accountability analysis to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board. The fiscal analysis shall be submitted with the annual report shall, at a minimum, include the following:
  - a) Each permittee's expenditures for the previous fiscal year,
  - b) Each permittee's budget for the current fiscal year,
  - c) A description of the source of funds, and
  - d) Each permittee's estimated budget for the next fiscal year.

## **XXI. PROVISIONS**

1. All reports submitted by the permittees as per the requirements in this order for the approval of the Executive Officer shall be publicly noticed and made available on the Regional Board's website, or through other means, for public review and comments. The Executive Officer shall consider all comments received prior to approval of the reports. Any unresolved significant issues shall be scheduled for a public hearing at a Regional Board meeting prior to approval by the Executive Officer.
2. Permittees shall demonstrate compliance with all the requirements in this order and specifically with Section III.2 Discharge Limitations and Section IV. Receiving Water Limitations, through timely implementation of their DAMP and any modifications, revisions, or amendments developed pursuant to this order approved by the Executive Officer or determined by the permittee to be necessary to meet the requirements of this order.
3. The permittees shall, at a minimum, implement all elements of the DAMP. Where the dates in the DAMP are different than those of this order, the dates in this order shall prevail. Any proposed revisions to the DAMP shall be submitted with the annual report to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board for review and approval. All approved revisions to the DAMP shall be implemented as per the time schedules approved by the Executive Officer. In addition to those specific controls and actions required by (1) the terms of this order and (2) the DAMP, each permittee shall implement additional controls, if any are necessary, to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the maximum extent practicable, as required by this order.
4. The permittees shall comply with Monitoring and Reporting Program NO. R8-2008-0030, and any revisions thereto, which is hereby made a part of this order. The Executive Officer is authorized to revise the Monitoring and Reporting Program to allow the permittees to participate in regional, statewide, national or other monitoring programs in lieu of or in addition to Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R8-2008-0030.
5. Within one year of adoption of this order, the permittees, in coordination with the Orange County Fire Chiefs Association, shall develop a list of appropriate BMPs to be implemented to reduce pollutants from training activities, fire hydrant/sprinkler testing or flushing, non-emergency fire fighting and any BMPs feasible for emergency fire fighting flows.

6. Upon approval by the Executive Officer of the Regional Board, all plans, reports and subsequent amendments required by this order shall be implemented and shall become an enforceable part of this order. Prior to approval by the Executive Officer, these plans, reports and amendments shall not be considered as an enforceable part of this order.
7. The permittees shall report to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board:
  - a) Any enforcement actions and discharges of storm or non-storm water, known to the permittees, which may have an impact on human health or the environment,
  - b) Any suspected or reported activities on federal, state, or other entity's land or facilities, where the permittees do not have any jurisdiction, and where the suspected or reported activities may be contributing pollutants to waters of the US.

(Also see reporting requirements in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R8-2008-0030)
8. The permit application package and special NPDES program requirements contained in 40 CFR 122.21 (a), (b), (d)(2), (f), (p); 122.41 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l); and 122.42 (c) are incorporated into this order by reference.

## **XXII. PERMIT MODIFICATION**

1. In accordance with 40 CFR 122.41(f), this order may be modified, revoked or reissued prior to its expiration date for the following reasons:
  - a) To address significant changes in conditions identified in the technical reports required by the Regional Board which were unknown at the time of the issuance of this order;
  - b) To incorporate applicable requirements of statewide water quality control plans adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board or any amendments to the Basin Plan approved by the Regional Board, the State Board and, if necessary, by the Office of Administrative Law;
  - c) To comply with any applicable requirements, guidelines, or regulations issued or approved under the Clean Water Act, if the requirements, guidelines, or regulations contain different conditions or additional requirements than those included in this order; or,
  - d) To incorporate any requirements imposed upon the permittees through the TMDL process.
2. The filing of a request by the permittees for modification, revocation and re-issuance, or termination or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any conditions of this order.

## **XXIII. PERMIT EXPIRATION AND RENEWAL**

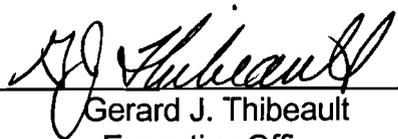
1. This order expires on April 1, 2014 and the permittees must file a Report of Waste Discharge (permit application) no later than 180 days in advance of such expiration date as application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements (40 CFR

The County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District, and the Incorporated Cities of Orange County  
Areawide Urban Storm Water Runoff

122.41(b)). The Report of Waste Discharge shall, at a minimum, include the following:

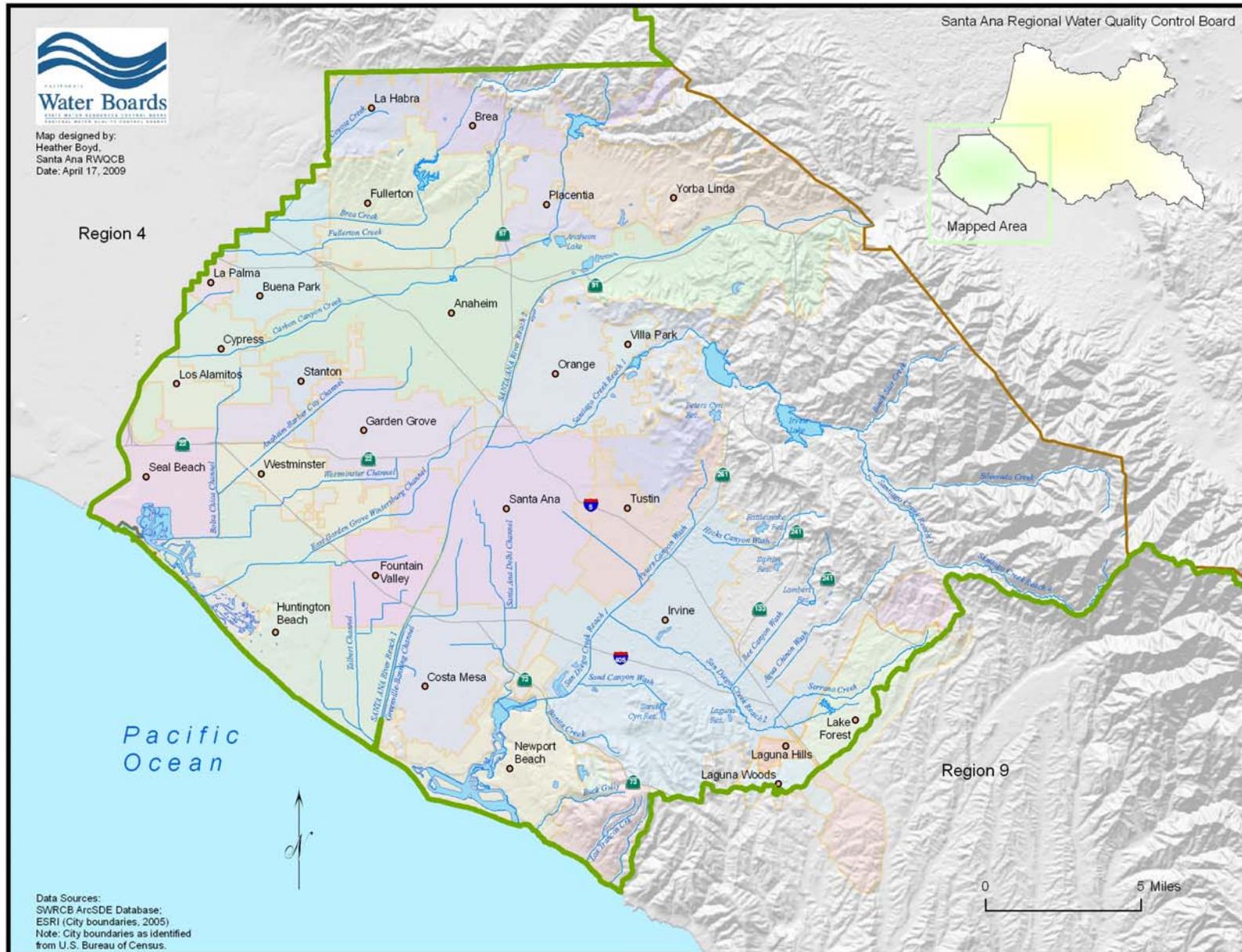
- a) Any revisions to the Drainage Area Management Plan including, but not limited to, all the activities the permittees propose to undertake during the next permit term, goals and objectives of such activities, an evaluation of the need for additional source control and/or structural BMPs, any proposed pilot studies, etc.;
  - b) Changes in land use and/or population including land use map updates;
  - c) Any significant changes to the storm drain systems, outfalls, detention or retention basins or dams and other controls including map updates of the storm drain systems; and,
  - d) Any new or revised program elements and compliance schedule(s) necessary to comply with Section IV of this order.
2. All permit applications (Report of Waste Discharge), annual reports and other information submitted under this order shall be signed by either a principal executive officer or a ranking elected official (40 CFR 122.22(a)(3)) or a duly authorized representative as per 40 CFR 122.22(b).
  3. This order shall serve as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit pursuant to Section 402(p) of the Clean Water Act, or amendments thereto, and shall become effective ten days after the date of its adoption, provided the Regional Administrator of the EPA has no objections. If the Regional Administrator objects to its issuance, the permit shall not become effective until such objection is withdrawn.
  4. Order No. R8-2002-0010 is hereby rescinded.

I, Gerard Thibeault, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, on May 22, 2009.

  
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Gerard J. Thibeault  
Executive Officer

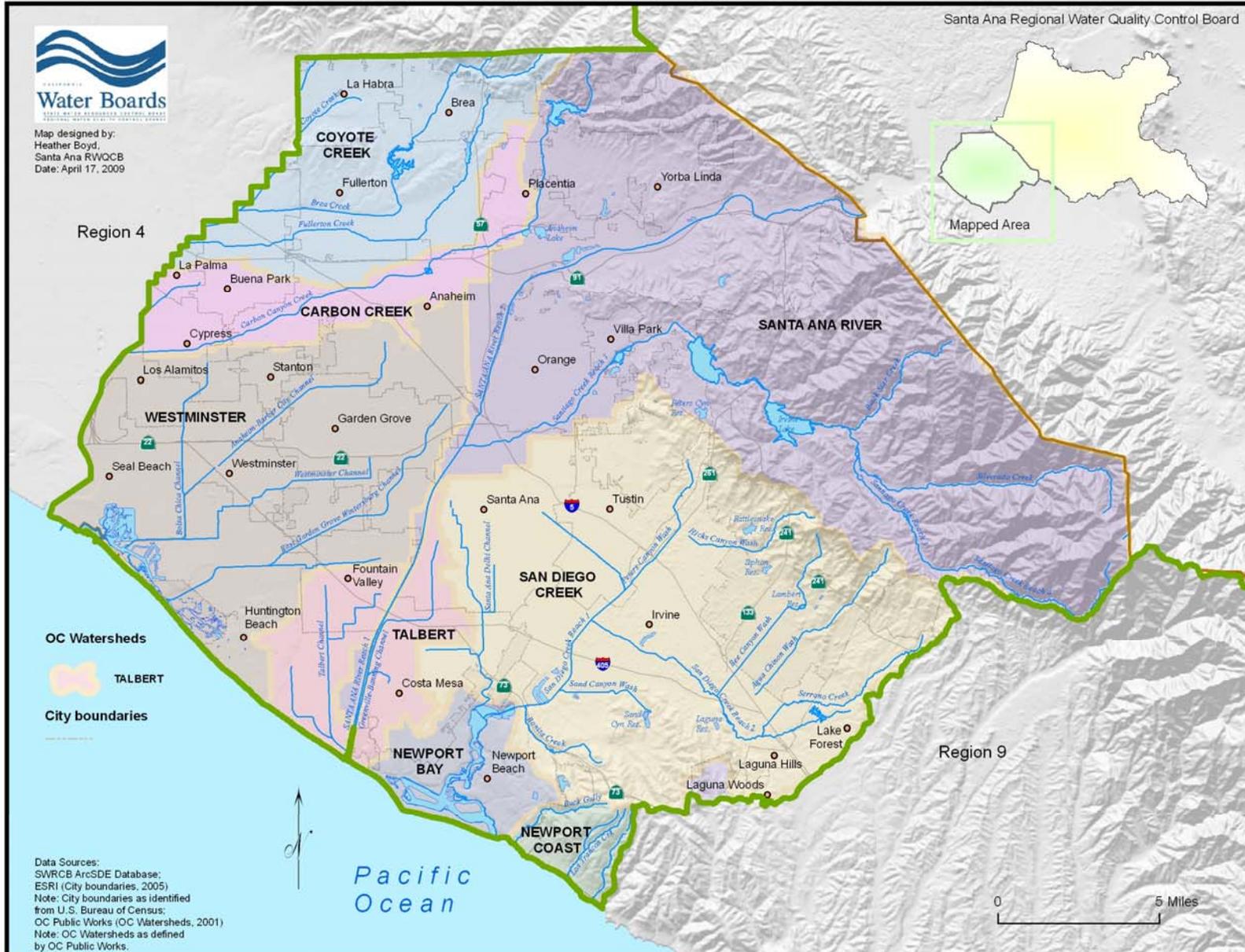
Order No. R8-2009-0030 (NPDES No. CAS618030) – cont'd  
The County of Orange, OCFCD, and Incorporated Cities  
Area wide Urban Storm Water Runoff

Attachment "A"



**Order No. R8-2009-0030 (NPDES No. CAS618030) – cont'd**  
**The County of Orange, OCFCD, and Incorporated Cities**  
**Area wide Urban Storm Water Runoff**

**Attachment "B"**



**Order No. R8-2009-0030  
Attachment "C"**

**LIST OF OTHER ENTITIES WITH THE POTENTIAL TO DISCHARGE POLLUTANTS  
TO THE ORANGE COUNTY STORM WATER SYSTEM**

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), District 12  
Southern Pacific Railroad  
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company  
Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station  
Seal Beach Naval Reserve Center, Los Alamitos  
National Forest Service

Universities and Colleges

University of California, Irvine  
California State University, Fullerton  
Chapman College  
Coastline College  
Cypress College  
Fullerton College  
Irvine Valley College  
Golden West College  
Orange Coast College  
Rancho Santiago College

School Districts

Anaheim Elementary School District  
Anaheim Union High School District  
Brea-Olinda Unified School District  
Buena Park Joint Union High School District  
Centralia Elementary School District  
Cypress Elementary School District  
Fountain Valley Union High School District  
Fullerton Joint Union High School District  
Garden Grove Unified School District  
Huntington Beach Elementary School District  
Huntington Beach Union High School District  
Irvine Unified Union High School District  
La Habra Joint Union High School District  
Los Alamitos Unified School District  
Lowell Joint Union High School District  
Magnolia Elementary School District  
Newport-Mesa Unified School District  
Ocean View Union High School District  
Orange Unified School District

Placentia Unified School District  
Saddleback Unified School District  
Santa Ana Unified School District  
Savanna Union High School District  
Tustin Unified School District  
Westminster Union High School District  
Yorba Linda Joint Union High School District

Hospitals

Anaheim General Hospital  
Brea Community Hospital  
Chapman General Hospital  
Children's Hospital of Orange County, Orange  
Coastal Communities Hospital, Santa Ana  
Fairview Hospital  
FHP Hospital, Fountain Valley  
Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center  
Hoag Hospital, Newport Beach  
Kaiser Foundation Hospital, Anaheim  
Orange County Community Hospital, Buena Park  
Pacifica Community Hospital, Huntington Beach  
Placentia Linda Community Hospital  
Santa Ana Hospital and Medical Center  
St. Joseph's Hospital, Orange  
U.C. Irvine Medical Center  
Vencor Hospital of Orange County, Westminster  
Whittier Hospital and Medical Center, Buena Park

Water/Wastewater Agencies

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Irvine Ranch Water District  
Los Aliso Water District  
El Toro Water District  
Mesa Consolidated Water District  
San Bernardino County Flood Control District  
Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District  
L.A. County Department of Public Works  
County Sanitation Districts of Orange County  
Costa Mesa Sanitary District  
Orange County Water District  
Metropolitan Water District

**State of California  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Santa Ana Region**

**Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R8-2009-0030  
NPDES No. CAS618030**

**for  
the County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District,  
and  
Incorporated Cities of Orange County within the Santa Ana Region  
Areawide Urban Storm Water Runoff**

**I. GENERAL**

1. Revisions of the monitoring and reporting program are appropriate to ensure that the permittees are in compliance with requirements and provisions contained in this order. Revisions may be made under the direction of the Executive Officer at any time during the term, and may include a reduction or increase in the number of parameters to be monitored, the frequency of monitoring, or the number and size of samples collected.
2. The Executive Officer is authorized to allow the permittees to participate in statewide, national, or other monitoring programs in lieu of or in addition to this monitoring program.
3. All sample collection, handling, storage, and analysis shall be in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136 or other methods approved by the Executive Officer.
4. The permittees are authorized to complement their monitoring data with other monitoring sources, provided the monitoring conditions and sources are similar to those in the Santa Ana Watershed.
5. Any proposals for revisions to the 2003 Monitoring Plan shall be accompanied by a Quality Assurance Project Plan.

**II. OBJECTIVES**

The Orange County monitoring program was initiated in the mid 1970s with the goal of protecting key environmental resources. Successive iterations of the Orange County MS4 permit required the permittees to develop and implement comprehensive monitoring programs. During the first part of the third term permit, the permittees continued to implement the 1999 Water Quality Monitoring program. In August 2005, the Executive Officer approved the 2003 Monitoring Program that was developed in accordance with the requirements specified in the third term permit. The 2003 Monitoring Program was based on "The Model Monitoring Program for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems in Southern California" developed by the Southern California Monitoring Coalition. The permittees also participate in the Regional Monitoring Program for San Diego Creek Nutrient TMDL, Southern California Bight Regional Monitoring Program, Southern California Stormwater Monitoring/Research Cooperative Program and other regional monitoring programs. The overall goal of these monitoring programs is to develop and

support an effective watershed and key environmental resources management program. The following are the major objectives:

1. To develop and support an effective municipal urban runoff pollutant source control program.
2. To define water quality status, trends, and pollutants of concern associated with urban runoff and their impact on the beneficial uses of the receiving waters.
3. To characterize pollutants associated with urban runoff and to assess the influence of urban land uses on water quality and the beneficial uses of receiving waters.
4. To identify significant water quality problems related to urban runoff.
5. To identify other sources of pollutants in urban runoff to the maximum extent possible (e.g., atmospheric deposition, contaminated sediments, other non-point sources, etc.)
6. To identify and prohibit illicit discharges.
7. To identify those waters, which without additional action to control pollution from urban storm water discharges, cannot reasonably be expected to attain or maintain applicable water quality standards required to sustain the beneficial uses in the Basin Plan (TMDL monitoring).
8. To determine unit loading rates from different urban land use categories.
9. To determine reference loads and concentrations from unimpacted areas of Orange County including sediment loads from open spaces at the foothills.
10. To determine runoff concentrations and loads as close as possible to the source (e.g., golf courses, restaurants, etc.)
11. To evaluate the effectiveness of existing urban runoff water quality management programs, including an estimate of pollutant reductions achieved by the structural and nonstructural BMPs implemented by the permittees. This should also include a determination of concentrations and unit loads that are achievable upon BMP implementation.
12. To evaluate costs and benefits of proposed municipal storm water quality control programs to the stakeholders, including the public.

The Regional Board recognizes that program modifications may be necessary to attain these objectives and authorizes the Executive Officer to evaluate and to determine adequate progress toward meeting each objective and the need for any modifications to the monitoring and reporting program.

### **III. MONITORING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

1. The permittees shall continue to implement the 2003 Monitoring Program. The permittees shall review the 2003 Monitoring Program on an annual basis and

determine the need for any modifications to the program. Each of the following elements of the program shall be evaluated:

- a) **Mass Emissions Monitoring.** Currently the principal permittee monitors 11 mass emissions stations to estimate the total mass emissions from the MS4; assess trends in mass emissions over time; and to determine if the MS4 is contributing to exceedances of water quality objectives or beneficial uses, by comparing results to the California Toxics Rule (CTR), Basin Plan, Ocean Plan and/or other relevant standards. Samples are collected from the first storm event and two more storm events during the rainy season. A minimum of three dry-weather samples are also collected. Samples from the first rain event each year are analyzed for the entire suite of priority pollutants. All samples are analyzed for metals, pH, TSS, TOC, pesticides/herbicides, and constituents which are known to have contributed to impairment of local receiving waters. An additional 4 mass emissions stations are utilized only for nutrient analysis for TMDL requirements. Dry weather samples are also analyzed for oil and grease. Sediments associated with mass emissions are analyzed for constituents of concern.
- b) **Estuary/Wetlands Monitoring:** Currently the permittees monitor 20 sites in Upper Newport estuary, Talbert Marsh, and Bolsa Chica wetlands areas to determine the effects of storm water and non-storm water runoff associated with increased urbanization on these systems. These monitoring locations include representative areas surrounding channel outfalls and areas away from channel outfalls to enable the determination of storm water and non-storm water effects on sediment chemistry, toxicity, benthic communities, nutrient status, and spatial extent of sediment fate within the estuarine environment.
- c) **Water Column Toxicity Monitoring:** The current monitoring program analyses for toxicity to freshwater and marine species on mass emissions samples to determine the impacts of storm water and non-storm water runoff on toxicity of receiving waters.
- d) **Sediment:** The permittees monitor sediment toxicity at seven stations in Newport Bay and seven stations along Huntington Harbour/Talbert Marsh areas.
- e) **Bacteriological/Pathogen Monitoring:** The permittees currently monitor 9 representative areas along the Orange County coastline and six inland water bodies/channels, for total coliform, fecal coliform, and enterococcus in order to determine the impacts of storm water and non-storm water runoff on loss of beneficial uses to receiving waters. Currently weekly channel monitoring is conducted in San Diego Creek and Santa Ana-Delhi channels by both Orange County Environmental Health and the Orange County monitoring program. The Executive Officer is authorized to allow the permittees to integrate their monitoring efforts with other bacteriological/pathogen monitoring programs.

- f) Bioassessment: The permittees currently monitor 12 stations in cooperation with the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) in efforts to evaluate the biological index approach for Southern California and to design a research project for developing an Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) for the region. The Executive Officer is authorized to allow the permittees to integrate this element of the monitoring program with the regional bioassessment monitoring initiative being coordinated by the Southern California Monitoring Coalition.
  - g) Reconnaissance: The permittees are currently conducting dry and wet weather reconnaissance surveys to identify and prohibit illicit discharges.
- 2. TMDL/303(d) Listed Waterbody Monitoring: The Permittees shall continue to participate in the Regional Monitoring Programs for the San Diego Creek Nutrient TMDL and the Toxics TMDL.
  - 3. In addition, strategies must be revised/developed to evaluate the impacts of storm water or non-storm water runoff on all impairments within the Newport Bay watershed and other 303(d) listed waterbodies. Since the 303(d) listing is dynamic, with new waterbodies and new impairments being identified over time, the permittees shall revise their monitoring plan to incorporate new information as it becomes available.

#### **IV. PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING**

- 1. All progress reports and proposed strategies and plans required by this order shall be signed by the principal permittee, and copies shall be submitted to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board under penalty of perjury.
- 2. The permittees shall submit an ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board and to the Regional Administrator of the U.S. EPA, Region 9, no later than November 15th, of each year. This progress report may be submitted in a mutually agreeable electronic format. At a minimum, annual progress report shall include the following:
  - a) A review of the status of program implementation and compliance (or non-compliance) with the schedules contained in this order;
  - b) An assessment of the effectiveness of control measures established under the illicit discharge elimination program and the Drainage Area Management Plan. The effectiveness may be measured in terms of how successful the program has been in eliminating illicit/illegal discharges and reducing pollutant loads in storm water discharges;

- c) As assessment of control measures and their effectiveness in addressing pollutants causing or contributing to an exceedance of water quality objectives in receiving waters that are on the 303(d) list of impaired waters.
  - d) The annual report shall include an overall program assessment. The permittees may use the “Municipal Stormwater Program Effectiveness Assessment Guidance” developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association in May 2007 as guidance for assessing program activities at the various outcome levels. The assessment should include each program element required under this order, the expected outcome and the measures used to assess the outcome. The permittees may propose any other methodology for program assessment using measurable targeted outcomes.
  - e) Each permittee shall develop and implement a plan and schedule to address program modifications and improvements identified during the program assessment.
  - f) A summary and analysis of monitoring results from the previous year and any changes to the monitoring program for the following year;
  - g) A unified fiscal accountability analysis, as described in Section XX., Provision, 2, of this order;
  - h) A draft workplan which describes the proposed implementation of the DAMP for next fiscal year. The workplan shall include clearly defined tasks, responsibilities, and schedules for implementation of the storm water program and each permittee actions for the next fiscal year;
  - i) Major changes in any previously submitted plans/policies; and
  - j) An assessment of the permittees compliance status with the Receiving Water Limitations, Section IV of the Order, including any proposed modifications to the DAMP if the Receiving Water Limitations are not fully achieved.
3. The permittees shall be responsible for the submittal to the principal permittee of all required information/materials needed to comply with this order in a timely manner. All such submittals shall be signed by a duly authorized representative of the permittee under penalty of perjury.
4. The data transmittals to the Regional Board shall be in the form developed by the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board in the document entitled “Standardized Data Exchange Formats.” This document was developed in order to provide a standard format for all data transfer so that data can universally be shared and evaluated from various programs.

**V. REPORTING SCHEDULE**

All reports required by this order shall be submitted to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board in accordance with the following schedule:

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>COMPLETION DATE</b>	<b>REPORT DUE DATE</b>
Review planning procedures and CEQA document preparation processes	Within 24 months of adoption	Annual Report
Public Education Committee Meetings	Twice/year	Annual Report
Review DAMP	Annually	Annual Report
Public education workshops	Annually	Annual Report
Update inventory of construction sites and prioritize for inspections	Twice/year	Annual Report
Inspect municipal facilities	Annually	Annual Report
Maintain drainage facilities	80% annually/100% in every two years	Annual Report
Review/revise Implementation Agreement	Within 6 months of adoption	Annual Report
Review/revise Illegal Discharge/Illicit Connection Training Program	Within 6 months of adoption	Annual Report
Evaluate the need for additional debris control measures	Within 12 months of adoption	Annual Report
Complete Public Awareness Survey	July 1, 2012	Annual Report
Review Monitoring Program	Annually	Annual Report
Update industrial site database, including prioritization for inspection	Annually	Annual Report
Update the commercial site database, including prioritization for inspection	Quarterly	Annual Report
Develop a mobile business pilot program	Within 12 months of adoption	Annual Report
Residential common interest area/HOA pilot program	Within 18 months of adoption	Annual Report

Develop a guidance document for preparing conceptual WQMP	Within twelve months of adoption	Annual Report
Review planning documents to ensure water quality protection	Within 24 months of adoption	Annual Report
Report of Waste Discharge	180 days before permit expires	Six months prior to expiration
Annual Report/Fiscal Analysis	November 15th of each year	November 15
Provide training to public agency staff and to contract field operations staff	Once in two years/3 per permit term	November 15
Re-evaluate monitoring program priorities based on previous year's data	Annually	November 15
Evaluate the DAMP	Annually	November 15
Permittee Committee meetings to discuss permit implementation and regional and state-wide issues	Held at least 6 times each year	November 15

Ordered by



Gerard J. Thibeault  
Executive Officer



February 12, 2009

Mr. Gerard Thibeault  
Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100  
San Diego, CA 92123

Via US Mail and Fax  
Mayor Mark Tettmer  
Mayor Pro Tem Peter Herzog

Council Members  
Richard Dixon  
Kathryn McCullough  
Marcia Rudolph

City Manager  
Robert C. Dunek

Subject: Comments on First Draft Order No. R8-2008-0030, Waste Discharge Requirements for the County of Orange, Orange County Resources and Development Management Department and The Incorporated Cities of Orange County Within the Santa Ana Region Areawide Urban Stormwater Runoff Orange County

Dear Mr. Thibeault:

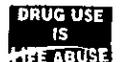
The City of Lake Forest ("City") respectfully submits this letter to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board ("SARWQCB") to convey the City's formal written comments on Tentative Order No. R8-2008-0030/NPDES Permit No. CAS618030 ("Draft Permit"). The City commends the SARWQCB staff on its preparation of the Draft Permit. The Draft Permit is well written, contains significant environmental protections, and represents a very positive starting point for the collaborative development of a mutually beneficial Large MS4 Permit.

The City is additionally aware that the County of Orange ("County") is submitting a similar comment letter regarding specific conditions contained in the Permit. The City would like to express its full support for the County's comments and intends the comments contained in this letter to supplement those submitted by the County and the other Permittees. Accordingly, please consider the County's comments to be incorporated in the City's letter by this reference. The City's comments follow.

**COMMENTS**

**Consistency with the San Diego Region Large MS4 Permit**

The City, along with several other Copermittees are subject to the jurisdiction of both the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board and the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board. Both jurisdictions issue comprehensive Large MS4 Permits that require the City to implement extensive compliance programs. Differences in the substantive requirements of both Regions' Large MS4 Permits have significant impacts on City operations. Major, program level differences force the City to implement what amounts to two different compliance programs within City limits. This results in an



unnecessary resource and administrative burden which, in turn, causes valuable resources to be diverted away from program implementation..

Additionally, differences in the timeline for adoption of both Permits impact the City's program implementation in planning, organization, and reporting. For example, it will be necessary for the City submit a revised Local Implementation Plan (the comprehensive principal guidance document at the Copermittee level) following the adoption of an MS4 Permit. Once the San Diego Region's Large MS4 Permit is adopted, it will be necessary for the City to redouble efforts to revise and submit an updated Local Implementation Plan (LIP). This, is a substantial task since preparation of the LIP will require consideration of the City's program in comprehensive terms and includes: program management, planning, organization, establishment or confirmation of legal authorities, municipal activities programs, public education, new development/significant redevelopment, construction, industrial and commercial existing development, residential programs, homeowners associations, illegal discharges and illicit connections, and water quality monitoring. The City will be required to do this twice to comply with both permit regimens. If the permits are issued at similar times and include similar reporting guidelines, the burden associated with this and other similar reporting requirements will be reduced.

A recent report by the Little Hoover Commission, an independent state oversight agency, discussed this issue in depth. The Commission recommended numerous measures to ensure consistency among the Regional Water Quality Control Boards. In order to further this goal of consistency, both Regional Boards should work together to limit the substantive differences in their respective Large MS4 Permits, and issue their permits along similar timelines.

### **Effective Impervious Area Objectives**

Draft Permit Section XII.C.3. requires the Effective Impervious Area (EIA) for priority development projects be limited to 5% or less. Section XII.C.3. further requires this to be achieved through the use of Low Impact Development ("LID") measures at the project site, as close as possible to the source of runoff. Although the Draft Permit does allow for in lieu programs and other LID alternatives, these alternatives all require LID measures – effectively requiring infiltration BMPs – at the project site, and most still require 5% EIA. The City has the following concerns with the Draft Permit's heavy reliance on LID and a 5% EIA standard:

1. The requirement for 5% EIA and encouragement of infiltration does not allow considerations of the overall site water balance and could lead to unnatural levels of groundwater infiltration. Excessive infiltration could cause a range of problems, including habitat changes in downstream water bodies that were formerly dry most of the year and/or issues with naturally occurring pollutants being mobilized (e.g., selenium).

2. Requiring the use of LID BMPs on each project site means an increase in infiltration BMPs at each site. In the aggregate, and particularly with infill redevelopment, this can promote sprawl by increasing the size of individual project sites.
3. Not all sites will need to implement the 5% EIA to prevent impacts to downstream water bodies. In some cases a combination of treatment control BMPs and LID BMPs will effectively mitigated stormwater impacts without reaching the 5% EIA threshold.
4. The EIA metric does not necessarily reflect stream dynamics and susceptibility to hydromodification. To protect stream channel geomorphology and habitat, permit standards should reflect channel conditions and rely on channel-related metrics.
5. The EIA standard may lead to poor LID implementation. Compliance with 5% EIA can be manipulated and not result in the goal of mimicking pre-development hydrology.

Because neither the EIA standard nor the benefits of LID provide an all encompassing solution to stormwater, the Draft Permit should not rely on either to the extent that it currently does. Both should be used as one measure among several to achieve runoff reductions for new development/significant redevelopment.<sup>1</sup> The City therefore requests that the Draft Permit be revised to remove or significantly revise the 5% EIA requirement.

### **Incorporation of San Diego Creek/Newport Bay Selenium TMDL**

Draft Permit section XVIII.B.3. incorporates the San Diego Creek/Newport Bay Selenium TMDL into the Draft Permit. Selenium discharges from the MS4 occur from groundwater seepage or "rising groundwater" that enters the MS4 before making its way to surface waters. Selenium is naturally occurring in the San Diego Creek Watershed, and beyond the ability of the Permittees to control. Its discharge should not be regulated in an NPDES permit, and to the extent that it is part of a TMDL, it should be recognized as a naturally occurring, background load allocation.

### **Municipal Inspections of Commercial Facilities**

Draft Permit Section X.2. sets minimum criteria for commercial facility prioritization including the requirement that 10% of a Permittee's inventory be ranked high priority, 40% be ranked medium priority, and the balance ranked low priority. Draft Permit

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<sup>1</sup> For further discussion of this issue, please refer to *Low Impact Development Metrics in Stormwater Permits* (Jan. 2009) produced by Geosyntec Consultants and Larry Walker Associates for the Ventura County Stormwater Quality Management Program and the Orange County Stormwater Program (submitted under separate cover by the County of Orange).

Section X.3 then sets aggressive inspection requirements based upon the prioritization. Requiring a specific percentage of commercial facilities to be given a set priority does not take into account the actual priority of commercial sites within a Permittee's jurisdiction. For some Permittees, more than 10% of the commercial sites within their jurisdiction should be classified high priority. For others, less than 10% would be appropriate. For that reason, the City requests that the mandatory percentage requirements for facility ranking be removed or revised to represent a suggested goal.

Additionally, the inspection frequencies established in Draft Permit Section X.3 are unreasonably aggressive, and would create a significant staffing and resource burden without providing a corresponding significant water quality improvement. For that reason, the City requests that the frequency of commercial facility inspections be reduced and made more flexible. For instance, high priority facilities could be inspected at least once within the first two years of the permit cycle, and then as needed thereafter. Subsequent inspections would be conducted at a frequency based upon the findings of the initial inspection and/or history of violations.

### **Operation and Maintenance of Post-Construction BMPs**

Draft Permit Section XII.I.3 requires the Permittees to "develop a database with information regarding each structural treatment control BMP." This provision is not clearly defined and appears to require the Permittees to develop a listing of each structural treatment control BMP in the City, no matter when it was constructed. If this is the case, it would impose an unreasonable administrative burden on the City to require it to locate and document each and every structural BMP that has been installed to date. For that reason, the Draft Permit should be revised to require any such database to be prospective, and require only newly constructed BMPs to be included in the database.

Additionally, Draft Permit Section XII.I.5 requires the annual inspection of all public agency structural treatment control BMPs and 50% of priority development project structural treatment control BMPs. While this may be initially feasible with a relatively small number of structural BMPs to inspect, the inventory of structural BMPs and the number of required inspections will increase annually until it becomes infeasible due to staff and resource constraints. For that reason, the City requests that SARWQCB revise the Draft Permit to allow for self inspection and self certification by both the City and by HOA's and other structural BMP owners. The City further requests that SARWQCB revise the Draft Permit to allow the City to use the self certifications and/or inspections as a representative sampling of all structural BMPs in the City.

### **Deliverables and Submittal Dates are Unreasonably Aggressive**

The Draft Permit includes a number of reporting and other deadlines. Some examples include the requirement that the City review and revise its Local Implementation Plan (LIP) within six months of the adoption of the Draft Permit; the Draft Permit's quarterly notification requirements for violations/potential violation of state-wide General Permits; and the deadlines associated with the Draft Permit's mobile businesses requirements. It

is the City's position that these deadlines are unreasonably aggressive and are not feasible with the City's current staff and resources. For that reason, the City requests that the Regional Board revisit the deadlines and consider adjustments to the existing reporting process.

### **Draft Permit Modifying Language for Some Enforcement and Implementation Issues**

The City is concerned that some of the modifying language for enforcement and implementation issues is unnecessary and subjective. The following are examples of the Draft Permit's use of modifying language:

- Draft Permit section VI.2. states "the permittees shall *progressively* and *decisively* take enforcement actions against any violators of their Water Quality Ordinance."
- Draft Permit section VI.3. states "[t]hese penalties shall be issued in a *decisive* manner."
- Draft permit section VIII.6. states "the permittees shall enforce their ordinances and permits at all construction sites in a *fair, firm* and *consistent* manner."
- Draft permit section VIII.8. states "[e]ach permittee shall respond to complaints received from third parties in a *timely* manner."

This language creates ambiguity about what is actually required. For that reason, the City requests that the language highlighted above, and any other such modifying language not noted here, be removed from the Draft Permit.

### **Regulation of Agricultural Runoff**

Draft Permit section III.3.i provides that irrigation water from agricultural sources "need not be prohibited if they have been determined not to be substantial contributors of pollutants to the MS4s and the receiving waters." While this provision does not immediately require the City to regulate agricultural discharges, it does allow for that possibility. The Large MS4 Permits were never intended to be used to regulate agricultural wastes. Indeed, Finding C.8 of the Draft Permit specifically states that, "[t]his order is intended to regulate the discharge of pollutants in *urban* stormwater runoff" (emphasis added). Moreover, regulation of agricultural discharges is beyond the scope of the NPDES program. (Agricultural discharges are not "point sources" within the meaning of the Clean Water Act, and EPA regulations defining the requirements of the Large MS4 Permits do not include regulation of agricultural discharges. *See* 33 USC 1362(14); 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1).) The City therefore requests that the Draft Permit be revised to omit the reference to agricultural runoff.

### **Mobile Business Tracking**

The Draft Permit requires the County to develop and implement a mobile business program for four categories of mobile businesses including: 1) mobile auto washing/detailing; 2) equipment washing/cleaning; 3) carpet, drape, and furniture cleaning; and 4) mobile high pressure or steam cleaning. The program must include tracking, identification of BMPs for the mobile businesses, development of an enforcement strategy, a notification effort for all businesses, and the development of an outreach and education program. Mobile businesses present a challenge in stormwater regulation for several reasons including:

- The regular, effective practice of unannounced inspections is difficult to impossible to implement;
- Identifying mobile businesses is difficult because they are often not permitted or licensed; and
- Mobile businesses are transient in nature, advertise a mobile phone number as the only means of contact and may have a geographic scope of several cities or the entire region.

The SARWQCB should remove the mobile business program requirements from the Draft Permit, and instead require the Permittees to develop their own program for implementation during the next permit cycle. Developing such a program will require cooperation from all of the Permittees. It may require additional ordinances. Requiring the program development over the term of this permit will ensure that the Permittees develop a plan that helps meet water quality objectives, while allowing ample time to develop and implement the necessary regulatory controls for an effective program.

### **Coyote Creek TMDL**

While the City is not directly impacted by the section of the Draft Permit incorporating TMDL requirements for Coyote Creek, the City is greatly concerned due to the unprecedented application of TMDL requirements of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to portions of the watershed under the jurisdiction of the SARWQCB. If a TMDL is promulgated for watersheds or areas within the jurisdiction of one of the regional boards, it should not be applied to another jurisdiction unless a corresponding TMDL is legally adopted within the jurisdiction, thus affording regulated entities the opportunity to participate in (and if necessary dispute) the adoption of the TMDL.

### **The Draft Permit Includes Requirements that Exceed Federal Law**

The Draft Permit includes numerous requirements that exceed the mandatory requirements imposed by federal law. The SARWQCB clearly has the authority to include such requirements in the Draft Permit, however, when so doing, it must comply

with the statutory requirements set forth in the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. (*City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal. 4th 613.) Additionally, as such requirements represent state, rather than federal, mandates, if they are included the final permit, the Permittees are entitled to reimbursement from the State for the costs associated with implementing them. (California Constitution, Article XIII B, § 6.)

### **Distribution List**

There are two apparent discrepancies on the Draft Permit's distribution list. First, Los Alisos Water District has been included on the list. Los Alisos Water District is no longer in operation, as it was absorbed by the Irvine Ranch Water District. Second, it appears that the Saddleback Valley School District was left off of the distribution list. Several other school districts are included on the distribution list, and Saddleback Valley School District should probably be included as well. This will ensure that it is aware of the Draft Permit, and its potential requirements.

### **Receiving Waters Covered by the Draft Permit**

Draft Permit Finding 19, identifying inland surface streams subject to regulation under the Draft Permit, incorrectly states that Aliso Creek is tributary to the Santa Ana River. Aliso Creek drains directly to the ocean and is not tributary to the Santa Ana River. Moreover, the Aliso Creek Watershed is outside of the jurisdiction of the SARWQCB, and is regulated by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region. Consequently, Aliso Creek should be removed from this list.

### **Table of Contents**

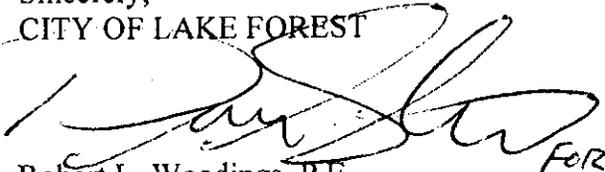
Presently, the Draft Permit does not have a table of contents. This makes navigating the 90 page document somewhat difficult. A table of contents would make the document more user-friendly, and allow individuals using the permit to save time and energy looking for the relevant sections. Please add a table of contents to the next draft.

### **CONCLUSION**

We appreciate your attention to our comments. As stated above, the City views these comments as part of the ongoing, open dialogue between the Permittees and the SARWQCB to help develop an effective Large MS4 Permit for North Orange County. The City is committed to the goal of water quality improvement and wants to work with the SARWQCB in developing the most prudent and cost effective way to reach that goal. We look forward to receiving your response to the above comments and concerns. If you should have any questions, please contact Devin Slaven, Water Quality Specialist, at (949) 461-3436.

Mr. Gerard Thibeault  
February 12, 2009  
Page 8 of 9  
First Draft Order No. R8-2008-0030

Sincerely,  
CITY OF LAKE FOREST



FOR  
Robert L. Woodings, P.E.  
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

cc: Robert C. Dunek, City Manager  
Theodore G. Simon, P.E., Engineering Services Manager  
Devin E. Slaven, REA, Water Quality Specialist  
Chris Crompton, County of Orange, RDMD





April 9, 2009

Via US Mail and E-mail

Mayor  
Mark TettererMayor Pro Tem  
Peter Herzog

Mr. Gerard Thibeault  
Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region  
3737 Main Street, Suite 500  
Riverside, CA 92501-3348

**Council Members**  
Richard Dixon  
Kathryn McCullough  
Marcia Rudolph

**City Manager**  
Robert C. Dunek

**Subject: Comments on Second Draft Order No. R8-2008-0030, Waste Discharge Requirements for the County of Orange, Orange County Orange County Flood Control District and The Incorporated Cities of Orange County within the Santa Ana Region Areawide Urban Stormwater Runoff Orange County**

Dear Mr. Thibeault:

The City of Lake Forest ("City") respectfully submits this letter to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board ("SARWQCB") to convey the City's formal written comments for the Second Draft of Tentative Order No. R8-2008-0030/NPDES Permit No. CAS618030 ("Draft Permit"). Again, the City sincerely commends the SARWQCB staff for their prudent revisions to the Draft Permit. SARWQCB staff made significant revisions in response to comments from the Copermittees, and other interested parties, to deliver a permit that appears to meet goals to protect the environment while meeting the needs of the regulated community. That being said, the City submitted comments on the first draft of the Permit that were not addressed in the most recent revision. The City's comments on these aspects of the Draft Permit follow.

The City is additionally aware that the County of Orange ("County") is submitting a similar comment letter regarding specific conditions contained in the Permit. The City would like to express its full support for the County's comments and intends the comments contained in this letter to supplement those submitted by the County and the other Permittees. Accordingly, please consider the County's comments to be incorporated in the City's letter by this reference.

## COMMENTS

### Operation and Maintenance of Post-Construction BMPs

Draft Permit Section XII.I.3 requires the Permittees to "develop a database with information regarding each structural treatment control BMP." This provision is not



clearly defined and appears to require the Permittees to develop a listing of each structural treatment control BMP in the City, no matter when it was constructed. If this is the case, it would impose an unreasonable administrative burden on the City to require it to locate and document each and every structural BMP that has been installed to date. For that reason, the Draft Permit should be revised to require any such database to be prospective, and require only newly constructed BMPs to be included in the database.

Additionally, Draft Permit Section XII.I.5 requires the annual inspection of all public agency structural treatment control BMPs and 50% of priority development project structural treatment control BMPs. While this may be initially feasible with a relatively small number of structural BMPs to inspect, the inventory of structural BMPs and the number of required inspections will increase annually until it becomes infeasible due to staff and resource constraints. For that reason, the City requests that SARWQCB revise the Draft Permit to allow for self inspection and self certification by both the City and by HOAs and other structural BMP owners. The City further requests that SARWQCB revise the Draft Permit to allow the City to use the self certifications and/or inspections as a representative sampling of all structural BMPs in the City.

#### **Deliverables and Submittal Dates are Unnecessarily Aggressive**

The Draft Permit includes several deadlines that the City feels are too aggressive and need to be rolled back. These include the six month deadline for the hydrologic condition of concern mapping requirement; and the recently revised twelve month deadline for the Draft Permit's preliminary WQMP requirements. It is the City's position that these deadlines are unreasonably aggressive and are not feasible with the City's current staff and resources. For that reason, the City requests that the Regional Board revisit the deadlines and consider adjustments to the existing reporting process.

#### **WQMP Priority Development Projects**

The City has reviewed the revisions to the Permit's Water Quality Management Plan, and Low Impact Development (LID) requirements, and appreciates the flexibility provided by the Permit's Alternatives and In Lieu provisions. Implementing all of the Permit's LID and hydromodification requirements will not be feasible in all situations. The City is especially concerned with Permit section XII.B.2.i. That section requires the Permittees to incorporate the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) guidance, "Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure: Green Streets" to the maximum extent practicable on any streets, roads, highways and freeways having 5,000 square feet or more of paved surface. Under this low threshold, almost any road construction within the City's boundaries would be required to incorporate the Green Street designs in the USEPA guidance. These design principles include using brick, permeable asphalt, and permeable pavers as preferred construction materials. They also include incorporation of swales and other infiltration BMPs into the road design. While this is a laudable goal, the

design principles advocated in the USEPA guidance are not appropriate in all locations. For example, while permeable pavers, or infiltration friendly brick-work may be appropriate in a "town-center" setting, the limited durability and ongoing maintenance requirements associated with both makes them inappropriate for use in the construction of a new turning lane on a high traffic road.

### **Coyote Creek TMDL**

While the City is not directly impacted by the section of the Draft Permit incorporating Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements for Coyote Creek, the City is greatly concerned about the unprecedented application of TMDL requirements of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board to portions of the watershed under the jurisdiction of the SARWQCB. If a TMDL is promulgated for watersheds or areas within the jurisdiction of one of the regional boards, it should not be applied to another jurisdiction unless a corresponding TMDL is legally adopted within the jurisdiction, thus affording regulated entities the opportunity to participate in (and if necessary dispute) the adoption of the TMDL.

### **The Draft Permit Includes Requirements that Exceed Federal Law**

The Draft Permit includes numerous requirements that exceed the mandatory requirements imposed by federal law. The SARWQCB clearly has the authority to include such requirements in the Draft Permit, however, when so doing, it must comply with the statutory requirements set forth in the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. (*City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal. 4th 613.) Additionally, as such requirements represent state, rather than federal, mandates, if they are included in the final permit, the Permittees are entitled to reimbursement from the State for the costs associated with implementing them. (California Constitution, Article XIII B, § 6.)

### **Distribution List**

It appears that the Saddleback Valley School District was left off of the distribution list. Several other school districts are included on the distribution list, and Saddleback Valley School District should probably be included as well. This will ensure that it is aware of the Draft Permit, and its potential

### **CONCLUSION**

We appreciate your attention to our comments. The City is committed to the goal of water quality improvement and wants to work with the SARWQCB in developing the most prudent and cost effective way to reach that goal. We look forward to receiving your response to the above comments and concerns. If you should have any questions, please contact Devin Slaven, Water Quality Specialist, at (949) 461-3436.

Mr. Gerard Thibeault  
April 9, 2009  
Page 4 of 4  
Second Draft Order No. R8-2008-0030

Sincerely,  
CITY OF LAKE FOREST

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Woodings', is written over a faint, large, stylized graphic element that resembles a signature or a logo.

Robert L. Woodings, P.E.  
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

cc: Robert C. Dunek, City Manager  
Theodore G. Simon, P.E., Engineering Services Manager  
Devin E. Slaven, REA, Water Quality Specialist  
Chris Crompton, County of Orange, RDMD





May 21, 2009

Via US Mail and Fax

Mayor  
Mark Tetterer

Mayor Pro Tem  
Peter Herzog

Council Members  
Richard Dixon  
Kathryn McCullough  
Marcia Rudolph

City Manager  
Robert C. Dunek

Mr. Gerard Thibeault  
Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region  
3737 Main Street, Suite 500  
Riverside, CA 92501-3348

Subject: Additional Comments on Tentative Order No. R8-2009-0030, NPDES No. CAS618030

Dear Mr. Thibeault:

The City of Lake Forest ("City") appreciates the continuing efforts of your staff to issue a fourth-term permit for the Orange County Stormwater Program that is responsive to the issues and concerns being raised by the Permittees and a diverse group of stakeholders. The City also appreciates your staff's attention to comments previously submitted in our correspondence dated April 9, 2009, as well as responses provided to address several issues of concern. This Tentative Order is in its fourth draft and it is understood that further changes are being contemplated.

Subsequent to the April 24, 2009, public hearing, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region released an Errata Sheet. This first Errata Sheet (May 1, 2009 distribution) presented revised language that would establish a technically robust basis for determining the applicability and feasibility of specific water quality management strategies for land development at the project level. It is also responsive to the concerns of U.S. EPA and is consistent with the suggested regulatory framework proposed by the County of Orange in its letter of May 8, 2009. The City supports the adoption of the Tentative Order incorporating the language of the first Errata Sheet which includes explicit reference in Section XII.C.2 to "similarly effective treatment control BMPs."

If you have any questions, please contact Devin Slaven, Water Quality Specialist, at (949) 461-3436.



Mr. Gerard Thibeault  
May 21, 2009  
Page 2 of 2  
Tentative Order No. R8-2008-0030

Sincerely,  
CITY OF LAKE FOREST



Robert L. Woodings, P.E.  
Director of Public Works/City Engineer

cc: Robert C. Dunek, City Manager  
Theodore G. Simon, P.E., Engineering Services Manager  
Devin E. Slaven, REA, Water Quality Specialist  
Chris Crompton, County of Orange, OC Public Works