

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

November 3, 2016

Mr. Anthony Arevalo
Storm Water/Environmental Compliance Officer
City of Long Beach
333 W. Ocean Blvd., 9th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

APPROVAL, WITH CONDITIONS, OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH'S INTEGRATED MONITORING PROGRAM FOR THE NON-PORT AREA, PURSUANT TO ATTACHMENT E, PART IV.A OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) PERMIT (NPDES PERMIT NO. CAS004003; ORDER NO. R4-2014-0024)

Dear Mr. Arevalo:

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board or Board) has reviewed the revised monitoring program for the Non-Port area (Lower Long Beach Estuaries and Coastal San Pedro Bay Beaches) submitted on July 6, 2016 by the City of Long Beach (City). This monitoring program was submitted pursuant to the provisions of NPDES Permit No. CAS004003 (Order No. R4-2014-0024), which authorizes discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) operated by the City of Long Beach (hereafter, City of Long Beach MS4 Permit). The City of Long Beach MS4 Permit allows the City the option to develop and implement an integrated monitoring program (IMP) that achieves the five Primary Objectives set forth in Part II.A of Attachment E and includes the elements set forth in Part II.D of Attachment E. This program must be approved by the Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board.

The Los Angeles Water Board has reviewed the City's revised IMP for the Non-Port area and has determined that the IMP for the Non-Port area includes the elements set forth in Part II.D of Attachment E and will achieve the Primary Objectives set forth in Part II.A of Attachment E of the City of Long Beach MS4 Permit.

Public Review and Comment

On May 7, 2015, the Board provided public notice and a 32-day period to allow for public review and comment on the City's draft IMP. A separate notice of availability regarding the draft IMP was directed to State Senators and Assembly Members within the City of Long Beach. The Board received no public comments.

Los Angeles Water Board Review

Concurrently with the public review, the Los Angeles Water Board reviewed the draft IMP. On June 6, 2016, the Los Angeles Water Board sent a letter to the City detailing the Board's

comments on the draft IMP for the Non-Port area and identifying the revisions that needed to be addressed prior to the Board's approval of the City's IMP for the Non-Port area. The letter directed the City to submit a revised IMP addressing the Los Angeles Water Board's comments. The City submitted its revised IMP for the Non-Port area on July 6, 2016 for Los Angeles Water Board review and approval. The Los Angeles Water Board staff had a teleconference on October 25, 2016 and email exchanges with the Group's representatives and consultants to discuss the Board staff's questions, tentative comments, and potential revisions to the revised IMP (Non-Port area).

Approval of IMP

The Los Angeles Water Board hereby approves, contingent on complying with the following conditions, the City's July 6, 2016 revised IMP for the Non-Port area. The Board may rescind this approval if all of the following conditions are not met to the satisfaction of the Board within the timeframe provided below.

1. Revise Table 3-2 to include fecal coliform, enterococcus, and total coliform as category 2 pollutants. Additionally, add a footnote for the aforementioned pollutants stating that the San Gabriel River, Estuary, and Tributaries Indicator Bacteria TMDL became effective on June 14, 2016.
2. Revise Section 1.2.4 to explain how and why monitoring at the proposed receiving water sites LSBR1, LSBR2 and R8 will provide representative measurement of the effects of the City's MS4 on the receiving waters to which it discharges.
3. Revise Table 1-2 Site Description column for the coastal beach sites B5, B56, B60, B7, and B8 to add a more descriptive site description (i.e. beach name, street name).
4. Revise Table 3-3 footnote 3 to specify that one of the two wet weather events monitored for aquatic toxicity will be the first significant storm event of the storm year and that the dry weather event monitored for aquatic toxicity will be during the month with the historically lowest flows.
5. Revise Table 3-3 under General and Conventional Pollutants to omit the sentence "(All except total phenols, turbidity, BOD₅, MTBE, and perchlorate, chloride, and fluoride)". Per Attachment E Parts VI.C.1.e and VI.D.1.d, these constituents must be monitored at a minimum in the first year of monitoring during the first significant rain event of the storm year and during the critical dry weather event.
6. Revise Table 3-5 to add turbidity, MTBE, total phenols, and cyanide.
7. Revise the text on pages 38-39 consistent with Conditions 5 and 6, above.
8. Revise Table 1-2 for LCC1 by adding a table note to explain that while LCC1 is located in the receiving water, it is treated as an outfall site for purposes of this IMP in order to establish a boundary condition for the pollutant loads entering the portion of Los Cerritos Channel within the City's jurisdiction from the upstream area.
9. In Section 1.2 of the IMP 4th paragraph, revise the 3rd sentence to replace "west of the Pier (Figure 1-3b)" with "east of the Pier (Figure 1-3b)".
10. Revise Table 6-3 footnote 2 to reference Appendix E instead of Appendix C.
11. Revise Appendix A to add a protocol for collecting samples that fully represent all runoff from each storm event without limiting the time period to 24 hours as previously discussed with Los Angeles Water Board staff.
12. Revise Section 2 under Non-Stormwater Outfall Program to define significant non-tidal flow.
13. Revise Section 6.1 to define "high flow" which is referenced for "Suspect Discharge".

In separate correspondence to all Permittees developing Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs (CIMPs) and IMPs, the Los Angeles Water Board on August 7, 2015 provided clarification of requirements for toxicity monitoring – specifically regarding additional toxicity monitoring upstream and at outfalls where toxicity is identified during a sampling event at a receiving water monitoring site. The IMP must follow the requirements for toxicity monitoring as clarified in the August 7, 2015 memorandum.

The City shall submit a final IMP for the Non-Port area to the Los Angeles Water Board that satisfies all of the above conditions no later than **November 22, 2016**. Pursuant to Attachment E, Part IV.C.5 of the City of Long Beach MS4 Permit, the City must commence implementing its monitoring program within 30 days after this approval of the final IMP (i.e., no later than November 16, 2016). Please note that the City for the Non-Port area is responsible for complying with all reporting provisions included in Attachment E, Part XIV – XVIII and Section A of Part XIX, “Reporting Requirements for Dominguez Channel and Greater Harbors Waters WMA TMDLs,” Section B of Part XIX, “Reporting Requirements for the Los Angeles River WMA TMDLs,” Section C of Part XIX, “Reporting Requirements for San Gabriel River WMA TMDLs,” Section D of Part XIX, Reporting Requirements for Los Cerritos Channel WMA TMDLs”, and Attachment D, Part IV, V, and VII.A of the City of Long Beach MS4 Permit as amended by Order No. R4-2014-0024-A01. Finally, the City is also responsible for complying with the following requirements under Annual Reporting and Adaptive Management.

Annual Reporting

Within the reporting year, through its Annual Report per Attachment E, Part XVIII of the City of Long Beach MS4 Permit, the City shall provide an Integrated Monitoring Report that summarizes all identified exceedances of:

- outfall-based stormwater monitoring data,
- wet weather receiving water monitoring data,
- dry weather receiving water monitoring data, and
- non-storm water outfall monitoring data

against all applicable receiving water limitations, water quality-based effluent limitations, non-storm water action levels, and aquatic toxicity thresholds as defined in Sections XII.F and G of this MRP. All sample results that exceeded one or more applicable thresholds shall be readily identified.

The Annual Report shall also include a Municipal Action Level (MAL) Assessment Report, which shall present the stormwater outfall monitoring data in comparison to the applicable MALs, and identify those subwatersheds with a running average of twenty percent or greater of exceedances of the MALs in discharges of stormwater from the MS4. Please note that beginning in Year 3 after the effective date of the City of Long Beach MS4 Permit (March 28, 2017), the City shall submit a MAL Action Plan with the Annual Report (first MAL Action Plan due with December 15, 2017 Annual Report) to the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer, for those subwatersheds with a running average of twenty percent or greater of exceedances of the MALs in any discharge of storm water from the MS4. Please note that implementation of an approved Watershed Management Program (WMP) or Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP) per Part VII.C of the City of Long Beach MS4 Permit fulfills all requirements related to the development and implementation of the MAL Action Plan, as per Attachment G of the City of Long Beach MS4 Permit, for those pollutants addressed by the WMP or EWMP.

Adaptive Management

The Los Angeles Water Board or its Executive Officer, consistent with 40 CFR section 122.41, may approve changes to the Monitoring and Reporting Program, after providing the opportunity for public comment, either:

1. By request of the City or by an interested person after submittal of the Monitoring Report. Such request shall be in writing and filed not later than 60 days after the Monitoring Report submittal date, or
2. As deemed necessary by the Los Angeles Water Board Executive Officer, following notice to the City.

As part of the adaptive management process, any modifications to the IMP must be submitted to the Los Angeles Water Board for review and approval. The City must implement any modifications to the IMP upon approval by the Los Angeles Water Board or its Executive Officer, or within 60 days of submittal of modifications if the Los Angeles Water Board or its Executive Officer expresses no objections.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Erum Razzak of the Storm Water Permitting Unit by electronic mail at Erum.Razzak@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (213) 620-2095. Alternatively, you may also contact Mr. Ivar Ridgeway, Chief of the Storm Water Permitting Unit, by electronic mail at Ivar.Ridgeway@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at (213) 620-2150.

Sincerely,



Samuel Unger, P.E.
Executive Officer

cc: Ara Maloyan, Director of Public Works, City of Long Beach
John L. Hunter, P.E., John L. Hunter and Associates, Inc.
Marty Stevenson, Kinnetic Labs, Inc.