



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Thomas Howard
Executive Director
California State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, California 95812-0100

NOV 03 2011

Dear Mr. Howard:


Thank you for submitting the Basin Plan Amendment containing the revised Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for metals in the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. Based on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) review of the TMDL submittal under Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d), I have concluded the TMDL adequately addresses the pollutant of concern and, upon implementation, will result in attainment of the applicable water quality standards for the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. All required elements are adequately addressed; therefore, the TMDL is hereby approved pursuant to CWA section 303(d)(2).

EPA received the State Water Resources Control Board's complete TMDL package for approval on September 14, 2011. The TMDL includes load and waste load allocations as needed, takes into consideration seasonal variations and critical conditions, and provides an adequate margin of safety. The State has provided adequate opportunities for public review and comment on the TMDL, and demonstrated how public comments were considered in the final TMDL. EPA's letter to Renee Purdy, Regional Board, dated March 11, 2010, strongly recommended the use of performance-based effluent limitations to reflect the publically owned treatment works improvement in effluent water quality, which ensures the beneficial uses are fully protected.

The TMDL submittal also contains a detailed plan for implementing the TMDL. Current federal regulations do not define TMDLs as containing implementation plans; therefore, EPA is not taking action on the implementation plan provided with this TMDL. However, EPA concurs with the State's proposed implementation approaches.

If you have any questions concerning this approval, please call me at (415) 972-3572 or Emily Pimentel at (415) 972-3326.

Sincerely yours,


Alexis Strauss 3 Nov. 2011
Director, Water Division

Enclosure

cc: Samuel Unger, RB4