

## California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

TO: South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA)  
South Orange County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Copermitees  
(via Email; see attached mailing list)

In reply refer to / attn:  
257590:bposthumus  
257592:bposthumus  
658018:bposthumus

**Subject: Requirements for Implementation of a Unified Beach Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Program in South Orange County (Water Code Section 13383)**

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR section 122.48 requires that all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. California Water Code section 13383 also authorizes the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) to establish monitoring and reporting requirements for discharges to surface waters regulated by NPDES permits within the San Diego Region.

This letter serves to establish requirements, pursuant to Water Code section 13383,<sup>1</sup> that your agencies participate in, and, together with Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA), share responsibility for implementation of the unified regional monitoring program (Unified Program) set forth in the attached report ("Workgroup Recommendation for a Unified Beach Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Program in South Orange County"), effective April 1, 2015. A draft of this letter was made available for public review and written comments for a 30-day period starting on October 30, 2014; no written comments were received.

The Unified Program, which is incorporated herein, was developed during the period from July 2012 to September 2014 by a workgroup that included representatives of SOCWA, Orange County Public Works, OCHCA, and other entities and individuals with interests in beach water quality in south Orange County. The Unified Program is intended to be protective, reasonable, and equitable and to meet or go beyond meeting the requirements for beach water quality monitoring and related public notification and reporting established by State law.

Effective April 1, 2015, the requirements established through issuance of this Water Code section 13383 letter directive will become enforceable components of the monitoring and reporting requirements of the NPDES permits for discharges from the (a) SOCWA Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall, (b) SOCWA San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall, and (c) south Orange County MS4s.<sup>2</sup> This letter directive is being issued to the NPDES permittees for those discharges, i.e., SOCWA (permittee for discharges from the Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall and the San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall) and the County of Orange,

<sup>1</sup> Use of an Executive Officer-issued directive, e.g., pursuant to Water Code section 13383, to require participation in and shared responsibility for implementation of the Unified Program and to specify the effective date of any revisions thereto facilitates putting the program and any such revisions into effect expeditiously and with the same effective date for all parties.

<sup>2</sup> The order numbers and NPDES numbers of these three permits, respectively, are:  
(a) SOCWA Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall: Order No. R9-2012-0013 (NPDES No. CA0107611);  
(b) SOCWA San Juan Ocean Outfall: Order No. R9-2012-0012 (NPDES No. CA0107417); and  
(c) south Orange County MS4s: Order No. R9-2013-0001, (NPDES No. CAS0109266)

Orange County Flood Control District, and the cities of Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano (copermittees for discharges from the south Orange County MS4s).

The Executive Officer or the San Diego Water Board may approve future revisions to the Unified Program by updating this letter directive, provided that the Unified Program, as revised, will continue to meet the requirements of State law, including the California Ocean Plan, for beach water quality monitoring and related public notification and reporting requirements. Any future revisions requested by affected permittees or interested parties, or as deemed necessary and/or appropriate by the Executive Officer, will be subject to a 30 (thirty) day public comment period and request for hearing before the San Diego Water Board.

Under Water Code section 13389, issuance of this Water Code section 13383 letter directive is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code sections 21100-21177).

Any person aggrieved by this action of the San Diego Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the date of this Order. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.

Ordered by James G. Smith, AEO  
for DAVID W. GIBSON  
Executive Officer

DATE: December 5, 2014

DWG:jgs:jch:bwj

Attachments:

1. Mailing List
2. "Workgroup Recommendation for a Unified Beach Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Program in South Orange County"

Tech Staff Info & Use	
Place ID	257590
Place ID	257592
Place ID	658018

## ATTACHMENT 1

### Mailing List

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