UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 9

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN DIEGO REGION

JOINT NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

by the

California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92108-2700 Telephone: (619) 521-3362 United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 9, WTR 2-3 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105-3901 Telephone: (415) 972-3035

Public Notice Date: September 12, 2025 Comment Period Closes: October 13, 2025

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 (USEPA) are jointly seeking public comments on proposed revisions to Tentative Order No. R9-2025-0005 (formerly R9-2024-0005), NPDES Permit No. CA0107409, Waste Discharge Requirements and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for the City of San Diego E.W. Blom Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the Point Loma Ocean Outfall (revised Tentative Order and Permit).

The San Diego Water Board and USEPA previously solicited public comment on the initial Tentative Order and draft NPDES Permit (initial Tentative Order and Permit) and USEPA's Tentative Decision Document (TDD) for the Clean Water Act section 301(h) waiver between March 1, 2024, and April 2, 2024. Following two court decisions¹, the San Diego Water Board and USEPA have revised the Initial Tentative Order and Permit to be consistent with the court rulings and to make some minor corrections. The San Diego Water Board and USEPA now seek public comments only on the revisions to the initial Tentative Order and Permit, which are shown in red font. A redline copy of the revised Tentative Order and Permit showing additions in underline and deletions in strikeout will be provided. Provisions of the revised Tentative Order and Permit that are not affected by these modifications are not subject to public written comment at this time. In addition, USEPA is not reopening the comment period for the 301(h) waiver TDD.

The San Diego Water Board and USEPA will provide a full response to all public comments, including those received during the 2024 public comment period.

¹ The March 4, 2025, Supreme Court decision in City and County of San Francisco v. USEPA (145 S.Ct. 704) and the August 5, 2025, California Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District decision in Camarillo Sanitary District v. State Water Resource Control Board (113 Cal.App.5th 407).

Document Availability

Information related to this matter, including the revised Tentative Order and Permit, may be reviewed at the offices of the San Diego Water Board or USEPA (addresses above), during normal business hours, or at the following webpages:

https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/CA0107409 and

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board decisions/tentative orders/).

Submission of Written Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments on the revised Tentative Order and Permit during the public comment period, either in person, by e-mail, or by mail, to the attention of Julie Song at USEPA (Song.Julie@epa.gov) and Joann Lim at the San Diego Water Board (Joann.Lim@waterboards.ca.gov), or at the San Diego Water Board's December 10, 2025, public meeting. Please indicate in the subject line of all written comments "Comment - Tentative Order No. R9-2025-0005." The deadline for submittal of written comments is **5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 13, 2025**.

People providing an oral comment at the San Diego Water Board's December 10, 2025, public meeting on the Tentative Order and Permit are strongly encouraged to submit their comments in writing by **October 13, 2025**, to facilitate consideration of the comments by the San Diego Water Board and USEPA.

The San Diego Water Board and USEPA may refuse to accept written comments received after the October 13, 2025, deadline. Late comments will not be accepted if doing so would prejudice any party in accordance with section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

Public Meeting on Tentative Order and Permit

The San Diego Water Board will conduct a public meeting on these proposed actions during the San Diego Water Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at the San Diego Water Board Meeting Room, 2375 Northside Drive, San Diego California. The USEPA will join this state-led meeting as this Tentative Order and Permit are consolidated State of California and federal NPDES permits. This item will be heard during a meeting that starts at 9:00 a.m. The meeting agenda, which will indicate any changes in the meeting location and may provide other specific information concerning this hearing, will be posted at least two weeks prior to the meeting date at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_info/agendas/. Reasonable time limits may be set for oral statements. The meeting facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. The meeting notice and agenda for this meeting will provide contact information for persons requesting special accommodations.

The procedures governing San Diego Water Board meetings may be found in the California Code of Regulations (CCRs) title 23, section 647, *et seq.* and are available upon request.

Contact for Further Information

Please contact Julie Song (415-972-3035, <u>Song.Julie@epa.gov</u>) or Joann Lim (619-521-3362, <u>Joann.Lim@waterboards.ca.gov</u>) for information regarding the above listed Tentative Order and Permit and TDD. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of any person known to you who would be interested in these matters.