

SUPPLEMENTAL
EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
February 13, 2013

- ITEM: 8
- SUBJECT: NPDES Permit Reissuance: City of San Diego, Discharges from South Bay Water Reclamation Plant to the Pacific Ocean via the South Bay Ocean Outfall, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0006, NPDES Permit No. CA0109045) (*Joann Lim*)
- RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0006 with errata is recommended.
- DISCUSSION: Comments on the Tentative Order from the City of San Diego (City) have been provided to the San Diego Water Board Members as Supporting Document No. 3. The City's comment letter included two substantive comments on the Tentative Order regarding issues of importance to the City as well as a number of other comments requesting clarification, corrections of minor errors and various modifications to the monitoring program. A Response to Comments document and Tentative Order Errata Sheet (Supporting Document Nos. 5 and 6) have been prepared to address all the comments and concerns in the City's comment letter. The City's substantive comments included:
1. A request to remove the compliance schedule from the Tentative Order for ensuring the South Bay Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP) discharge does not cause or contribute to violations of receiving water bacterial objectives; and
 2. A request that the San Diego Water Board reconsider the Tentative Order's application of the Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) beneficial use and bacterial water quality objectives (REC-1 standards), to the Pacific Ocean within the area of state waters extending from the shoreline to 3 nautical miles and at all depths.
- San Diego Water Board staff has concluded in the Response to Comments document that the Tentative Order

compliance schedule for demonstrating compliance with the receiving water bacterial objectives is not needed at this time. This conclusion is based upon the City's historic receiving water monitoring record for the SBWRP discharge, the City's SBWRP permit compliance record and the correlation of bacterial water quality objective exceedances with the formerly primary treated discharge from the neighboring South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant. The deletion of the compliance schedule is listed in the Tentative Order Errata Sheet.

San Diego Water Board staff has also concluded in the Response to Comments document that no change to the Tentative Order is recommended in regard to the City's comment on the expanded application of REC-1 standards to ocean waters. The California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan) specifies that the REC-1 standards apply to ocean waters used for water contact recreation as determined by the San Diego Water Board. Because the San Diego Water Board has not completed a process to designate specific areas where the Ocean Plan's REC-1 standards apply, the REC-1 standards apply throughout all jurisdictional ocean waters in the San Diego Region extending three nautical miles into the Pacific Ocean from the shoreline. The requirement to meet receiving water bacterial objectives in this expanded zone is consistent with similar requirements in other San Diego Water Board ocean outfall NPDES Permits.

The Response to Comments document and Errata Sheet were sent to all interested persons on February 6, 2013.

**SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS:**

(Supporting Documents Nos. 1 through 4 have already been provided to the San Diego Water Board Members and are not included here.) Supporting Document Nos. 5 and 6 are new materials.

1. Location Map
2. Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0006
3. City of San Diego January 10, 2013 Comment Letter
4. Compliance Record
5. San Diego Water Board Response to Comments
6. Errata Sheet to Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0006