

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

February 23, 2018

In reply refer to:
656543:RMitchell

To: Investigative Order Parties List

Subject: Administrative Draft of Tentative Investigative Order No. R9-2018-0021, An Investigative Order Requiring the Submittal of Technical and Monitoring Reports to Quantify the Sources and Transport Pathways of Human Fecal Material to the San Diego River Watershed

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) is releasing for your review the enclosed administrative draft of the Tentative Investigative Order No. R9-2018-0021 (Tentative Investigative Order). The Tentative Investigative Order proposes to direct the following agencies (Dischargers) to submit technical and monitoring reports to identify and quantify the sources and transport pathways of human fecal materials to the San Diego River Watershed.

- City of San Diego
- City of Santee
- City of El Cajon
- City of La Mesa
- County of San Diego
- Padre Dam Municipal Water District
- Ramona Municipal Water District
- San Diego State University
- Metropolitan Transit System
- California Department of Transportation

Development of the Tentative Investigative Order is in response to the San Diego Water Board's consideration of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) Surfer Health Study¹ and other relevant studies that have identified human fecal matter in the San Diego River Watershed and that controlling human fecal sources is the most cost-effective method for reducing risk to human health. The San Diego Water Board is appreciative of these efforts by SCCWRP, the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, and other contributing agencies to proactively take steps towards identifying and quantifying the sources and transport pathways of human fecal materials in the San Diego River Watershed.

The preparation and submittal of the technical and monitoring reports by the Dischargers as required by the Tentative Investigative Order is needed to 1) identify and quantify relative contributions of suspected sources of human fecal material in wet weather discharges to the San Diego River, 2) determine the transport pathways of such discharges, and 3) determine how this information will be used by each Discharger to assess the effectiveness of current management measures in preventing discharges of human fecal material into the San Diego River, its tributaries, and the downstream beach coastal waters.

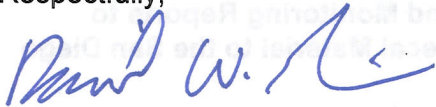
¹ Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), SCCWRP Technical Report 943, The Surfer Health Study, A Three Year Study Examining Illness Rates Associated with Surfing During Wet Weather, September 2016, available at [ftp://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/TechnicalReports/943_SurferHealthStudy.pdf](http://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/TechnicalReports/943_SurferHealthStudy.pdf) as of January 22, 2018.

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As a preliminary step in this matter the San Diego Water Board will host a meeting, on March 28, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., to review the scope and requirements of the Tentative Investigative Order for each Discharger. The meeting will be held at the San Diego Water Board office, Board Meeting Room, located at 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100, San Diego, California 92108. Each Discharger is requested to submit no later than **March 7, 2018** written confirmation of their plans to attend the March 28, 2018 meeting.

In the subject line of any response, please include the reference number 656543:RMitchell. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Roger Mitchell by phone at (619) 521-5898, or by e-mail at Roger.Mitchell@waterboards.ca.gov.

Respectfully,



DAVID W. GIBSON
Executive Officer
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DWG:jgs:dtb:law:rnm

Enclosure: Tentative Investigative Order No. R9-2018-0021

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bcc: Storm Water and Wastewater Heads of Departments List (via e-mail only)

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