NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
DRAFT CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION AND ORDER FOR DREDGED OR FILL DISCHARGES TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES (WDID NO. 302019-09)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Santa Ana Water Board) is releasing for public review and comment the draft Clean Water Act section 401 Water Quality Certification and Order (Order; WDID No. 302021-09) for the City of Newport Beach’s (Permittee) Lower Newport Bay Confined Aquatic Disposal Construction Project (Project). The Project’s purpose is to construct a confined aquatic disposal (CAD) facility in the central portion of Lower Newport Bay. The Project would provide a permanent disposal location for contaminated sediment determined unsuitable for open ocean disposal from the Lower Newport Bay Federal Channels (Federal Channels), as well as sediment outside of the Federal Channels not permitted under the Permittee’s Maintenance Dredging Program Regional General Permit 54 (RGP 54). Additionally, dredged material generated from the construction of the CAD facility appropriate for beach nourishment would be placed along nearshore ocean beaches or disposed of at an approved open ocean disposal site.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS
The Santa Ana Water Board will accept written comments on the draft Order during a two-week public comment period. Persons wishing to submit written comments on the draft Order are requested to do so as soon as possible, but comments must be received no later than September 16, 2022.

Interested persons are invited to express their comments on the Project in writing. Written comments should be concise and can be submitted to Maher Zaher at Maher.Zaher@waterboards.ca.gov. Hand deliveries and mailed comments should be sent to the address below:

Attn: Maher Zaher, Water Resource Control Engineer
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501
DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY
A copy of the draft Order is available on the “Tentative Orders” page of the Santa Ana Water Board's Public Notice website.

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the draft Order may be made by calling the Santa Ana Water Board at (951) 782-4130.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS
Questions regarding this matter should be directed to Maher Zaher by email at Maher.Zaher@waterboards.ca.gov.