



State Water Resources Control Board



Division of Water Quality

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

DEC 7 2007

Mr. Donald L. Wolfe, Director
Department of Public Works
County of Los Angeles
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91803-1331

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

RESPONSE TO LETTER CONCERNING STORMWATER DISCHARGES INTO AREAS OF SPECIAL BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Thank you for the addendum to your California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan) exception application package dated November 8, 2007, which included a report titled "Summary of the Biological Resources of the Malibu Area of Biological Significance Mugu Lagoon to Latigo Point" by Dr. Richard F. Ambrose of UCLA. The submission of this report fulfills the biological requirement of the County of Los Angeles' exception application.

Your letter mentions the previous inclusion of extensive existing water quality data for your area in your original application and previous addenda. However, these submittals did not pertain to any of the County's discharges as identified in the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project's (SCCWRP) 2003 Final Report, nor did they contain any of the chemistry and toxicity data, as we have previously requested. Water quality data is essential for understanding the effects of runoff on natural water quality in the Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). Your participation in the regional water quality monitoring effort being developed by SCCWRP is an acceptable substitute for the absence of water quality data in your application.

Therefore, this letter is to inform you that we have deemed your application conditionally complete, based on the condition that you support the SCCWRP ASBS reference envelope water quality pilot monitoring during the 2007-08 storm season.

Your conditionally complete application supports the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) consideration of an exception to the Ocean Plan for discharges to ASBS. As a responsible party with a conditionally approved application, you will be considered for coverage under an exception.

The exception is likely to include minimizing or eliminating pollutants discharged to the ASBS to protect natural water quality in the receiving waters. In the meantime, you must continue to plan for and institute best management practices to reduce pollutants, and eliminate all dry weather flows. If the exception is granted, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) may allow your nonpoint source and/or storm water discharges to be covered under

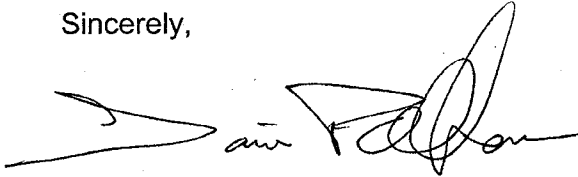
California Environmental Protection Agency

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a Conditional Waiver, Waste Discharge Requirements, and/or a Storm Water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit with appropriate provisions required in your storm water management plan. In all cases, the Los Angeles Water Board will enforce the mitigation measures to be described in the exception granted by the State Water Board.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (916) 341-5458 (Dpolhemus@waterboards.ca.gov) or Dominic Gregorio, Senior Environmental Scientist, Ocean Unit, at (916) 341-5488 (dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality

cc: Ms. Tracy Egoscue, Executive Officer
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Mr. Reed Sato, Director
Office of Enforcement
State Water Resources Control Board

