



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92521

August 18, 2017

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



Subject: Comment Letter – Small MS4 Permit Amendment

These comments on the proposed amendment to the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Implementing Region-Specific Total Maximum Daily Load Requirements are submitted on behalf of the University of California, Riverside campus. We appreciate the collaborative approach taken by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board to these proposed amendments, and the opportunity to submit comments.

Comment 1: Attachment G – Region-Specific Requirements, Region 8: Santa Ana Regional Board, TMDL for Middle Santa Ana River *Bacterial Indicator*
Alternative participation in stakeholder group comprehensive bacteria reduction plans should be included

The proposed Requirements for Implementing the TMDL for Middle Santa Ana River *Bacterial Indicator* include "...a watershed-wide compliance monitoring and facility specific bacterial indicator monitoring program that is adequate to determine compliance with the dry and wet season waste load allocation. The Permittees may alternatively participate in a stakeholder group monitoring program for the same purpose."

The proposed Requirements for Implementing the TMDL for Middle Santa Ana River *Bacterial Indicator* also include facility-specific dry season and wet season bacterial indicator reduction plans. In contrast to the monitoring provisions, however, the requirement for facility-specific bacterial indicator reduction plans does not provide for alternative participation in comprehensive, watershed-wide bacteria reduction plans, as described in the draft Fact Sheet, and stakeholder group plans such as the Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plan approved for the Riverside County MS4 Permit. Participants in the Riverside County MS4 Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plan include the principal permittee Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, and co-permittee City of Riverside, both of which completely surround the University of California, Riverside campus. We request that the SWRCB consider including, as an alternative to a facility-specific bacteria reduction plan, participation in a more geographically comprehensive bacteria reduction plan for the Middle Santa Ana River Bacterial Indicator TMDL.

Comment 2: Attachment G – Region-Specific Requirements, Region 8: Santa Ana Regional Board, TMDL for Middle Santa Ana River *Bacterial Indicator*
Wasteload allocations should be directly incorporated into Attachment G to clearly identify Region-Specific TMDL Requirements

The Attachment G Deliverables/Actions Required column includes a statement "The wasteload allocations identified in the Fact Sheet of this Order are incorporated by reference." It would be helpful to permittees to include all Region-Specific TMDL Requirements in Attachment G, rather than reference the Fact Sheet. The University of California, Riverside concurs with the California Stormwater Quality Association Comment 7 in its comment letter dated July 20, 2017: "It is confusing for the MS4 Permittee and



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inconsistent with the Code of Federal Regulations to incorporate the WLAs by reference from the Fact Sheet. Fact sheets, which are required for major NPDES permits and general permits per 40 CFR 124.8, "set forth the principal facts and the significant factual, legal, methodological, and policy questions considered in preparing the draft permit." The Fact Sheet is intended to support the basis for the permit requirements, not include additional requirements."

Conclusion

The University of California, Riverside respectfully requests the following proposed revisions to Attachment G for the Middle Santa Ana River TMDL *Bacterial Indicator*:

1. Extend the flexibility provided through alternative participation in a stakeholder group bacterial indicator monitoring program to include alternative participation in a comprehensive bacteria reduction plan such as the currently approved Riverside County MS4 Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plan.
2. Incorporate wasteload allocations directly into Attachment G rather than by reference to the Fact Sheet. This would promote and enhance understanding of Deliverables/Actions Required.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments on behalf of the University of California, Riverside campus. If there are any questions regarding this information, or if supporting document is needed, please contact Amanda Grey by e-mail at amanda.grey@ucr.edu or by phone at (951) 827-2416.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amanda Grey".

Amanda Grey
Environmental Programs Manager
University of California, Riverside
Environmental Health & Safety

cc: Albert Vasquez, UC Riverside Enterprise Risk Management