

SCAP**LA Region Water Issues Task Force**

October 16, 2001 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (LACSD)

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October 16, 2001 - 10 a.m. - 12 noon

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21.				
22.				

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* PUT ON EMAIL LIST OF THIS SUB COMMITTEE + ON WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE LIST.

Updating the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters

Presentation to SCAP
October 16, 2001

Status

■ October 2001

- Finalize data analysis
- Determine support status for 305(b)
- Review and finalize recommendations for new listings & de-listings

■ November 2001

- Write staff report
- Conduct public workshop
- Present results to Regional Board
- Forward recommendations to State Board

Assessment Guidelines

■ Assessment Guidelines

- U.S. EPA guidance (EPA-841-B-97-002B, 1997)
- Methodologies developed through statewide programs
 - Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program (BPTCP)
 - State Mussel Watch Program (SMWP)
 - Toxic Substances Monitoring Program (TSMP)

**Relationship between
305(b) and 303(d)**

- 305(b) Water Quality Assessment
 - ┆ Regional assessment of water quality
 - ┆ To determine degree of beneficial use support of water bodies
 - ┆ Fully supporting beneficial uses
 - ┆ Partially supporting
 - ┆ Not supporting
- 303(d) List of Impaired Waters
 - ┆ Waters that are *partially supporting* or *not supporting* beneficial uses

Assessment Guidelines

- Conventional pollutants, stressors & bacteria
 - ┆ e.g., dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, turbidity
 - ┆ Impaired if >10% of samples exceed
- Toxic Substances (e.g., priority pollutants, ammonia)
 - ┆ Impaired if acute or chronic criteria exceeded > 1 time or in >10% of samples within a 3-year period (based on grab or composite samples)

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- Beach closures
- Fish and shellfish consumption advisories
 - ┆ Fully supporting: No restrictions or bans
 - ┆ Partially supporting: Restricted consumption
 - ┆ Not supporting: "No consumption" ban

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- Other guidelines will be used where EPA guidance does not exist.
- The following guidelines were used:
 - ┆ Sediment chemistry
 - ┆ ERM (Effects Range Median) - Long et al. 1995
 - ┆ PEL (Probable Effects Level) - MacDonald 1996
 - ┆ The level above which toxic effects are expected to occur
 - ┆ Used by BPTCP

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- ┆ Fish tissue contamination
 - ┆ Compared to MTRs (Maximum Tissue Residual Levels) - developed by SWRCB from human health water quality objectives
 - ┆ NAS Guidelines - to protect organisms containing the toxic compounds and species that consume them
 - ┆ Used in State Mussel Watch Program
- ┆ Water column toxicity
 - ┆ per Basin Plan - no chronic toxicity; acute toxicity - survival no less than 70% in a single test and no less than 90% as averaged from 3 consecutive tests

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- For water column constituents, use a minimum of 10 data points over assessment period (July 1997-May 2001)
- For sediment chemistry, sediment toxicity and benthic community
 - ┆ Evaluating data for a longer time period (where the 1996 assessment stopped)

Water Quality Standards

- Primarily:
 - Basin Plan objectives
 - Ocean Plan objectives
 - California Toxic Rule criteria
 - Sediment ERM/PEL guidelines
 - Tissue MTRLS/NAS guidelines
 - Benthic community (RBI from BPTCP)

De-listing Factors

- More recent monitoring data do not indicate impairment
- Tissue listings based solely on EDLs (Elevated Data Levels)
- TMDL approved by U.S. EPA
- Control measures in place that will result in protection of beneficial uses

Listing Factors

- Beneficial uses are impaired based upon evaluation of chemical, physical or biological integrity
- Data indicate that tissue concentrations exceed applicable tissue criteria or guidelines
- Waterbody is on the 303(d) and no new monitoring has been conducted
- Fishing, drinking water or swimming advisories in effect

Preliminary Draft Results

- 68 de-listings
 - ┆ Primarily waterbodies listed for tissue concentrations exceeding EDLs
 - ┆ Some sediment chemistry de-listings based on more recent data
 - ┆ Two de-listings for water column toxicity and some chemistry based on more recent data
 - ┆ East Fork of San Gabriel - de-listing based on approved Trash TMDL

Preliminary Draft Results

- 112 new listings
 - ┆ 54 water column chemistry or physical parameters
 - ┆ 1 water column toxicity
 - ┆ 7 bacteria (fecal coliform/total coliform)
 - ┆ 20 tissue
 - ┆ 26 sediment chemistry & toxicity
 - ┆ 3 benthic community degradation

Next Steps

- Still completing data analysis
 - ┆ bacteria
 - ┆ water column metals
- Review findings and prepare 305(b) report and 303(d) list recommendations

SCAP

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ANNOUNCEMENT
MEETING DATE AND LOCATION CHANGE
WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETINGS



cc: DS
 JB
 MB
 Renee D.
 Pls Rtn

To: *SCAP Member Agencies and Los Angeles Region Water Issue Working Groups*
 From: *Raymond C. Miller, Executive Director*

Los Angeles Region Water Issues Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, July 18, 2001 - 10 AM - 12 NOON

AND

LA Region 303 (d)/305 (b) Work Group Meeting

Wednesday, July 18, 2001 - 12 NOON - 2 PM

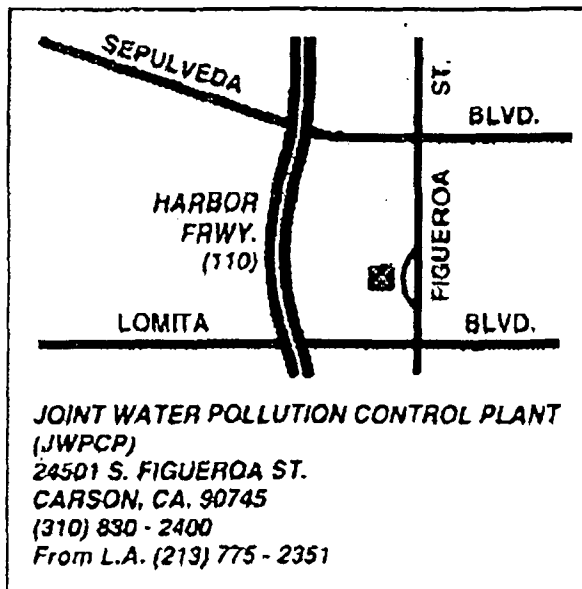
Joint Water Pollution Control Plant

24501 S. Figueroa Street, Carson, CA 90745

Staff members from the Regional Boards that we invited were unable to attend our meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, July 17th, so the meetings have been rescheduled to Wednesday, July 18th. Due to difficulties in acquiring a meeting room at LACSD offices, we have also moved the meeting location to the auditorium at LACSD's Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson. If you need directions or a map faxed to you, please contact Emily Estrada at (562) 699-7411, x2500.

The morning meeting agenda will include a presentation by Ashli Cooper of Larry Walker Associates about the ammonia site-specific objective being developed for the LA and San Gabriel Rivers, a discussion about issues regarding the 13267 monitoring letter, and other issues. In the afternoon meeting, Deb Smith (schedule permitting), Jonathan Bishop, and Renee DeShazo from the Regional Board will join us for an informal lunch and discussion of comments received and the process they foresee for the upcoming 305 (b) water quality assessment and 303 (d) list. Attached is a comment letter we sent to the LA Regional Board.

We apologize for any inconvenience these changes may have caused. Please RSVP by 4 pm on Thursday, July 12, 2001, to Kris at the SCAP office. For those of you who RSVP'd for the Tuesday meetings, we request that you please RSVP again if you are able to attend on Wednesday.



Updating the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters

**SCAP Brown Bag Luncheon
July 18, 2001**

Activities to Date

- Fall 2000 - targeted solicitation for data
- March 5, 2001 - sweeping solicitation for data from all interested parties
- May 15, 2001 - data submittal deadline

Data Submission

- Data received from approximately 35 agencies and individuals
 - Dischargers
 - Watershed groups
 - Environmental groups
 - Municipalities
 - Lake associations
 - Water suppliers
 - State and federal agencies

Current Status

- Checking data and transferring to in-house database
 - Data in many different formats
 - Significant effort to combine databases
- Reviewing assessment guidelines

Next Steps

■ August/September 2001

- Analyze data by watershed
- Determine support status for 305(b)
- Identify waters not achieving water quality standards

■ October 2001

- Recommend to State Board changes to 303(d) list of impaired waters

Relationship between 305(b) and 303(d)

■ 305(b) Water Quality Assessment

- Regional assessment of water quality,
- to determine degree of beneficial use support of water bodies
 - Fully supporting beneficial uses
 - Partially supporting
 - Not supporting

■ 303(d) List of Impaired Waters

- Waters that are *partially supporting* or *not supporting* beneficial uses

Assessment Guidelines

- Starting point: Guidelines used in 1996
- Review & revise based on more recent U.S. EPA guidance (EPA-841-B-97-002B, 1997)

Assessment Guidelines

- Conventional pollutants & stressors (e.g., dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature)
 - "Fully supporting" if $\leq 10\%$ of samples exceed water quality standard
 - "Partially supporting" if 11-25% exceed
 - "Not supporting" if $> 25\%$ exceed
- Relevant beneficial uses:
 - Aquatic Life, REC-1/REC-2, Agriculture

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- Toxic Substances (e.g., priority pollutants, ammonia)
 - Fully supporting if no more than 1 violation of chronic criteria, and no more than 1 violation of acute criteria within a 3-year period (based on grab or composite samples)
 - Partially supporting if criteria exceeded more than once but in $\leq 10\%$ of samples
 - Not supporting if criteria exceeded in $> 10\%$
- Relevant beneficial use: Aquatic Life

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

■ Drinking Water (MUN)

- Fully supporting: Contaminants do not exceed water quality standards
- Partially supporting: Contaminants exceed standards intermittently
- Nonsupport: Contaminants exceed water quality standards consistently

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- Bacteria objectives for recreation
 - Fully supporting: Geometric mean standard & threshold/single sample standards met
 - Partially supporting: Geometric mean met, but threshold/single sample standards exceeded
 - Not supporting: Neither standard met
- Beach closures

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

■ Beach closures

- Fully supporting: No closures or restrictions in effect
- Partially supporting: On average, one closure per year of less than 1 week's duration
- Nonsupport: More than 1 closure/year, or on average, 1 closure/year $>$ 1 week's duration

■ Beach postings

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- Fish and shellfish consumption
 - Fully supporting: No restrictions or bans
 - Partially supporting: Restricted consumption
 - Not supporting: "No consumption" ban

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- Other guidelines will be evaluated where EPA guidance does not exist.
- In 1996, the following guidelines were used:
 - Sediment chemistry
 - | background and/or ER-L/ER-M levels
 - Sediment toxicity
 - | determine significant toxicity threshold
 - | <60% survival used in 1996

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

I Water column toxicity

I per Basin Plan - no chronic toxicity; acute toxicity - survival no less than 70% in a single test and no less than 90% as averaged from 3 consecutive tests

I Fish tissue contamination

I compare to criteria such as MTRs, FDA action levels, NAS guidelines for predator protection, ATCs, etc.

Assessment Guidelines

(continued)

- Where possible, use 10 data points over 3-year period
- If not possible, a minimum of 3 and revise criteria to >40% of samples for "Not Supporting" (used in 1996)