June 17, 2009

Ms. Tracy Egoscue, Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Attn: Man Voong

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED 2008 303(d) LIST OF WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENTS AND STAFF REPORT

Dear Ms. Egoscue:

The City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Sanitation (Bureau) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board’s (RWQCB) proposed 2008 Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments and staff report.

We believe in general that RWQCB staff has improved the transparency of the listing process. Where sufficient information has been provided in fact sheets, this transparency has helped stakeholders to assess the proposed listing in a more informed manner. In particular, the Bureau commends the effort that RWQCB staff has undertaken to make available more fact sheets for proposed listings, as well as to collect and review readily available data and information in conformance with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California’s Clean Water Act § 303(d) List (Listing Policy).

The Bureau generally supports the Region’s 2008 CWA §303(d) List. However, after reviewing the proposed changes to the 2008 List, the Bureau remains concerned about a number of specific issues with the RWQCB staff’s proposal. It is our intention that the attached comments and the supporting data will assist the RWQCB in assessing our local waterbodies and further refine the CWA §303(d) List to the benefit of all of the Region’s inhabitants.
Ms. Tracy Egoscue, Executive Officer
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The Bureau provides world-class environmental services and continues to support the Regional Board and its mission by funding on-going regional water quality research via the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, the Stakeholder process for TMDL development, and focused receiving water studies in order to better understand existing conditions and provide solutions to address water quality in the Los Angeles region. This investment in the future is done in partnership with your agency to achieve maximum return in local environmental programs and infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If there are any questions, please feel free to call Mr. H.R. (Omar) Moghaddam, Regulatory Affairs Division Manager at (310) 648-5423 or Mr. Jim Marchese, Environmental Supervisor at (310) 648-5421.

Sincerely,

ENRIQUE C. ZALDIVAR, Director
Bureau of Sanitation

Enclosures
Bureau of Sanitation City of Los Angeles - Appendix Technical Comments proposed 2008 CWA § 303(d) list
Bureau’s October 18, 2006 CWA § 303(d) correspondence

c: Man Voong, California Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region
Michael Mullin, Mayor’s Office
Chris Westhoff, City Attorney
Rafael Prieto, Chief Legislative Analyst Office
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