

January 28, 2013



Chair Hoppin and Members of the Board c/o Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814 commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Subject: COMMENT LETTER – VENTURA RIVER ALGAE TMDL

Dear Mr. Hoppin:

The County of Ventura, Ventura County Watershed Protect District, City of Ventura, and City of Ojai (hereafter referred to as the "Ventura MS4s") appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed approval of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Regional Water Board), Los Angeles Region's amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Regional that would incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load for Algae, Eutrophic Conditions, and Nutrients in Ventura River, including the Estuary, and its Tributaries (Ventura River Algae TMDL). The Ventura River Algae TMDL was adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Board on December 6, 2012.

As stakeholders in the Ventura River Watershed, we have worked closely with Los Angeles Regional Water Board staff on the Ventura River Algae TMDL to develop a TMDL that will result in a mechanism for reducing nutrient discharges and also maintain the ability of the stakeholders in the watershed to coordinate and effectively implement the TMDLs. We feel that the TMDL that was adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Board achieves that goal.

We would like to express our support for the Ventura River Algae TMDL and request that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) approve the TMDL as proposed. As this is a consent decree TMDL with a deadline of March 24, 2013, we appreciate the SRWCB's rapid consideration of this TMDL. We feel it is important to get this TMDL effective as soon as possible to avoid conflicts with EPA promulgated TMDLs to address the same listings that will become effective in March 2013.

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We appreciate the State Board's consideration of our support for the Ventura River Algae TMDL as adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Board on December 6, 2012. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (805) 654-5051 or email at <u>Gerhardt.Hubner@ventura.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Gerhardt Hubber, on behalf of County of Ventura, Ventura County Watershed Protect District, City of Ventura, and City of Ojai

Cc: Tully Clifford, Director, Ventura County Watershed Protection District Jeff Pratt, Director, Ventura County Public Works Ewelina Mutkowska, Stormwater Program Manager, County of Ventura Sam Unger, Executive Officer, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Renee Purdy, Chief of Regional Programs, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Jenny Newman, Section Chief, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Ray Olson, Environmental Sustainability Manager, City of Ventura Greg Grant, Director of Public Works Agency, City of Ojai