

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

**320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Public Notice No. 26-012**

**PROPOSED TERMINATION OF
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS AND
TITLE 22 WATER RECLAMATION REQUIREMENTS**

DISCHARGER	FACILITY LOCATION	RECEIVING WATER
United States Department of the Navy (San Clemente Island Wastewater Treatment Plant)	Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, San Clemente Island, CA	San Pedro Channel Islands – San Clemente Island Groundwater Basin

The San Clemente Island Wastewater Treatment Plant (SCI WWTP), located on San Clemente Island, California, is a publicly-owned treatment works owned by the United States federal government and operated by the United States Department of the Navy (hereinafter U.S. Navy or Discharger). Administrative and operational control of the facility falls under Naval Base Coronado. Facility maintenance, engineering, and operations are coordinated by Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Southwest, acting on behalf of Naval Base Coronado as the Facility operator. SCI WWTP serves an estimated population of approximately 500 military personnel and civilian contractors. Public access to San Clemente Island is restricted. The SCI WWTP consist of a package type of secondary WWTP and a package type tertiary WWTP, and is permitted to discharge up to 0.025 million gallons per day (MGD) of secondary and tertiary-treated effluent to the Pacific Ocean. These discharges are regulated under Order No. R4-2024-0182, a permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES; Permit No. CA0110175). The secondary and tertiary treated effluent is also used for non-potable reuse at the facility, and water reclamation and recycling activities are regulated under separate Water Reclamation Requirements (WRRs) and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) contained in Order No. R4-2015-0107, adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board on May 14, 2015.

On June 7, 2023, the Discharger ceased operations of the tertiary treatment system and the production of recycled water due to faulty membrane bioreactor filters. On April 1, 2026, the Discharger submitted a request to terminate Order No. R4-2015-0107, indicating that it will no longer operate the tertiary portion of the WWTP and will solely discharge secondary-treated effluent to the Pacific Ocean, without any recycled water uses, under Order No. R4-2024-0182.

On May 18, 2026, the Discharger submitted a decommissioning work plan for review to the Los Angeles Water Board, State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW), and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

(LACDPH). DDW is responsible for ensuring that the decommissioning work complies with Title 22 health standards and protect local drinking sources. LACDPH manages the local cross-connection control program and verifies the safe disconnection of recycled water systems.

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the Los Angeles Water Board tentatively proposes to terminate Order No. R4-2015-0107.

PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

The Los Angeles Water Board will hold a public hearing on the Tentative Termination Order during the regular Los Angeles Water Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: **December 17, 2026**
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: 320 W 4th Street, Carmel Room
Los Angeles, California 90013

A virtual platform is also available for those who want to join online. Please follow the directions provided in the agenda to register or to view the Los Angeles Water Board meeting.

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Los Angeles Water Board will hear any testimony pertinent to the termination of the discharge, WDRs, and NPDES permit. Oral testimony will be heard; however, for accuracy of the record, important testimony should be in writing.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our [Web address](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_info/agenda/) is http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_info/agenda/, where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Tentative Termination Order, decommissioning work plan, comments received, and other documents on file are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday by appointment at the following address:

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

The tentative requirements are available on the Los Angeles Water Board website at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.html#4.

The entire file will become a part of the administrative record of this proceeding, irrespective of whether individual documents are specifically referenced during the hearing. The entire file will not be present in the hearing room. Should any interested persons desire staff to bring to the hearing any documents that are not included in the agenda packet, they must submit a written or electronic request to staff during business

hours no later than five business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

NATURE OF HEARING

This will be a formal adjudicative hearing pursuant to section 648 et seq. of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Chapter 5 of the California Administrative Procedure Act (commencing with section 11500 of the Government Code) will not apply to this proceeding.

Ex Parte Communications Prohibited: As a quasi-adjudicative proceeding, no Los Angeles Water Board member may discuss the subject of this hearing with any person, except during the public hearing itself. Any communications to the Los Angeles Water Board must be directed to staff.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF BEFORE THE HEARING

The lead staff member responsible for this item is:

Esther Tse
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013
esther.tse@waterboards.ca.gov

PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

U.S. Department of the Navy

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff no later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on, or object to, the tentative termination of Order No. R4-2015-0107 or submit evidence for the Los Angeles Water Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing to Esther Tse at esther.tse@waterboards.ca.gov. To be evaluated and responded to by the Los Angeles Water Board staff, included in the Los Angeles Water Board's agenda folder, and fully considered by the Los Angeles Water Board, written comments or testimony regarding the tentative documents must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2026.**

Pursuant to section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, written comments or evidence submitted after the comment deadline will not be allowed or accepted into the Administrative Record without a showing of good cause for the delay, and in no event if any party or the Los Angeles Water Board would be unduly prejudiced by the late submittal including if staff or the Los Angeles Water Board would not have an adequate opportunity to review, consider, and respond to the comments or evidence.

Additionally, if the Los Angeles Water Board receives only supportive comments, the permit may be placed on the Los Angeles Water Board's consent calendar and approved without oral testimony.

HEARING PROCEDURE

The Los Angeles Water Board meeting, of which this hearing is a part, will start at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to attend. When the agenda item is called, staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Los Angeles Water Board will include in the administrative record written transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to five minutes or less for each interested person, depending on the number of interested persons wishing to be heard.

Parties or interested persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak and are encouraged to coordinate their presentations with each other. Parties will be advised after the receipt of public comments, but prior to the date of the hearing, of the amount of time each is allocated for presentations. That decision will be based upon the complexity and number of issues under consideration, the extent to which the parties have coordinated, the number of parties and interested persons anticipated, and the time available for the hearing. The parties are invited to contact staff not later than **December 3, 2026**, (two weeks prior to the hearing) to discuss how much time they believe is necessary for their presentations, and staff will endeavor to accommodate reasonable requests. At the conclusion of testimony, the Los Angeles Water Board will deliberate in open or closed session, and render a decision.

The Los Angeles Water Board meeting does not generally require the prior identification of witnesses, the cross examination of witnesses, or other procedures not specified in this notice. Parties or persons with special procedural requests or requests for alternative hearing procedures should contact staff, who will endeavor to accommodate reasonable requests. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing no later than close of business 15 business days prior to the date of the hearing. (Any objections related to the amount of time allocated for parties' presentations must be submitted within two business days of notice thereof, if that date is less than 15 business days before the hearing.) Absent such objections, any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, all cases will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting on **February 25, 2027**. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

Date: October 16, 2026