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Public Comment
Ballona Creek TMDLs
Deadline: 5/13/14 by 12:00 noon

—
ENRIQUE C. ZALDIVAR
DIRECTOR

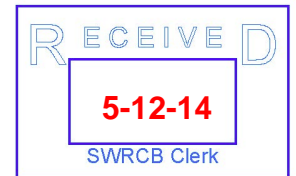
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May 12, 2014



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

Dear Ms. Townsend,

**TECHNICAL COMMENTS LETTER FOR DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE BASIN
PLAN TO REVISE THE TMDLS FOR METALS IN BALLONA CREEK AND TOXIC
POLLUTANTS IN THE BALLONA CREEK ESTUARY**

The City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation appreciates the opportunity to provide technical comments on the draft Amendment to the Basin Plan to revise the Total Maximum Daily Loads for Metals in Ballona Creek and the Total maximum Daily Loads for Toxic Pollutants in the Ballona Creek Estuary (Basin Plan Amendment.)

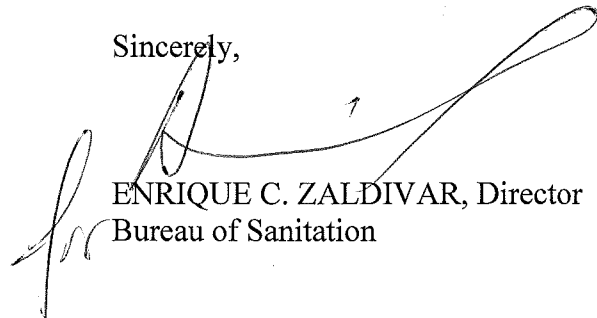
The City supports the compliance with the Toxic TMDL via the alternative approaches provided in the Basin Plan including State's Sediment Quality Objectives (SQOs). The State approved SQO through multiple lines of evidence ensures the protection of all beneficial uses of the Ballona Creek (BC) and the estuary. The City appreciates the inclusion of the re-opener prior to the final compliance date. As recognized in the BPA for the Dominguez Channel and Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Waters Toxics TMDLs (Harbor), it may be necessary to make adjustments to the TMDL to be responsive to new State policies including SQO Part II, the toxicity policy and results of special studies for Harbor and Ballona Toxics TMDLs that are expected to be completed within the next few years. The re-opener provides the opportunity for Ballona TMDLs to benefit from the finding of relevant State policies and scientific studies.

The Bureau is committed to improving and protecting the local environment as evidenced by the leadership role the City has taken in implementing TMDLs, and in proactively implementing clean water projects such as Echo Park Lake Ecosystem Rehabilitation Project which was initiated prior to a TMDL, via the voter approved Proposition O ballot measure.



If you have any additional questions regarding the Bureau of Sanitation's technical comments, please contact the Watershed Protection Division's Assistant Division Manager, Ms. Donna Chen at (213) 485-3928 or Ms. Shokoufe Marashi, Ph. D. staff lead on this TMDL at (213) 485-3937.

Sincerely,



ENRIQUE C. ZALDIVAR, Director
Bureau of Sanitation

ECZ:DC:SM
WPDCR9118

cc: Sam Unger, California Regional Water Quality Control Board – Los Angeles Region
Deborah J. Smith, California Regional Water Quality Control Board – Los Angeles Region
Renee Purdy, California Regional Water Quality Control Board – Los Angeles Region
L.B. Nye, California Regional Water Quality Control Board – Los Angeles Region
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Traci Minamide, Bureau of Sanitation/EXEC
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