State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
May 9, 2018

ITEM: 6

SUBJECT: NPDES Permit Amendment: An Order to amend Order No. R9-2015-0002 as amended by Order No. R9-2016-0099, NPDES No. CA0107492, Waste Discharge Requirements for Padre Dam Municipal Water District, Ray Stoyer Water Recycling Facility, Discharge to Sycamore Creek, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2018-0028) (*Fisayo Osibodu)*

PURPOSE: To consider adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2018-0028 amending Order No. R9-2015-0002 (Tentative Order).

RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of the Tentative Order is recommended (**Supporting Document No. 1**).

KEY ISSUES: The Tentative Order proposes to amend the biological monitoring protocols for Sycamore Creek consistent with the latest science for using benthic macroinvertebrates and algae surveys for assessing the condition of a waterbody.

PRACTICAL VISION: The proposed amendments to Order No. R9-2015-0002 are consistent with the principles of the *Monitoring and Assessment* chapter of the Practical Vision and the San Diego Water Board's *Framework for Monitoring and Assessment in the San Diego Region*. These documents establish the San Diego Water Board's intent to work collaboratively with dischargers to facilitate development of useful water body-oriented monitoring and assessment programs that are question-driven, and scientifically and statistically sound.

DISCUSSION: Order No. R9-2015-0002 establishes waste discharge requirements for the discharge of up to 2 million gallons per day of tertiary-treated wastewater from the Ray Stoyer Water Recycling Facility (Facility) to Sycamore Creek (see **Supporting Document No 2**).

Order No. R9-2015-0002 requires the Padre Dam Municipal Water District (Discharger) to survey macroinvertebrate and algal communities in Sycamore Creek semi-annually. Macroinvertebrate surveys evaluate the effects of the Facility's discharge on benthic macroinvertebrates in Sycamore Creek and assessing the biological condition of the creek. Algal surveys provide information on the environmental condition of Sycamore Creek, including an evaluation of any potential to cause downstream biostimulatory effects.

The Tentative Order proposes to amend the biological monitoring requirements of Order No. R9-2015-0002 to address protocol deficiencies and to allow for use of recently developed methods for conducting bioassessment.

The San Diego Water Board released the Tentative Order for public comment on February 9, 2018. No comments were received on the Tentative Order; however, a change has been made to the Tentative Order to clarify that the Discharger may perform stream bioassessments at an alternative site selected by the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition for the San Diego River Watershed Monitoring and Assessment Program in lieu of conducting bioassessments in Sycamore Creek in October each year (see **Supporting Document No 3)**.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:
1. Tentative Order No. R9-2018-0028
2. Location Map
3. Errata Sheet

PUBLIC NOTICE: The Tentative Order was released for formal public review and sent to known interested parties by email on February 9, 2018. A public notice was published in the San Diego Union Tribune on February 16, 2018. Notice for this public hearing to consider adoption of the Tentative Order was posted on the San Diego Water Board webpage and sent by email to known interested parties on February 22, 2018.