



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

6010 Hidden Valley Road Suite 105
Carlsbad, CA 92011

September 7, 2010

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Office of the Chief
Regulatory Division

ATTN: NWU:749045:bneili

David Gibson, Executive Officer
Regional Water Quality Control Board
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100,
San Diego, California 92123-4353

Dear Mr. Gibson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the San Diego Region – Riverside County Storm Water Permit. As you are aware, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been developing a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) for the San Jacinto and Santa Margarita Watersheds. There is direct overlap between the Santa Margarita portion of the SAMP and the San Diego Region – Riverside County Storm Water Permit.

The language proposed in the permit and the actions and studies proposed would complement the work being done for the SAMP. Ideally, the regulatory processing and permitting for the State and Federal agencies would be aligned and streamlined for the cities and County within this area. We remain committed to working with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Board) and the jurisdictions to bring this idea to fruition.

Within the permit itself, the Watershed Water Quality work plan and the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program are of particular interest. Unfortunately due to time constraints, we are not able to do a thorough review and comparison of the language at this time, but would like to work with the Board and the affected jurisdictions to streamline permitting and improved the water quality in the watershed.

The studies mentioned in the permit appear to have great value, and we would encourage the jurisdictions to complete them and applaud the Board for including them in the permit. Although all the studies mentioned in the permit are worthwhile, we draw particular interest to and support the inclusion of the MS4 and Receiving Water Maintenance Study and the Intermittent and the Ephemeral Stream Perennial Conversion Study in the final permit.

There are many additional comments that could be made regarding the permit; however,

due to staffing and time limitations, these comments are abbreviated and limited. We would like to dedicate time in the near future to work with your staff and the jurisdictions in supporting actions to comply with the Clean Water Act and provide clean water to all of our communities.

Thank you for receiving our comments, should you have any questions, please contact me at 760.602.4830 or via e-mail at therese.orourke@usace.army.mil. Please refer to this letter and SPL-2010-00860-TOR in your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Therese O'Rourke Bradford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "T".

Therese O'Rourke Bradford
Chief, South Coast Branch
Regulatory Division