



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105



Jeanine Townsend
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Dear Ms. Townsend,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed approval of an amendment to incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for the Indicator Bacteria in the Santa Clara River Estuary and Reaches 3, 5, 6, and 7. The TMDLs meet all federal regulatory requirements under Clean Water Act 303(d). We support the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to adopt the TMDLs to meet California's TMDL commitments.

EPA reviewed the proposed basin plan amendment (BPA) and Staff Report during the consideration of the TMDL by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Resolution No. R10-006), and supported the adoption of the TMDL with recommended modifications (Letter dated June 7, 2010).

EPA also reviewed this proposed amendment and finds that it includes all the required elements of a TMDL. EPA strongly supports the SWRCB's proposed adoption of this TMDL. We also appreciate the inclusion of specific actions and milestones in the associated implementation plan to provide greater clarity of implementation expectations for all stakeholders.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (213) 244-1803.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cindy Lin", followed by the date "July 27, 2011" written in the same ink.

Cindy Lin
TMDL Liaison, Water Division

Enclosure

cc: Sam Unger, Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board