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May 19, 2017

VIA DROPBOX

Ms. Heather Halsey
Executive Director
Commission on State Mandates
980 9th Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Joint Test Claimants' Rebuttal Comments Concerning California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, Order Nos. R9-2015-0100 and R9-2015-0001, 15-TC-02

Dear Ms. Halsey:

Attached please find the Joint Test Claimants' Rebuttal, plus supporting attachments and documentation to the (1) Comments of the State Water Resources Control Board and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region and (2) the Comments of the Department of Finance regarding the above-referenced Test Claim.

The documents submitted are the Rebuttal Comments, Attachment 1 (Declaration of David W. Burhenn and Exhibit A), Attachment 2 (Declaration of Karen Ashby and Exhibits 1-6) and Documentation, Tabs 1-21.

Please contact me if you or your staff has any questions regarding these documents. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

David W. Burhenn

DB:dwb

CLAIMANTS' REBUTTAL TO COMMENTS OF STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD AND CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION AND DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CONCERNING TEST CLAIM 15-TC-02, CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION, ORDER NOS. R9-2015-0100 AND R9-2015-0001

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I. INTRODUCTION

Claimants County of Orange, the Orange County Flood Control District, and the Cities of Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano ("Claimants") seek in this Test Claim a subvention of funds for mandates imposed by California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region Order No. R9-2015-0100 (the "Regional Permit"), a municipal stormwater permit issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region ("Regional Board").[1] This Regional Permit replaced a prior, 2009 stormwater permit (the "2009 Permit") which had previously regulated Claimants' municipal stormwater discharges.

There are 11 mandates at issue in this Test Claim:

1. New requirements to strictly comply with numeric water quality standards mandated by the Regional Permit, including new requirements to develop and implement comprehensive watershed modification projects and management actions via the Water Quality Improvement Plans ("WQIP") process in furtherance of meeting numeric standards imposed by the Regional Permit (Regional Permit, Provisions A.2 and A.4).

2. New requirements incorporating numeric effluent limitations for Total Maximum Daily Loads ("TMDLs") (Regional Permit, Provisions A.3.b and Attachment E).

3. New requirements to develop goals, strategies, schedules, assessment and adaptive management strategies, and watershed coordination in the development and implementation of watershed based WQIPs, requirements which also shift to the Claimants the Regional Boards' responsibility under the

[1] As set forth in Claimants' Narrative Statement, the Regional Permit is comprised of a 2013 permit and two amendments. On May 8, 2013, Regional Board adopted Order No. R9-2013-0001, the 2013 permit, which became effective on June 27, 2013. Order No. R9-2013-0001 regulates stormwater discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems ("MS4s") on a regional basis, including San Diego County, southwestern Riverside County and south Orange County. At the time Order No. R9-2013-0001 was adopted, however, it did not regulate MS4 discharges in south Orange County because the Claimants were still governed by an existing MS4 permit covering only those municipalities. On February 11, 2015, the Regional Board adopted Order No. R9-2015-0001, which amended the 2013 permit to include the regulation of MS4 discharges by the Claimants. On November 18, 2015, the Regional Board issued Order No. R9-2015-0100, which further amended the Permit to include the regulation of discharges from MS4s in southwestern Riverside County. The Second Amended Permit imposed mandates on all permittees within the San Diego Region additional to those set forth in the 2013 Permit and the First Amended Permit.

CWA to develop TMDLs (Provisions B and F).

4. New requirements to develop numeric goals, strategies and analyses in conjunction with an "alternative compliance" provision (Provision B.3.c).

5. New requirements to manage critical sediment yield areas in accordance with hydromodification management standards (Provision E.3.c(2)).

6. New requirements to update a BMP Design Manual in response to increased regulation (Provision E.3.d and F.2.b).

7. New requirements to develop and implement a residential inspection program (Provision E.5).

8. New requirements to retrofit existing development and rehabilitate streams within areas of existing development (Provision E.5.e).

9. New requirements to update an enforcement response plan in response to increased regulation (Provision F.6).

10. New requirements to update the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan to incorporate expanded Regional Permit requirements (Provision F.2.a).

11. New requirements to appear before the Regional Board on request by the Board and to prepare and make presentations on topics identified by the Board (Provision F.3.a).

The State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Board (collectively, "Water Boards") contend that Claimants are not entitled to a subvention of funds because these mandates are not "new programs or higher levels of service" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, that the mandates are federal rather than state, and that Claimants have fee authority to pay for the mandates. The Department of Finance ("DOF") likewise contends that Claimants have fee authority to pay for these mandates.[2]

None of these arguments has merit. The mandates at issue require the providing of services to the public and impose unique requirements on Claimants, have never been previously required of Claimants, are not compelled by federal law, and cannot be funded through fees or assessments. No other statutory exception to subvention applies either.

Claimants will first discuss the regulatory framework that underlies municipal stormwater permits. Claimants will then set forth the facts and legal authority establishing that the Regional Permit is an executive order within the meaning of Government Code § 17516; that the Permit's requirements are not the result of Claimants' discretion; that each mandate is a state mandate within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6, *i.e.*, that it is a new program or higher level of

[2] DOF's comments are directed solely at Claimants' alleged fee authority and do not address other aspects of the Test Claim.

service and that it is not compelled by federal law; that no other statutory exception applies; and that they do not have fee authority to pay for these mandates.

II. THE STATUTORY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE PERMIT

The Regional Permit is issued as both a "waste discharge requirement" under the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act ("Porter-Cologne"), Water Code § 13000 et seq., and as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit under the federal Clean Water Act ("CWA").[3] In 1969, three years before Congress enacted the CWA, the California Legislature adopted Porter-Cologne, which established the State Board and the nine regional control boards as the agencies responsible for the coordination and control of water quality.[4] Under Porter-Cologne, any person who discharges or proposes to discharge "waste" that could affect the quality of the "waters of the state" is required to obtain a waste discharge requirement permit.[5]

In 1972 Congress adopted what later became known as the CWA. In so doing, Congress expressly preserved the right of any state to adopt or enforce standards or limitations respecting discharges of pollutants or the control or abatement of pollutants, so long as such provisions are not "less stringent" than federal law.[6]

Under the CWA, the discharge of a pollutant to a navigable water of the United States is prohibited unless the discharge is in accordance with one of the statutory provisions of the Act.[7] One of those provisions is the NPDES permit program.[8]

The CWA provides that states may administer their own NPDES permit programs in lieu of the federal program.[9] A state's decision to do so is entirely voluntary, and if the state chooses not to administer this program, NPDES permits for that state are issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA").[10]

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[3] Regional Permit at 1 (Finding I.2).

[4] Water Code § 13001 (Vol. II, tab 17 of Documentation in Support of Test Claim (hereafter, "Test Claim Doc."); *Dept. of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates* (2016) 1 Cal.5th 749, 755-56 ("*Dept. of Finance*").

[5] Water Code §§ 13260 and 13263 (filed herewith as Tabs 11 and 12 of Documentation in Support of Rebuttal Comments ("Rebuttal Doc."); *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 756.

[6] 33 U.S.C. § 1370 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 11); *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 756. See also 40 C.F.R. § 123.1(i) (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 12) ("Nothing in this part precludes a State from: (1) Adopting or enforcing requirements which are more stringent or more extensive than those required under this part; (2) Operating a program with a greater scope of coverage than that required under this part.").

[7] 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a) (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 5).

[8] 33 U.S.C. § 1342 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 8).

[9] 33 U.S.C. § 1342(b); 40 C.F.R. § 123.22 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 3).

[10] *See* 33 U.S.C. § 1342(a); *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 756.

To effectuate California's issuance of NPDES permits, the Legislature in 1972 added Chapter 5.5 to the Porter-Cologne Act.[11] In so doing, the Legislature ensured that California law would mirror the CWA's savings clause by authorizing the State Board and regional boards to not only issue permits that complied with the CWA's requirements, but also to include in them "any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance."[12] "Accordingly, California's permitting system now regulates discharges under both state and federal law."[13]

In California, waste discharge requirements and NPDES permits are issued by the State Board and the nine regional boards.[14] Such permits can include both federal requirements and any additional state requirements that are more stringent than the federal requirements.[15] These additional state requirements are state-imposed and subject to the requirements of state law.[16]

Under the CWA, municipal stormwater permits

(i) may be issued on a system or jurisdiction-wide basis;

(ii) shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers; and

(iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.[17]

EPA regulations specify the information to be included in a permit application.[18]

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[11] Water Code § 13370 *et seq.*; *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 757.

12 Water Code § 13377 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 15). (As used in Water Code § 13377, the term "waste discharge requirements" is equivalent to the term "permit" under the CWA. Water Code § 13374. (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 13.)

[13] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 757.

[14] Water Code §§ 13263 and 13377.

[15] *Id.*

[16] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2005) 35 Cal.4th 613, 627-28 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. III, Tab 7).

[17] 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B).

[18] *See* 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(1)(i)-(vi), (2) (i)-(viii) (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 13). *See generally* Claimants' Narrative Statement at 5-4 to 5-5.

III. THE REGIONAL PERMIT IS AN EXECUTIVE ORDER WITHIN THE MEANING OF GOVERNMENT CODE §17516

As an initial matter, it is undisputed that the Regional Permit is an "Executive Order" within the meaning of Government Code § 17516. Government Code § 17516 defines an "Executive Order" to be "any order, plan, requirement, rule or regulation issued by. . . (c) Any agency, department, board, or commission of state government."

The Regional Permit falls within this definition. It is an order (Nos. R9-2015-0100 and R-9-2015-001) issued by the Regional Board, a state agency.[19] It contains a plan for addressing pollution and requirements with which Claimants must comply. The Water Boards do not contend otherwise.

IV. THE PERMIT PROVISIONS AT ISSUE WERE NOT THE RESULT OF CLAIMANTS' DISCRETION

There is also no dispute that the Regional Permit provisions at issue are not the result of Claimants' discretion. Under federal and state law, all operators of municipal storm sewer systems are required to have a NPDES permit and/or Waste Discharge Requirements issued by the Regional Board.[20]

As the Commission found in both the test claim on the 2001 Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board permit and the 2007 San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board permit for the County of San Diego and certain cities contained therein, municipal stormwater permittees do not voluntarily participate in the NPDES permit and therefore the content of prescriptive permit conditions imposed by regional boards are not the result of the permittees' discretion.[21]

Obtaining the Regional Permit was not a discretionary choice. The Water Boards do not contend otherwise.

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[19] Water Code § 13201(a) (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 9).

[20] 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p); Water Code §§ 13260, 13263, 13376 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 14) and 13377. See also 40 C.F.R. §§ 122.21(a) (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 2) and 123.25(a)(4) (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 4) (requiring any person who discharges or proposes to discharge pollutants to submit an application for issuance of a permit). An NPDES permit is required where there is a discharge of a pollutant from a "point source" to a water of the United States. 33 U.S.C. § 1342(a).

[21] See *In re* Test Claim on Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Order No. 01-182, Test Claim Case Nos. 03-TC-04, 03-TC-19, 03-TC-20, and 03-TC-21, Statement of Decision, July 31, 2009 ("Los Angeles County Statement of Decision") at 19-21 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 18); *In re* Test Claim on San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Order No. R9-2007-001, Case No. 07-TC-09, Statement of Decision, March 26, 2010 ("San Diego County Statement of Decision") at 33-35 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 19).

V. THE WATER BOARDS' GENERAL RESPONSES LACK MERIT

The Water Boards first make general responses to the mandates at issue. All lack merit.

A. The Mandates are New Programs or Higher Levels of Service

The Water Boards first contend that all 11 mandates are not new programs or higher levels of service because the CWA as a general matter applies to both governmental and non-governmental entities and the Claimants have been the subject of prior NPDES permits.[22] The Commission has, however, already rejected these same arguments in prior test claims.

1. The Regional Permit is a "Program" within the Meaning of Article XIII B, Section 6

A program that carries out a governmental function of providing services to the public, or laws which, to implement a state policy, impose unique requirements on local governments, is a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.[23] The Water Boards contend that the Regional Permit is not a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6, not because the Regional Permit is not a program that carries out a governmental function of providing services to the public or is not uniquely imposed on local government, but because the CWA requires both private and public entities in general to obtain NPDES permits.[24]

The Commission has, however, already rejected this argument. In the Los Angeles County Statement of Decision, the Commission found that the test is not whether the NPDES program applies to both public and private entities, but whether the specific mandate at issue, here the Regional Permit, carries out a governmental function or imposes unique requirements on local governments. The Commission said:

> In other words, the issue is not whether NPDES permits generally constitute a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6. The only issue before the Commission is whether the permit in this test claim . . . constitutes a program because this permit is the only one over which the Commission has jurisdiction. Because they apply exclusively to local agencies, the Commission finds that the activities . . . in this permit (Los Angeles Regional Quality Control Board Order No. 01-182, Permit CAS004001) constitute a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.[25]

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[22] Water Boards' Response, dated February 16, 2017 ("WB Response") at 11-13, 17-18.

[23] *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 56; *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates* (2003) 110 Cal.App.4th 1176, 1189.

[24] WB Response at 17-18.

[25] Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 49.

The Commission reached the same conclusion with respect to the 2007 San Diego County stormwater permit.[26]

The same reasoning applies here. As the Commission previously held, the Regional Permit at issue here carries out a governmental function of providing services to the public and imposes unique requirements on Claimants not imposed on nongovernmental entities. The permit's provisions apply exclusively to local agencies. The permit is therefore a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.

2. The Regional Permit's Programs are New or Constitute a Higher Level of Service

Notwithstanding the fact that Claimants have never been required to implement the mandates at issue prior to issuance of the Regional Permit, the Water Boards also contend that the mandates are not new. In support of this claim, the Water Boards argue that Claimants were subject to other requirements imposed by prior permits.[27]

The Water Boards' argument lacks merit. As set forth above, a program that carries out a governmental function of providing services to the public, or laws which, to implement a state policy, impose unique requirements on local governments, is a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.[28] A program is "new" if the local governmental entity had not previously been required to institute it.[29] This determination is made by comparing the mandate with preexisting requirements.[30] This is the approach that this Commission employed in addressing the prior stormwater permit test claims.[31] As set forth below with respect to each mandate, this

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[26] San Diego County Statement of Decision at 35-37. These Statements of Decision applied the holding of the Court of Appeal in *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates* (2007) 150 Cal.App.4th 898, 919 that "the applicability of permits to public and private dischargers does not inform us about whether a particular permit or an obligation thereunder imposed on local governments constitutes a state mandate necessitating subvention under article XIII B, section 6." *See* Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 49; San Diego County Statement of Decision at 36.

[27] WB Response at 11.

[28] *County of Los Angeles v. State of California, supra,* 43 Cal.3d at 56; *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 110 Cal.App.4th at 1189.

[29] *See San Diego Unified School District v Commission on State Mandates* (2004) 33 Cal.4th 859, 877-78 ("*San Diego Unified School Dist.*").

[30] *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist. v. Honig (1988)* 44 Cal.3d 830, 835 ("[T]he program was new insofar as plaintiffs are concerned, since at the time section 59300 became effective they were not required to contribute to the education of students from their districts at such schools."). *See also San Diego Unified School Dist.,* 44 Cal.3d at 878 (requirements constitute a higher level of service where "the requirements are new in comparison with the preexisting scheme in view of the circumstance that they did not exist prior to enactment of [the statutes]."

[31] *See* San Diego County Statement of Decision at 49, 53-54; Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 49.

comparison demonstrates that Claimants were not previously required to implement each of these mandates.

The Water Boards further contend that the mandates also do not constitute higher levels of service because "equivalent changes" are applicable to non-municipal permittees and because the mandates are only "refinements of existing requirements."[32] The Water Boards also contend that the incurred costs must be for programs previously funded exclusively by the state.[33]

These contentions also lack merit. First, the Water Boards fail to identify any "equivalent changes" that are applicable to non-municipal permittees. Like the mandates that the Commission addressed in the test claims relating to the Los Angeles and San Diego County stormwater permits, these permits and their requirements apply exclusively to local agencies.[34] Nor are they mere refinements of existing requirements. The requirements at issue in this Test Claim are new programs or activities that Claimants were not required to implement in previous permits.

County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates, cited by the Water Boards, is inapposite. In that case, a Penal Code amendment required local law enforcement officers to participate in two hours of domestic violence training. These two hours could be in lieu of two of twenty-four other hours of continuing education in which the officers participated.[35] The amendment further provided that the funding for this training was to be from existing resources already available.[36] The court found that because the Penal Code amendment did not require an additional two hours of training, but instead provided that the two hours could be substituted for other training, the State simply directed local law enforcement agencies to reallocate their training resources. Because it was simply a reallocation, not an addition, the State had not imposed a new cost nor had it shifted the cost of the training from itself to the County. The court further found that this conclusion was buttressed by the amendment's language that this requirement was to be funded from existing resources and it was not the intent of the Legislature to increase annual training costs.[37]

That is not the case here. As discussed below, Claimants were ordered to comply with the 11 new mandates, none of which substituted for prior permit requirements or simply required a reallocation of resources. These mandates were new, additional programs imposed by the Regional Board pursuant to the Regional Permit.

As in determining whether a mandate is "new," determining whether a mandate constitutes a higher level of service is made by comparing the mandate against the requirements that existed

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[32] WB Response at 12.

[33] *Id.*

[34] *See* Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 49; San Diego Statement of Decision at 35-37.

[35] 110 Cal. App.4th at 1178.

[36] *Id.* at 1179.

[37] *Id.* at 1194-1195.

before the statute was enacted or executive order was issued.[38] A "higher level of service" exists where the mandate results in an increase in the actual level or quality of governmental services provided.[39] In *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, the Supreme Court held that the statutory requirement of immediate suspension and mandatory recommendation of expulsion for students that possessed a firearm constituted a higher level of service because the requirement was new and was intended to provide enhanced service in form of safer schools.[40] As discussed below, the same is true for each of the mandates at issue here. Each requirement is new, having not been previously required, and is intended to provide enhanced service to the public in the form of greater pollution control.

Finally, contrary to the Water Boards' assertion, a subvention of funds is not limited solely to circumstances where the state shifts to local agencies the cost of programs previously funded by the state. Local agencies are entitled to subvention both where the state shifts of the costs of programs previously funded by it[41] and where the state imposes new requirements or programs which cannot be funded from sources other than taxes.[42] The Water Boards themselves recognize this principle, quoting from *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates* that the "state must be attempting to divest itself of its responsibility to provide fiscal support for a program, *or* forcing a new program on a locality for which it is ill equipped to allocate funding."[43]

B. Contrary to the Water Boards' Contentions, the Water Boards Have the Burden of Proving that a Mandate is Federally Compelled or that Some Other Exception to Subvention is Present, and the Water Boards' Findings are Not Entitled to Deference

As the Supreme Court held in *Dept. of Finance,* once Claimants show that a new program or higher level of service is being imposed, the burden shifts to the state to prove that the mandate is federally required or that some other exception to subvention is present.[44] A local agency is entitled to a subvention of funds whenever the state does not meet this burden.[45]

The Water Boards contend that in performing this analysis, the Commission should defer to the Regional Board's findings here.[46] This contention, however, is directly contrary to the Supreme Court's holding in *Dept. of Finance.*

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[38] *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, 44 Cal.3d at 878.

[39] *Id.* at 877-78.

[40] *Id.*

[41] *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist., supra,* 44 Cal.3d at 832-33, 835.

[42] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 763, 771-72.

[43] *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 110 Cal.App.4th at 1194 (emphasis added).

[44] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 769.

[45] *Id.*

[46] WB Response at 13-16.

In *Dept. of Finance,* the Water Boards contended that given the flexibility of the CWA's regulatory scheme, which confers discretion on the state and regional boards in deciding what conditions are necessary to comply with federal law, the permit itself is the best indication of what federal law required. The Water Boards also contended that the Commission should defer to a regional water board's findings as to the nature of the permit, including whether it represented a federal mandate.[47] The Supreme Court rejected both contentions. As to the first contention, the Supreme Court held:

> We disagree that the Permit itself demonstrates what conditions would have been imposed had the EPA granted the Permit. In issuing the Permit, the Regional Board was implementing both state and federal law and was authorized to include conditions more exacting than federal law required. (*City of Burbank, supra*, 35 Cal.4th at pp. 627-628.) It is simply not the case that, because a condition was in the Permit, it was, ipso facto, required by federal law.[48]

As for deference, the Supreme Court held:

> We also disagree that the Commission should have deferred to the Regional Board's conclusion that the challenged requirements were federally mandated. That determination is largely a question of law. Had the Regional Board found, when imposing the disputed permit conditions, that those conditions were the only means by which the maximum extent practicable standard could be implemented, deference to the board's expertise in reaching that finding would be appropriate. . . The State, however, provides no authority for the proposition that, absent such a finding, the Commission should defer to a state agency as to whether requirements were state or federally mandated.[49]

Contrary to the Water Boards' assertion, this holding on the issue of deference is applicable to all the mandates at issue in this Test Claim, including those that the Water Boards contend are required to implement the maximum extent practicable ("MEP") standard, those relating to "total maximum daily loads" ("TMDLs") requirements and those relating to the CWA's requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater from entering storm sewers. The Water Boards' assertion that the holding in *Dept. of Finance* turned on application of the MEP standard, or that the Court's holding has "limited application" when the federal standard regarding a permit provision is, as the Water Boards put it, "wholly separate" from the MEP standard,[50] is erroneous. Contrary to the

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[47] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 768.

[48] *Id.*

[49] *Id.*

[50] WB Response at 16.

Water Boards' assertion, the Supreme Court's holding was not based on an interpretation of the MEP standard, but on the California Constitution and mandate jurisprudence. The Supreme Court held:

> [T]he policies supporting article XIII B of the California Constitution and *section 6* would be undermined if the Commission were required to defer to the Regional Board on the federal mandate question. The central purpose of article XIII B is to rein in local government spending. (*City of Sacramento, supra, 50 Cal.3d at pp. 58-59.*) The purpose of *section 6* is to protect local governments from state attempts to impose or shift the costs of new programs or increased levels of service by entitling local governments to reimbursement. (*County of San Diego, supra, 15 Cal.4th at p. 81.*) Placing the burden on the State to demonstrate that a requirement is federally mandated, and thus excepted from reimbursement, serves those purposes.[51]

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that deference is required because the Regional Board allegedly based the Regional Permit solely on federal law and allegedly found, on a case specific basis, that the mandates were necessary to meet the CWA's MEP standard or were required to implement the CWA's requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater from entering the storm sewers. On this basis, the Water Boards contend that *Dept. of Finance* is distinguishable.[52] Neither the Regional Permit nor the record, however, supports the Water Boards' claims.

1. The Water Boards' Claim that the Regional Permit is Based Solely on Federal Law Is Contradicted by the Permit's Own Language

The Water Boards assert that the Regional Permit is based solely on federal authority and that this assertion is supported by Permit Findings 2 through 7 and the Permit's Fact Sheet.[53] This assertion is, however, belied by the Permit and the Fact Sheet themselves.

The plain language of the cited findings indicates that the Regional Permit was based *both* on federal and California law. First, Regional Permit Finding 2 states:

> **Legal and Regulatory Authority.** This Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations (Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Title 40, Part 122 [40 CFR 122] adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and *chapter 5.5,*

[51] *Id.* at 769.

[52] WB Response at 14-16.

[53] *Id.* at 14.

> *division 7 of the California Water Code (CWC) (commencing with section 13370).* This Order serves as an NPDES permit for discharges from MS4s to surface waters. *This Order also serves as waste discharge requirements (WDRs) pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the CWC (commencing with section 13260).*[54]

Each of the italicized authorities in Finding 2 is California, not federal, authority.

Permit Finding 4 states:

> **CWA and CWC Monitoring Requirements** . . . *[California Water Code] section 13383 authorizes the San Diego Water Board to establish monitoring, inspection, entry, reporting and recordkeeping requirements.* This Order establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal *and State requirements.* This Order also includes requirements for the Orange County Co-permittees to participate in, and together with South Orange County Wastewater Authority and Orange County Health Care Agency, share responsibility for implementing the unified approach to beach water quality monitoring and assessment program set forth in the October 2014 report, *Workgroup Recommendation for a Unified Beach Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Program in South Orange County*, issued pursuant to *CWC section 13383* in the San Diego Water Board December 5, 2014 Letter Directive.[55]

Each citation to the California Water Code in this finding is, again, California, not federal, authority.

Notwithstanding the express language of Findings 2 and 4, if there was any doubt about the fact that the Regional Permit was based on both federal and California law, the permit's Fact Sheet puts those doubts to rest.[56] In discussing Findings 2 and 4, Section VII of the Fact Sheet specifically cites the Regional Board's authority under both federal *and* state law. As to state law authority, the Fact Sheet, *inter alia*, states:

- This Order is issued pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA and implementing regulations adopted by USEPA and *Chapter 5.5, Division 7 of the [California Water Code] (commencing with section 13370).* This Order serves as an NPDES permit for point source discharges to surface waters. *This Order also serves as*

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[54] Regional Permit at 1 (emphasis added).

[55] *Id.* at 2 (emphasis added).

[56] Fact Sheets in NPDES permits are required, *inter alia,* to set forth a "brief summary of the basis for the draft permit conditions including references to applicable statutory and regulatory provisions . . . ." 40 CFR § 124.8(b)(4) (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 5).

waste discharge requirements pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the [California Water Code] (commencing with section 13260).[57]

- Pursuant to *Water Code sections 13263 and 13377*, the requirements of this Order implement the *Basin Plan.*[58]

- Requirements of this Order implement the *Ocean Plan.*[59]

- This Order implements all other applicable federal regulations and *State regulations, plans and policies . . .*[60]

Again, each of the italicized authorities is *California*, not *federal*, authority. As noted above, Water Code sections 13260 and 13263 provide for the issuance of state waste discharge requirements that implement state law. California Water Code §13377 provides that, in issuing NPDES permits, a regional board can include not only federal requirements but also state requirements, i.e., "any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance." The Basin Plan is a state-adopted Regional Water Quality Control Plan adopted by the San Diego Regional Board pursuant to California law in order to implement the policies of the California Water Code.[61] The Ocean Plan is a state plan adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board for purposes of implementing policies of the California Water Code with respect to the ocean.[62]

The Water Boards' assertion that the Regional Permit is based solely on federal law is belied by the Permit itself and its supporting Fact Sheet, which specifically state that the permit is also based on state law.

2. The Water Boards' Findings are Not Entitled to Deference

The Water Boards also contend that, on a case specific basis, the Regional Board has found that these 11 mandates are the only means to implement the CWA and that this finding is entitled to deference.[63]

In addressing the issuance of deference, the Supreme Court in *Dept. of Finance* stated: "[h]ad the Regional Board found, when imposing the disputed permit conditions, that those conditions *were the only means* by which the maximum extent practicable standard could be

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[57] Fact Sheet at F-24 (emphasis added).

[58] *Id.* at F-28.

[59] *Id.* at F-29.

[60] *Id.* at F-33.

[61] Water Code § 13240 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 10).

[62] California Water Code § 13170.2 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 8).

[63] WB Response at 15.

implemented, deference to the board's expertise in reaching that finding would be appropriate."[64] The Supreme Court further held that "this finding would be case specific, based among other things on local factual circumstances."[65]

In support of their argument that the Regional Board made such case specific findings, the Water Boards cite Permit Finding 3 and the Fact Sheet discussion on pages F-34 and F-35.[66] Neither Finding 3 nor the Fact Sheet discussion, however, makes any case specific finding with respect to the 11 mandates at issue. Nowhere in Permit Finding 3, the Fact Sheet discussion on pages F-34 and F-35, or anywhere else in the permit or the Fact Sheet does the Regional Board cite any evidence as to why the 11 mandates, in the circumstances of this case, are the only means to implement the CWA or why they are otherwise federal as opposed to state mandates.

A "case specific" finding must, at a minimum, be based on substantial evidence in the record. A blanket "one size fits all" finding that is not based on substantial evidence and not directed towards a specific mandate does not meet that burden. Nowhere in Finding 3, in the Fact Sheet discussion at pages F-34 and F-35 or, for that matter, anywhere else in the Regional Permit or Fact Sheet, is there any discussion or citation to evidence in the record indicating that the specific mandates at issue in this Test Claim were the "only means" by which the MEP standard or other CWA requirements could be implemented in the circumstances giving rise to the Regional Permit.

In fact, the Fact Sheet discussion on pages F-34 and F-35 is essentially identical to a Fact Sheet discussion adopted more than two years earlier by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, for the municipal stormwater permit issued to permittees in Los Angeles County.[67] The fact that the same language appeared in a fact sheet for a previous permit issued by an entirely different regional water quality control board is further evidence that this discussion is not "case specific, based among other things on local factual circumstances,"[68] but rather boilerplate language, acceptable for use in permits throughout the state.

The Water Boards therefore incorrectly argue[69] that the permit's findings meet the strict burden set forth by the Supreme Court in *Dept. of Finance.* Neither Permit Finding 3, the Fact

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[64] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal. 5th at 768 (emphasis added).

[65] *Id.* at 768 n.15.

[66] WB Response at 15.

[67] *Compare* Fact Sheet, Los Angeles County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit, Order No. R4-2012-0175, Section IX (pages F-162 and F-163) *with* Regional Permit Fact Sheet discussion on pages F-34 and F-35. An excerpt of the Los Angeles County permit Fact Sheet is attached as Exhibit A to the Declaration of David W. Burhenn, filed herewith as Attachment 1. The Commission may take administrative notice of this evidence pursuant to Evidence Code § 452(c) (official acts of the legislative departments of any state of the United States) (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 6), Govt. Code § 11515 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 7) and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, section 1187.5, subd. (c).

[68] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 768 n.15.

[69] *Id.*

Sheet discussion on pages F-34 and F-35, nor any other permit finding or Fact Sheet discussion sets forth why, in the circumstances of this case, the 11 mandates are the only means by which the MEP standard or any other CWA requirement could be implemented. Contrary to the Water Boards' assertion, the Regional Board's findings are not entitled to any deference.

C. Claimants' Participation in the NPDES Stormwater Program is Not Voluntary

The Water Boards also contend that Claimants' receipt of a NPDES stormwater permit is voluntary and therefore no subvention is required, citing *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates* (2003) 30 Cal.4th 727 (*Kern High School District*) and *City of Merced v. State of California* (1984) 153 Cal.App.3d 777.[70]

The Commission has already considered and rejected this argument. In the Los Angeles County and San Diego County Statements of Decision, the Commission specifically considered the application of *Kern High School District* on a municipalities' right to subvention. As the Commission recognized, under that case, "activities undertaken at the *option or discretion* of a local government entity do not trigger a state mandate and hence do not require reimbursement of funds."[71] The Commission, however, found that this rule did not apply to the requirements of stormwater permits because the municipalities' duty to apply for a NPDES permit was not within their discretion. Instead, under the federal statutes and regulations, municipalities had to apply for a NPDES stormwater permit.[72] Moreover, as the Commission found with respect to the San Diego County Permit, claimants were required to file an application for a permit in the form of a report of waste discharge under California law also.[73]

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that municipalities could choose not to discharge stormwater through their flood control systems. This argument is not credible. Municipalities must manage stormwater to protect public safety and their constituents' property. As the United States Court of Appeals for the Eight Circuit said in *Mississippi River Revival, Inc. v. City of Minneapolis,*[74] a case dealing with a municipality that had not been able to obtain an NPDES stormwater permit because the agency had delayed in issuing the permit, "the Cities cannot stop rain and snow from falling and cannot stop storm waters carrying 'pollutants' such as sediment and fertilizer from running down hill and draining into the Mississippi River. If the Cities do nothing, storm waters will flow into their sewer systems. On the other hand, any attempt to prevent discharge through established storm drains would, according to affidavits submitted by the Cities'

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[70] WB Response at 18-19.

[71] Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 20, quoting *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates*, 30 Cal.4th at 742; San Diego County Statement of Decision at 34, quoting *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates*, 30 Cal.4th at 742.

[72] Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 20-21; San Diego County Statement of Decision at 34.

[73] San Diego County Statement of Decision at 34.

[74] 319 F.3d 1013, 1018 (8th Cir. 2003) (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 16).

experts, harm public health and the environment. . . . Unlike industrial and commercial point source operators, the Cities simply could not stop the unpermitted discharges."

Indeed, California courts have recognized that residents living near flood control improvements have a right to rely on the current standards of a particular channel to protect against flooding. For example, in *Arreola v. County of Monterey,*[75] a county was found liable in inverse condemnation for flooding that occurred as a result of the county's failure to properly clear an existing flood control channel. The Water Boards' contention that Claimants could abandon their MS4 channels is erroneous. It would potentially subject them to liability for inverse condemnation or other torts based on relied-upon flood control protections.

Thus, as the Commission found in both the Los Angeles County and San Diego County Statement of Decisions, "the claimants were required by state and federal law to submit the NPDES permit applications in the form of a report of waste discharge and [Stormwater Quality Management Plan]," and "because the claimants do not voluntarily participate in the NPDES program, the Commission finds that the *Kern High School District* case does not apply to the permit, the contents of which are not the result of the claimants' discretion."[76]

D. The Regional Permit Imposes Requirements Unique to Local Agencies and EPA-Issued Permits Do Not Contain the Mandates at Issue Here

The Water Boards also contend that the Regional Permit does not impose unique requirements on Claimants, and that some Regional Permit requirements are allegedly also present in one EPA-issued permit, the permit for the District of Columbia.[77] The first contention is simply another version of the argument that the Regional Permit is not a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6. As discussed previously, the Commission has already rejected this contention in conjunction with the Los Angeles and San Diego County test claims, finding that MS4 permits impose obligations exclusively on local agencies and are programs within the meaning of article XIII, section 6.[78] Likewise, the Regional Permit here carries out the governmental function of providing services to the public and imposes unique requirements on Claimants not imposed on non-governmental entities. The Regional Permit is a "program" within the meaning of Article XIII B, section 6.

Contrary to the Water Boards' second contention, the mandates at issue here are not present in EPA-issued permits, including the District of Columbia permit. This contention is addressed below in conjunction with each specific mandate at issue.

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[75] (2002) 99 Cal. App.4th 722 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 17).

[76] Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 20 and 21; San Diego County Statement of Decision 34 and 35.

[77] WB Response at 16-18; 24 n.114; 31.

[78] Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 49; San Diego County Statement of Decision at 35-37.

E. Claimants Do Not Have Fee Authority to Pay for the Mandates

The Water Boards generally contend that the Claimants can assess fees to pay for the 11 mandates. Claimants address this issue in Section VII of this Rebuttal below. As set forth there, this argument also lacks merit.

VI. EACH OF THE ELEVEN MANDATES AT ISSUE IN THIS TEST CLAIM CONSTITUTES A NEW PROGRAM OR HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE; NONE WAS COMPELLED BY FEDERAL LAW

A. Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards (Regional Permit, Provisions A.2 and A.4)

1. The Regional Permit's Requirements Regarding Compliance with Water Quality Standards is a New Program or Higher Level of Service

Regional Permit Provision A.2, captioned "Receiving Water Limitations," mandates that discharges from Claimants' MS4 systems not cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards. Provision A.2 includes a long list of plans, policies and regulations in which these water quality standards can be found. Provision A.2.b also mandates that discharges from Claimants' MS4 systems must not alter natural ocean water quality in an Area of Special Biological Significance.[79] Provision A.4 requires Claimants to achieve compliance with these mandates through timely implementation of control measures and other actions.

a. Provisions A.2 and A.4 are New Programs and Higher Levels of Service

For the reasons set forth in Claimant's Narrative Statement, Provisions A.2 and A.4 are new; Claimants had not previously been required to implement these Receiving Water Limitations in the manner the Regional Permit now requires.[80] Moreover, even if these Receiving Water Limitations are not new, they certainly constitute a higher level of service in that they result in an increase in the actual level or quality of the governmental services being provided.[81]

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that Provisions A.2 and A.4 are not new or constitute a higher level of service because similar provisions existed in prior permits and the court decisions discussed in Claimants' Narrative Statement did not, in their view, alter the legal landscape. According to the Water Boards, the Regional Board in the prior permits had never provided that compliance with the "iterative process," set forth in Provision A.4, constituted compliance with the Receiving Water Limitations in Provision A.2, and therefore the Regional

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[79] Regional Permit at 18.

[80] Claimants' Narrative Statement at 5-14 – 5-15.

[81] *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, 33 Cal.4th at 877.

Permit did not change these provisions' application or enforcement.[82] In support of this contention, the Water Boards cite Water Board Order WQ 2015-0075, *In the Matter of Review of* Waste Discharge Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Discharges Within the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles County, Except Those Discharges Originating From the City of Long Beach MS4 (hereafter, "State Water Board Order WQ 2015-0075") issued in 2015. In WQ 2015-0075 the State Water Board clarified that the compliance with the "iterative process," like that set forth in Provision A.4, is not considered compliance with Receiving Water Limitations like those set forth in Provision A.2.[83]

Notwithstanding the Water Boards' protestations, as set forth in Claimants' Narrative Statement, the Water Boards did not clearly provide that compliance with the iterative process does not constitute compliance with Receiving Water Limitations until the State Board issued WQ 2015-0075. Indeed, the Regional Permit and its Fact Sheet themselves contain statements indicating that compliance with the iterative process previously constituted compliance with receiving water limitations, or that, at a minimum, the Water Boards had told Claimants that such was the case:

- The Regional Permit itself says that compliance with receiving water limitation is to be achieved through an iterative process, "The receiving water limitation language in this Order requires storm water discharges from MS4s to not cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards, *which is to be achieved through an iterative approach* requiring the implementation of improved and better-tailored BMPs over time.[84]

- In describing the federal Clean Water Act's approach, the Regional Permit's Fact Sheet said, "the CWA's Municipal Storm Water MEP standard does not require storm water discharges to strictly meet water quality standards, as is required for a NPDES permitted discharges. Compliance is achieved through an *iterative* approach with continuous implementation of improved BMPs.[85]

- In describing the history of Provisions A.2 and A.4, the Fact Sheet noted that with respect to the prior permit, although the Regional Board retained the authority to enforce the receiving water limitations even if a permittee was engaged in the iterative process, it was also true that "the Copermittees may use an iterative process to achieving compliance with water quality standards that involves ongoing assessments and revisions."[86]

- Addressing Provision A.4 directly, the Fact Sheet provided that, "Provision A.4 is consistent with the precedent-setting language in State Water Board Order WQ 99-05 required to be included in municipal storm water permits. State Water Board Order WQ

[82] WB Response at 21-22.

[83] State Water Board Order WQ-2015-0075 at 15 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. IV, Tab 1).

[84] Regional Permit at 12, Finding 34 (emphasis added).

[85] Regional Permit Fact Sheet at F-38 – F.39 (emphasis added).

[86] *Id.* at F-13.

2000-15 refined Order WQ 99-05 by requiring an iterative approach to compliance with water quality standards involving ongoing assessments and revisions, referred to as the 'iterative process.'"[87]

- Further addressing Provision A.4, the Fact Sheet provided, "In assessing compliance and potential enforcement actions, the San Diego Water Board looks at the Copermittees' efforts in total to meet the requirements of Provisions A.1.a., A.1.c., A.2.a and Provision A.4. The Copermittees need to demonstrate that they are making improvements to their programs and making progress towards achieving the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations in Provisions A.1.a., A.1.c., and A.2.a by implementing the requirements of A.4.[88]

- The State Water Board itself has described its past enforcement and Orders as not requiring strict compliance. In State Water Board Order No. WQ 2015-0075, the State Board described its past practices thusly: "We have previously exercised the discretion we have under federal law *in favor of requiring compliance with water quality standards, but have required less than strict compliance.* We have directed, in precedential orders, that MS4 permits require discharges to be controlled so as not to cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality standards in receiving waters, *but have prescribed an iterative process* whereby an exceedance of a water standard triggers a process of BMP improvements.[89]

Indeed, the Water Boards' response to this test claim is itself internally inconsistent on this issue. In addressing whether Provisions A.2 and A.4 are a new program or higher level of service, the Water Boards contend that "engagement in the iterative process did not, as Claimant suggest and may have perceived, afford them a safe harbor from enforcement under prior permits with comparable provisions."[90] In contrast, in addressing whether the Receiving Water Limitations are federally mandated, the Water Boards state that "*Compliance with water quality standards is expected to be achieved through an iterative approach* requiring implementation of improved and better-tailored BMPs through water quality improvement plans over time," and "[t]*he State Water Board explained in 2001* that *the precedential receiving water limitations language requires less than strict compliance.*"[91]

Thus, whatever were the Water Boards' past intentions, previously there was no clearly stated mandate that the obligation to comply with Receiving Water Limitations was independent of the iterative process or that compliance with the iterative process would not constitute compliance with the Receiving Water Limitations. Such a mandate was not clearly stated until issuance of State Water Board WQ 2015-0075 and, for these Claimants, the Regional Permit. (Indeed, as quoted above, the Regional Permit still contains statements that compliance with

[87] *Id.* at F-44.

[88] *Id.* at F-46.

[89] State Water Board Order WQ 2015-0075 at 11 (emphasis added).

[90] WB Response at 22.

[91] *Id.* at 23 (emphasis added).

Receiving Water Limitations is to be achieved through compliance with the iterative process.) Because previously there was no clearly stated mandate, the Water Boards' new articulation of how these provisions are to be applied is a new program, and certainly a higher level of service, as compared to what Claimants were previously told and how these provisions were previously applied.

b. There are Two Other Reasons Why Provisions A.2 and A.4 are New Programs or Higher Levels of Service

Moreover, even if the Commission accepts the Water Boards' contention that they have not changed their interpretation and enforcement of the Receiving Water Limitations contained in prior permits, two other reasons exist as to why Provisions A.2 and A.4 are new programs and higher levels of service.

First, the Receiving Water Limitations set forth in Provision A.2 are broader that the receiving water limitations that were present in prior permits, imposing obligations not previously imposed. The receiving water limitations present in the 2009 permit simply provided that "Discharges from MS4s that cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards . . . are prohibited."[92] The 2009 Permit defined water quality objectives as those being present in the State and Regional Water Board's water quality control plans.[93]

In contrast, Provision A.2 contains a lengthy list of water quality plans and policies. Provision A.2 has been expanded to include (1) water quality standards promulgated by the United States EPA in the National Toxics Rule and the California Toxics Rule and (2) discharges from MS4s composed of stormwater runoff that enter an Area of Special Biological Significance.[94] Neither the National Toxics Rule nor the California Toxics Rule are included in State or Regional Water Quality Control plans and therefore previously were not included as "water quality objectives" being addressed by receiving water limitations in the 2009 or prior permits. Discharges of stormwater runoff into the ASBS is not a water quality objective, but a prohibition borrowed by the Regional Board from a State Board action taken to address the California Ocean Plan. Indeed, this prohibition was not even adopted by the State Board until 2012.[95] These ASBS discharges therefore also were not addressed by the 2009 or prior permits. Thus, the Regional Permit's inclusion of the pollutant criteria present in the National Toxics and California Toxics Rules and the prohibition against stormwater discharges altering ASBS natural ocean water quality are new; these criteria and this prohibition were not present in the 2009 or prior permits.

Second, even if the Receiving Water Limitations was present and enforced in its current form under prior permits, this Test Claim is still timely. Government Code §17551(c) provides

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[92] 2009 Permit at 18.

[93] *Id.* at C-12.

[94] Regional Permit, Provisions A.2 and A.4.

[95] See State Board Order Resolution 2012-0012, as amended by State Board Order No. 2012-0031, Attachment B, Part I.A.1.b, (Special Protections for Areas of Special Biological Significance), set forth in Attachment A to the Regional Permit, at A-3.

that local agency and school district test claims shall be filed not later than twelve months following the effective date of a statute or executive order, "or within twelve months of incurring increased costs as a result of a statute or executive order, whichever is later." Here, Claimants did not incur increased costs with respect to the Water Board's strict enforcement of Provision A.2 until fiscal year 2014-2015, after the adoption of the Regional Permit. Prior to this time, Claimants operated under the belief that implementation of the 2009 Permit's other programs and iterative process constituted compliance with receiving water limitations. Claimant's claim is thus timely pursuant to Government Code §17551(c).

2. Strict Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards is Not Federally Mandated

In *Dept. of Finance*, the California Supreme Court set forth the test that the Commission should apply to determine whether a mandate is a federal, as opposed to state, mandate. Distilling the rulings in *City of Sacramento v. State of California* (1990) 50 Cal.3d 51, *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates* (1995) 32 Cal.App.4th 805 and *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates* (1992) 11 Cal.App.4th 1564, the Supreme Court held:

> If federal law compels the state to impose, or itself imposes, a requirement, that requirement is a federal mandate. On the other hand, if federal law gives the state discretion whether to impose a particular implementing requirement, and the state exercises its discretion to impose the requirement by virtue of a "true choice," the requirement is not federally mandated.[96]

In applying this test, the Supreme Court further held that, "the State has the burden to show the challenged conditions were mandated by federal law."[97]

a. No Federal Statute or Regulation Compels the Inclusion of Provisions A.2 or A.4 in the Regional Permit

No federal statute or regulation required the Regional Board to include Provisions A.2 and A.2.4. 33 U.S.C. §1342(p), setting forth the requirements for municipal stormwater permits, does not require a municipality's discharges to comply with water quality standards. Instead, pollutants in those discharges shall be reduced to the "maximum extent practicable" (the "MEP" standard").[98] This is in contrast to industrial stormwater dischargers and other NPDES permittees whose discharges must comply with water quality standards.[99]

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[96] *Dept. of Finance*, 1 Cal. 5th at 765.

[97] *Id.* at 769.

[98] 42 U.S.C. §1342(p)(3)(B)(iii).

[99] 42 U.S.C. §1342(p)(3)(A); *see Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner*, 191 F.3d 1159, 1164-65 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. III, Tab 3); *Divers' Environmental Conservation Org. v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4th 246 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. III, Tab 19); *Maryland Dept. of the Environment v. Anacostia Riverkeeper* (Md. Ct. Spec. App. 2015) 222 Md. App. 153 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. III, Tab 14).

The Regional Board instead included Provisions A.2 and A.4 as a matter of discretion. As the State Water Board itself stated in Order WQ 2015-0075, in addressing the authority to require strict numeric compliance with water quality standards, "*the State Water Board has discretion* under federal law to determine whether to require strict compliance with the water quality standards of the water quality control plans for MS4 discharges. . . ."[100]

Accordingly, federal law does not require municipal stormwater discharges to comply with strict numeric water quality standards. Provisions A.2 and A.4 are not compelled by federal law, but included as a matter of discretion. Under the test set forth in *Dept. of Finance,* strict compliance with numeric standards is not federally mandated.

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that the Regional Board found these provisions to be necessary to satisfy the MEP standard and that this Commission should defer to that finding. The record does not support this contention.

First, there is no case-specific finding that inclusion of Provisions A.2 and A.4 in the permit are the only ways to reduce pollutants and discharges to the maximum extent practicable, and the Water Boards identify no such finding or any supporting evidence. The Water Boards nevertheless argue that the Regional Board generally found that all of the Regional Permit's provisions are based on federal law and this general finding is entitled to deference. As addressed in Section V.B.1 of this Rebuttal, however, this contention is contradicted by the Regional Permit's own boilerplate, non-case specific language and is not supported by the permit's findings or fact sheet.

Indeed, the Fact Sheet does not even cite MEP as a basis for these provisions. The Fact Sheet instead acknowledges that Provision A.2 is imposed by the Regional Board as a matter of "discretion," and that it is California Water Code § 13377 that directs the Water Boards to include provisions to implement State water quality control plans.[101]

The Water Boards also cite to a provision in the EPA-issued permit for the District of Columbia, Paragraph 1.4.1, which provides that the District should effectively prohibit pollutants in stormwater discharges or other unauthorized discharges as necessary to comply with existing District of Columbia water quality standards.[102] The Water Boards, however, do not cite Paragraph 1.4 in its entirety. Paragraph 1.4 further provides: "Compliance with the provisions contained in Parts 2 through 8 of this permit, including milestones and final dates for attainment of applicable [waste load allocations] shall constitute adequate progress towards compliance with [District of Columbia water quality standards] and [waste load allocations] for this permit term."[103]

Thus, this EPA-issued permit specifically provides that the District of Columbia does not have to immediately meet numeric water quality standards like those in the Regional Permit's

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[100] State Water Board Order WQ 2015-0075 at 11 (emphasis added).

[101] Fact Sheet at F-40.

[102] WB Response at 24, D.C. Permit No. DC000221, ¶1.4.

[103] *Id.*

Provision A.2. Unlike the Regional Permit, District of Columbia Permit Paragraph 1.4 provides that compliance with that permit's other programs, rather than numeric water quality standards, constitutes compliance with that discharge limitation. In other words, the EPA-issued permit for the District of Columbia provides that, as long as a permittee is implementing the permit, the permittee is in compliance with the Paragraph 1.4.1; compliance is not measured by whether discharges meet numeric water quality standards.

3. No Other Mandate Exception Applies

As a final argument, the Water Boards contend that Provisions A.2 and A.4 are not unique and that Claimants can pay for the program through fees or assessments. For the reasons discussed in Section V.A.1 of this Rebuttal, *supra*, these mandates are a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6. Provisions A.2 and A.4 carry out the governmental function of providing service to the public. Provisions A.2 and A.4 also impose unique requirements; these stormwater permit requirements apply exclusively to local agencies.

Claimant's inability to fund these programs other than through taxes is addressed in Section VII of this Rebuttal, *infra*.

B. Compliance with Numeric TMDL Mandates (Regional Permit, Provisions A.3.b and Attachment E)

The second mandate at issue in this Test Claim is the new requirement to reduce the presence of indicator bacteria in discharges to certain beaches and creeks. These bacteria indicators generally are not generated by any of Claimants' activities, but instead derive from a number of natural and other sources. As stormwater passes over fields and streets, it picks up these bacteria indicators, and then is channeled in Claimants' flood control system of storm drains.

Regional Permit Provision A.3.b requires Claimants to implement programs to comply with "Water Quality Based Effluent Limits ("WQBELs"), which are numeric limits on the amount of indicator bacteria that can be present in Claimants' discharges, established pursuant to "Total Maximum Daily Loads ("TMDLs")" adopted to address this bacteria indicator. (Limits on point source discharges in TMDLs are called "Waste Load Allocations" or "WLAs".)

Regional Permit Attachment E sets forth these TMDLs. At issue in this Test Claim are the revised TMDLs for indicator bacteria at or in twenty beaches or creeks in the San Diego Region set forth in Attachment E, section 6. Table 6.0 identifies those watersheds into which Claimants' discharges must be controlled; Table 6.1 sets forth the final compliance dates with which Claimants must comply; Table 6.2.c sets forth the final limits with which Claimants must comply; Table 6.4 sets forth interim compliance dates; and Table 6.6 sets forth interim WQBELs. The TMDLs also require Claimants to implement a monitoring, assessment and reporting program to assess the impact of Claimants' programs.[104]

[104] Regional Permit, Attachment E, section 6.d.

1. The TMDL Mandates are a New Program and Higher Level of Service

There is no dispute that these TMDLs and the mandates they impose were not present in the 2009 Permit. The Regional Permit states that the TMDLs were adopted on February 10, 2010, and became effective on April 4, 2011.[105]

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that these TMDL-related mandates are not new because Claimants were the subject of other TMDL requirements in the 2009 Permit.[106] This contention is not correct as a matter of fact or law.

The 2009 Permit imposed only one TMDL, one for indicator bacteria applicable to discharges into the Baby Beach watershed.[107] This is a different watershed than those at issue in this Test Claim and calls for a different program. Moreover, not all Claimants in this Test Claim discharged to the Baby Beach watershed. It is therefore not correct as a matter of fact to say that all the Test Claimants here were previously subject to a TMDL.[108]

The Water Boards' argument is also incorrect as a matter of law. A program is "new" if the local governmental entity had not previously been required to institute it. A "higher level of service" exists where the mandate results in an increase in the actual level or quality of governmental services provided.[109] This determination is made by comparing the mandate with preexisting requirements.[110]

The TMDL-related mandates are both new and represent a higher level of service. There is no dispute that Claimants previously had not been required to implement programs to comply with the TMDLs set forth in Attachment E, section 6. These TMDLs did not exist at the time of the 2009 Permit. Moreover, even if the Commission accepted the Water Boards' argument that this program was not new because other permittees, although not all the Claimants here, were required to implement the Baby Beach watershed TMDL, this mandate still constitutes a higher

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[105] Attachment E, p. E-29.

[106] WB Response at 25.

[107] 2009 Permit, Directive I, at 78.

[108] The Baby Beach TMDL is one of the mandates identified in a previous Test Claim, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, Order No. R9-2009-0002 10-TC-11. Because the Regional Permit also incorporates the Baby Beach TMDL (Attachment E.5), should the Commission find in Test Claim 10-TC-11 that the Baby Beach TMDL is a reimbursable state mandate, that finding would continue to be applicable as Claimants continue to implement that program under the Regional Permit.

[109] *See San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th at 877-78.

[110] *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist., supra,* 44 Cal.3d at 835 ("[T]he program was new insofar as plaintiffs are concerned, since at the time section 59300 became effective they were not required to contribute to the education of students from their districts at such schools."). *See also San Diego Unified School Dist.,* 33 Cal.4th at 878 (requirements constitute a higher level of service where "the requirements are new in comparison with the preexisting scheme in view of the circumstance that they did not exist prior to enactment of [the statutes]."

level of service because it requires Claimants to address the additional TMDLs, an increase in the actual level or quality of the governmental services being provided. There is no dispute that new, additional programs will be required that address new additional discharges in new additional watersheds as compared to the 2009 Permit, resulting in an increase in the services Claimants are required to provide.

The Water Boards also contend that these TMDL-related mandates are not new because Claimants are separately required to comply with water quality standards pursuant to Section A.2.[111] Again, however, this contention is not correct. Provision A.2 sets forth "receiving water limitations," not "effluent limitations." Receiving water limitations address the condition of the receiving water, *i.e.*, the water body into which the discharge is made. Effluent limitations are restrictions placed on the discharge itself.[112] They are two separate obligations being imposed on Claimants, with Provision A.3.b and Attachment E imposing numeric restrictions, interim and final compliance dates, and monitoring, assessment and reporting that are not set forth in Provision A.2. Indeed, if they were the same, there would have been no reason to add Provision A.3.b and Attachment E to the Permit. These TMDL-related mandates constitute a new program and higher level of service.

2. The TMDL Mandates are Not Federally Mandated

a. 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B) is Not Applicable to Municipal Stormwater Permits

The Supreme Court in *Dept. of Finance* set forth this test to determine whether a mandate is federal:

> If federal law compels the state to impose, or itself imposes, a requirement, that requirement is a federal mandate. On the other hand, if federal law gives the state discretion whether to impose a particular implementing requirement, and the state exercises its discretion to impose the requirement by virtue of a "true choice," the requirement is not federally mandated.[113]

The State has the burden to show that the requirement was mandated by federal law.[114] The Water Boards have not met their burden here; they have not shown that federal law compelled the Regional Board to impose these TMDL-related mandates.

First, the Water Boards argue that federal regulation 40 C.F.R. §122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B) compels the inclusion of TMDL WQBELs in municipal stormwater permits.[115] In doing so, the

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[111] WB Response at 25.

[112] 33 U.S.C. § 1362(11) (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 9).

[113] *Dept. of Finance*, 1 Cal.5th at 765.

[114] *Id.* at 769.

[115] WB Response at 9, 26.

Water Boards misapply the regulation in a manner that conflicts with the plain language of 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B), the statute which sets forth permit requirements for municipal stormwater dischargers.

As set forth in Claimants' Narrative Statement, 40 C.F.R. § 122.44 requires NPDES permits to include the conditions set forth in that regulation only "when applicable."[116] It is undisputed that TMDLs are adopted to implement water quality standards.[117] It is further undisputed that municipal stormwater permits are *not* required to include provisions to meet water quality standards, but only to include controls to reduce the discharge or pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.[118] 33 U.S.C § 1342(p)(3)(B)(iii) requires MS4 permits to contain controls that reduce pollutants to the MEP. The statute does not require MS4 permits to meet water quality standards, including TMDL WQBELs adopted to meet those standards. Therefore, because municipal stormwater permits are not required to contain provisions requiring municipal stormwater discharges to meet with water quality standards, TMDL WQBELs that exist only to achieve such standards, such as those set forth in Attachment E, are also not federally mandated to be put in municipal stormwater permits.

Put another way, 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B) is "not applicable" because, unlike discharges such as industrial discharges, municipal stormwater discharges are not required to meet water quality standards, the sole purpose of section 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B). Indeed, 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1) itself states that its purpose is to meet water quality standards, which municipal stormwater permittees are not required to meet.[119] 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B) thus by its own terms does not apply to MS4 permittees.

The Water Boards have not met their burden of showing that federal law compels the inclusion of Provision A.3.b. Provision A.3.b is a state, not federal, mandate.

b. Federal Regulations Do Not Require TMDL WQBELs to Be Expressed in the Form of Numeric Effluent Limits

There is a second reason why Provisions A.3.b and Attachment E constitute a state mandate. Even if TMDL WQBELs are "applicable" to municipal stormwater permits, nothing in federal law required the Regional Board to include TMDL WQBELs in the form of numeric limits instead of Best Management Practices ("BMPs") to be implemented by the permittees.

The State Water Board itself has found, in Order WQ 2015-0075, that the decision to include effluent limitations such as these in the form of numeric limitations as opposed to BMPs

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[116] 40 C.F.R. §122.44 (first paragraph) (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 15). *See* Claimant's Narrative Statement at 5-18.

[117] 33 U.S.C. § 1313(d)(1)(A) and (C) (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 6).

[118] 33 U.S.C. §1342(p)(3)(B)(iii). *Defenders of Wildlife*, 191 F.3d at 1164-65.

[119] 33 U.S.C. §1342(p)(3)(B)(iii). *Defenders of Wildlife*, 191 F.3d at 1164-65.

is a *discretionary* decision:

> In the context of MS4 discharges, effluent limitations in NPDES permits may be expressed in the form of either numeric limitations *or* best management practices (BMPs). The federal regulations specifically state that BMP-based effluent limitations may be used to control pollutants for storm water discharges. USEPA has issued two memoranda, on November 22, 2002 (2002 USEPA Memorandum), and on November 26, 2014 (2014 USEPA Memorandum), providing guidance to the states on translating wasteload allocations for storm water into effluent limitations in NPDES Permits. The 2002 USEPA Memorandum contemplated "*that the NPDES permitting authority will review the information provided by the TMDL . . . and determine whether the effluent limit is appropriately expressed using a BMP approach (including an iterative BMP approach) or a numeric limit.*" The 2002 USEPA Memorandum further stated that "EPA expects that most WQBELs for NPDES-regulated municipal . . . storm water discharges will be in the form of BMPs, and that numeric limits will be used only in rare instances." The 2014 USEPA Memorandum, after noting the increased information available to the permitting agencies after more than a decade of experience with setting wasteload allocations and effluent limitations explained that: Where the TMDL includes WLAs for stormwater sources that provide numeric pollutant loads, the WLA should, where feasible, be translated into effective, measurable WQBELs that will achieve this objective. This could take the form of numeric limit, or of a measurable, objective BMP-based limit that is projected to achieve the WLA. . . . *Both options – to choose BMP-based WQBELs or to choose numeric WQBELs – were legally available to the Los Angeles Water Board.*[120]

The fact that federal regulations do not require TMDL WQBELs to be included in MS4 permits in the form of numeric effluent limits is further demonstrated by the fact that such TMDL requirements are not reflected in EPA-issued permits in the form of numeric limits. Instead, those permits either do not include TMDL provisions at all, or if they do, provide that compliance with best management practices shall constitute compliance with the TMDL.[121]

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that the Regional Board determined that numeric effluent limits were necessary to assure compliance with the TMDLs.[122] The Regional Board made no such finding. Regional Permit Finding No. 5 addresses TMDLs and Finding 32(f) purports to address TMDLs as federal mandates.[123] The Fact Sheet discusses the TMDL-related mandates on pages F-32 through F-33 and F-42 through F-43. Neither these findings nor the Fact

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[120] State Board Order WQ 2015-0075 at 57-58 (emphasis added; footnotes omitted).

[121] Declaration of Karen Ashby ("Ashby Dec."), ¶ 9.

[122] WB Response at 27-28.

[123] The Water Boards also cite Permit Finding E.11 (WB Response at 28), but no such finding exists.

Sheet discussion state that the TMDL must be reflected in the Regional Permit as numeric effluent limits in order to assure compliance with the TMDLs.[124] Indeed, the Fact Sheet itself states that "WLAs must be expressed in NPDES permits as WQBELs, which may include one or more numeric components such as numeric effluent limits . . . *and/or BMP requirements*."[125] The Regional Board made no finding that numeric effluent limits were necessary to assure compliance with the TMDLs.

3. Other Mandate Exceptions Do Not Apply

The Water Boards also assert that Claimants have the authority to assess fees to pay for these TMDL-related mandates, and these mandates are not unique to Claimants. Claimants' fee authority is discussed in Section VII, *infra*. As discussed in Section V.A.1 of this Rebuttal, *supra*, this Regional Permit and its provisions are unique. They are applicable only to local government agencies, not other dischargers.

C. Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIPs) (Regional Permit, Provisions B and F)

The Regional Permit requires Claimants to develop new Water Quality Improvement Plans ("WQIPs"). As set forth more fully in Claimant's Narrative Statement, Regional Permit Provisions B.2 through B.6 require Claimants to identify water quality priorities for the South Orange County Watershed Management area, to prepare WQIPs that contain strategies to address those water quality priorities, and to incorporate numeric goals and schedules for achieving those goals. Regional Permit Provision F.1 sets forth the process for developing WQIPs, including public participation. Provisions F.2.c and F.3.b(3) require WQIP annual updates and WQIP annual reports.[126]

1. The WQIPs are New Programs or Higher Levels of Service

There is no dispute that WQIPs were not required under the 2009 Permit. Nevertheless, the Water Boards contend that WQIPs are not new because prior permits required Claimants to implement an iterative process to meet water quality standards.[127] Nothing in that former iterative

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[124] The Water Boards' response also contains the statement that "if impairments exist in receiving waters to which a MS4 discharges, the MS4 is responsible for complying with water quality standards whether or not there is TMDL." (WB response at 28.) This statement is not correct. As discussed *supra*, MS4 permits are *not* required to comply with water quality standards. *Defender of Wildlife*, 191 F.3d at 1164-65. Indeed, as the Fact Sheet itself states, "the CWA's municipal storm water MEP standard does not require storm water discharges to strictly meet water quality standards, as is required for other NPDES permitted discharges." Fact Sheet at F-38.

[125] Fact Sheet at F-43 (emphasis added).

[126] *See* generally Claimants' Narrative Statement at 5-21 through 5-30.

[127] WB Response at 29.

process, however, required the extensive preparation of plans, strategies, goals, public review, and annual updates now required in conjunction with WQIPs.

The former iterative process was set forth in Directive A.3 of the 2009 Permit.[128] The iterative process was triggered only upon a determination by either a copermittee or the Regional Board that a MS4 discharges was causing or contributing to an exceedance of an applicable water quality standard. In that case, the copermittee had to notify the Regional Board within 30 days and thereafter submit a report that described BMPs that were currently being implemented and additional BMPs that would be implemented to address the particular pollutants that were causing or contributing to the exceedance. That report could also be incorporated in the annual report.[129]

A permittee was then only required to submit any modifications to the report required by the Regional Board. Within 30 days following approval of the report, the permittee was required to revise its jurisdictional runoff management program and monitoring program to incorporate the approved, modified BMPs, and then implement the revised programs.[130]

As set forth in Claimants' Narrative Statement, the WQIPs are much more extensive and contain many new requirements as compared to 2009 Permit Directive A.3. First, whereas 2009 Permit Directive A.3 was triggered only by a determination by a copermittee or Regional Board that a MS4 discharge was causing or contributing to an exceedance, WQIPs must be developed without regard to whether exceedances exist. Second, whereas the report required by 2009 Permit Directive A.3 was directed solely towards the waterbody in which the exceedance was detected, WQIPs instead must be developed for all major surface waterbodies in the South Orange County area. Third, whereas the report required by 2009 Permit Directive A.3 was required to address only the exceedance and to suggest BMPs to address that exceedance, under the Regional Permit's WQIP requirements, Claimants must now affirmatively assess receiving water conditions, identify priorities, assess impacts from MS4 discharges (without regard to whether they can cause an exceedance), develop plans and strategies, implement a public participation process, prepare and submit plans, monitor and assess the effectiveness of those plans, and provide annual updates and revisions.[131]

Thus, Provisions B and F set forth new mandates. They certainly mandate an increase in the actual level or quality of governmental services provided and thus constitute a higher level of service.[132]

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[128] 2009 Permit Fact Sheet at 104 (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 1) ("Section A.3 describes the 'iterative process.'").

[129] 2009 Permit, Directive A.3 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. I, Tab 3).

[130] *Id.*

[131] Regional Permit, Directive B.1 through B.6.

[132] *See San Diego Unified School District, supra*, 33 Cal.4th at 877-878.

2. WQIPs are Not Federally Required, But Were Imposed as a Result of the Regional Board's Exercise of its Discretion

The Water Boards contend that WQIPs are based entirely on federal law and the Regional Board determined they were necessary to meet the MEP standard.[133] Both contentions lack merit.

First, no federal statute requires Regional Permit Provisions B and F. The Regional Permit required the WQIPs to be designed to ultimately achieve compliance with the Regional Permit's Receiving Water Limitations and in particular the prohibition against discharges causing or contributing to exceedances of water quality standards (*see* Provision A.4). As discussed above, federal law does not require MS4 discharges to comply with water quality standards but, pursuant to 33 U.S.C § 1342(p)(3)(B)(iii), only requires MS4 permits to contain controls that reduce pollutants to the MEP. The CWA neither requires Claimants' discharges to comply with water quality standards nor requires Claimants to prepare a plan to achieve such a result.

Second, no federal regulation requires the preparation of WQIPs. In support of their argument, the Water Boards cite only 40 CFR § 122.26(d)(2)(iv). This regulation provides that a proposed management program should be set forth in a permittee's original application for a MS4 permit. The proposed management program must be based on a description of structural and source control measures to reduce pollutants from runoff from commercial and residential areas that are discharged from MS4 systems; a description of a program to detect and remove illicit discharges and the improper disposal into the storm sewer; a description of a program to monitor and control pollutants and discharges to MS4 systems from municipal landfills, hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities and certain other designated facilities; and description of a program to control pollutants in stormwater from construction sites.[134]

40 C.F.R § 122.26(d)(2)(iv) applies to an individual permittee's permit application. Nowhere does it require permittees to join together and identify water quality priorities, implement a public participation process, or develop the extensive plans and strategies required in the WQIPs. Nowhere does it require such plans to be reviewed and annually updated. Nowhere does it require the plan to be designed to achieve water quality standards.

Indeed, the Commission has already found that programs such as WQIPs are not federal mandates. In the test claim addressing the 2007 San Diego County stormwater permit, the Commission considered whether requirements for a "watershed urban runoff program" constituted a state mandate. This urban runoff program was similar in concept, but less prescriptive, than the WQIP requirements set forth in the Regional Permit. The Commission found that federal regulations did not require the urban runoff program, stating:

> "As with the other requirements in the permit, the federal regulations authorize but do not require the specificity regarding whether collaboration occurs on a

[133] WB Response at 29.

[134] 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A), (B), (C), and (D) (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 13).

> jurisdictional watershed or other basis. These requirements 'exceed the mandate in federal law or regulation.' As in *Long Beach Unified School District v. State of California*, the permit requires specific actions, i.e. required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. Adopting these permit provisions, the State has freely chosen to impose these requirements."[135]

That same analysis applies here. The proposed management program described in 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(iv), even if applicable to more than just an initial permit application, does not require the preparation of regional plans with the detailed and prescriptive constituents required of Claimants in the Regional Permit's WQIP provision. The Regional Permit requires actions that go beyond the requirements of federal law and are thus state, not federal mandates.[136]

The Water Boards also contend that WQIPs are necessary to meet the MEP standard, but do not cite any evidence in support of this contention. Neither the Regional Permit nor the Fact Sheet contain any case-specific finding that WQIPs constitute the only means by which to comply with the MEP standard. This contention is not supported by the record.

The Water Boards also cite the EPA-issued permit for the District of Columbia in support of their argument. Contrary to the Water Boards' contention, the District of Columbia permit does not include WQIPs that are as extensive as those that the Regional Permit requires. The section cited by the Water Boards does not require identification of water quality priorities, coordination with other permittees on a watershed basis, development of plans and strategies that are in addition to the programs set forth in the Regional Permit, or annual updates to those plans. The section simply provided that the programs set forth in the D.C. permit shall be implemented, assessed and upgraded.[137] Other EPA-issued permits also do not include the extensive plans or procedures that the Regional Permit requires.[138]

For the reasons set forth more fully in Claimant's Narrative Statement, the WQIP process also shifts responsibility for identifying impaired waterbodies and addressing those requirements (*e.g.*, the shifting of Regional Board responsibility to Claimants in Regional Permit Provisions B.2.a, b and c).[139] The Water Boards argue that there has been no shifting of responsibility, but their comments address only the circumstance in which assessment of water quality conditions indicate no impairment.[140] WQIPs, however, also require Claimants to identify those circumstances in which impairments exist, determine if those impairments are a result of MS4 discharges, and, if so, develop strategies to address those impairments.[141] In the Fact Sheet, the Regional Board admitted that formulation of the WQIPs could relieve the Regional Board of the

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[135] San Diego Statement of Decision at 74 (footnote omitted).

[136] *Long Beach Unified School District, supra*, 225 Cal.App.3d at 173.

[137] *See* USEPA MS4 permit for the District of Columbia, at 7-8, cited in WB Response at 31.

[138] Ashby Dec., ¶ 10.

[139] *See* Claimant's Narrative Statement at 5-31 to 5-32.

[140] WB Response at 31-32.

[141] *See, e.g.*, Regional Permit Provisions B.2 and 3.

obligation to prepare a TMDL for the identified impairment.[142] The Regional Board is seeking to shift these activities from itself to Claimants. This shifting of responsibility also constitutes a state mandate.[143]

3. No Other Exceptions Apply

The Water Boards also contend that another mandate exception applies, specifically that Claimants were already performing "the kinds of watershed based monitoring and evaluation" required in the WQIP and that Claimants endorsed inclusion of the WQIP in the permit.[144] This contention also lacks merit.

First, there is no evidence that the watershed action plans and work plans cited by the Water Boards required the detailed analysis, hearings, annual reporting, and updates required by the WQIP. They did not. Second, even if the Claimants were voluntarily performing these tasks before adoption of the Regional Permit, such voluntary efforts would be irrelevant to the issue of whether the WQIP is a state mandate.

Government Code § 17565 specifically provides that "if a local agency or a school district, at its option, has been incurring costs which are subsequently mandated by the state, the state must reimburse the agency or district for the costs incurred after the operative date of the mandate." In the Los Angeles County Statement of Decision, the Commission applied this rule to the Water Boards' argument that the Claimants had been installing trash receptacles prior to the mandate, finding that whether they did so was not relevant to the finding that the trash receptacle requirement was a state mandate.[145] The same rule applies here. Thus, whether Claimants were performing the kinds of watershed base monitoring and evaluation required by the WQIP prior to its inclusion to the Regional Permit is irrelevant to whether the WQIP is a mandate.

Moreover, Claimants did not voluntarily agree to implement the WQIP programs. Claimants did not suggest the programs in their Report of Waste Discharge ("ROWD"), submitted as their application for issuance of a permit,[146] and the Watershed Management programs described in Section 4 of the ROWD are in fact included as an item in Claimants' test claim on the 2009 Permit.[147] Nor, contrary to the Water Boards' assertion, did Claimants endorse the inclusion of WQIPs.[148] Although Claimants' indicated that inclusion of WQIPs could be a significant advance, Claimants did not request imposition of the WQIPs. At that time, the Regional Board

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[142] Regional Permit Fact Sheet at F-63-F65.

[143] *Dept. of Finance*, 1 Cal.5th at 765; *Hayes*, 11 Cal.App.4th at 1593-94.

[144] WB Response at 31.

[145] Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 49.

[146] *See* Report of Waste Discharge, May 20, 2014, Section 4.4, Exhibit 29 to WB Response (no request for WQIPs in the discussion of watershed management programs).

[147] *See* California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, Order No. R9-2009-0002, 10-TC-11 ("Test Claim 10-TC-11"), Item F.

[148] WB Response at 31.

had already proposed inclusion of WQIPs into the Regional Permit, and Claimants were merely responding to the fact that WQIPs were now in the proposed permit.[149]

D. Alternative Compliance (Regional Permit Provision B.3.c)

Provision B.3.c provides that Claimants can comply with Regional Permit Provisions A.1.a, A.1.c, A.1.d, A.2 and A.3.b (discharge prohibitions, ASBS requirements, receiving water limitations, and TMDL WQBELs) through compliance with WQIPs. This provision was included in the Regional Permit pursuant to a State Water Board directive in State Water Board Order WQ 2015-0075.[150]

1. The Alternative Compliance Option is a New Program or Higher Level of Service

The Water Boards contend that this alternative compliance option is not a new program or higher level of service because it is purportedly "optional." (The Water Boards do not dispute that the alternative compliance option is new to the permit.)[151] Provision B.3.c, the alternative compliance option, however, is but one of two means to comply with Provision A's discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, and WQBELs. *Compliance with those provisions are mandatory, not optional.*

Thus, whether the costs are incurred through the alternative compliance option or through another program to comply with the discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, and WQBELs, Claimants are still mandated to implement a program designed to meet those requirements. Claimants do not have a choice. The alternative compliance option is just a subset of the mandate set forth in A.1 through A.3 and Attachment E. It is not voluntary but just a means of compliance.

Indeed, the State Board directed regional boards to include alternative compliance options because the State Board recognized that, in certain circumstances, MS4 discharges cannot immediately comply with receiving water limitations.[152] Where compliance cannot be immediately achieved, a provision such as Provision B.3.c is then not voluntary because it is the only means of avoiding substantial penalties and other enforcement for non-compliance. Although addressing when the federal government mandates a requirement, the Supreme Court articulated this principle in *City of Sacramento v. State of California,* holding that, where the State is required to take certain action to avoid certain and severe penalties, the course of action is not voluntary.[153]

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[149] Letter dated January 11, 2013 at 6-7, Attachment 30 to WB Response.

[150] *See* Regional Permit Fact Sheet at F-59 ("State Water Board Order WQ 2015-0075 directs the Regional Water Boards to consider a watershed-based planning and implementation approach to compliance with receiving water limitations when issuing Phase I MS4 permits going forward").

[151] WB Response at 32-33.

[152] State Board Order WQ 2015-0075 at 15-16.

[153] *City of Sacramento v. State of California* (1990) 50 Cal.3d 51, 74.

That same rule applies here. Where there is no means to comply with the discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, or TMDL WQBELs except pursuant to the preparation of a WQIP, and the alternative is to be subject to civil penalties for non-compliance with the permit, implementation of the WQIP is not voluntary.[154]

The Regional Board's Executive Officer in fact testified during adoption of the original version of the Regional Permit on May 8, 2013, that "[t]he receiving water quality objectives are already being exceeded."[155] The Executive Officer's comments were no doubt based on his or his staff's review of monitoring data submitted by the copermittees, and the number of waterbodies within the Regional Permit area listed as impaired under Section 303(d) of the CWA. Thus, the Regional Board when it adopted the Regional Permit knew that there was no means to comply with the discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, or TMDL WQBELs except pursuant to Provision B.3.c.

Finally, for the reasons set forth in Claimants' Narrative Statement, Provision B.3.c also shifts the requirements for the Regional Board to develop TMDLs from itself to Claimants.[156]

2. Provision B.3.c is Not Federally Mandated and No Other Exception Applies

The Water Boards do not contend that that Provision B.3.c is federally mandated or that any other exception specifically applies. No EPA-issued permit contains a provision for compliance through such extensive water quality improvement plans.[157]

E. Critical Sediment and Hydromodification (Regional Permit Provision E.3.c(2))

Regional Permit Provision E.3.c(2) requires that Claimants "must require each Priority Development Project to implement onsite BMPs to manage hydromodification that may be caused by storm water runoff discharge from a project." It further provides that "Each Priority Development must avoid critical sediment yield areas known to the Copermittees or identified by the optional Watershed Management Area Analysis . . . or implement measures that allow critical coarse sediment to be discharged to receiving waters, such that there is no net impact to the receiving water."[158]

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[154] *See also National Federation of Independent Businesses v. Sebelius* (2012) 132 S. Ct. 2566, 2571 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. III, Tab 6).

[155] *See* excerpt of Partial Transcript of May 8, 2013 adoption hearing, at 75 line 14 to 76 line 7 (Rebuttal Com., Tab 21). Once the record is filed, a formal citation will be made to the record.

[156] *See* Narrative Statement at 5-41.

[157] Ashby Dec., ¶ 11.

[158] Regional Permit, Provision E.3.c(2) (b).

Although the Water Boards concede that this provision is new, the Water Boards nevertheless contend that it is not a new program or higher level of service and is federally mandated.[159]

1. Provision E.3.c(2) is a New Program or Higher Level of Service

The Water Boards contend that Provision E.3.c(2) is not a new program or higher level of service because, although new, it is nevertheless "consistent" with requirements in the 2009 Permit. This contention lacks merit.

2009 Permit Directive F.1.h(1)(c) sets forth the hydromodification requirements for priority development projects required by the permit. That provision provided that such projects were to have hydrologic control measures so that post-project runoff flows and durations did not exceed pre-project flows and durations by more than ten percent and certain other provisions.

2009 Permit Directive F.1.h(1)(c) did not require that priority development project were to avoid critical sediment yield areas or implement measures that allowed critical coarse sediment to be discharged such that there is no net impact to the receiving water as set forth in Regional Permit Provision E.3.c(2). Thus, contrary to the Water Boards' argument, the requirements of Provision E.3.c(2) were not present in the 2009 Permit and therefore these requirements are a new program or a higher level of service.[160] (The 2009 Permit's requirement to control post-project runoff so that the runoff does not exceed pre-project flows and duration by more than ten percent is one of the subjects of Test Claim 10-TC-11.)

2. Provision E.3.c(2) is Not Federally Mandated

As set forth more fully in Claimant's Narrative Statement, the Commission in Test Claim 07-TC-09 has already determined that a similar hydromodification management requirement in the 2007 San Diego County MS4 permit constitutes a state-mandated new program or higher level of service.[161]

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that this provision is necessary to meet the federal MEP standard, citing the Fact Sheet on page F-105.[162] The Fact Sheet there provides that Provision E.3.c(2) "requires Priority Development Projects to avoid known critical sediment yield areas or implement measures that would allow coarse sediment to be discharged to receiving waters, such that the natural sediments supply is unaffected by the project. This is necessary because the availability of coarse sediment supply is as much an issue for causing erosive conditions to

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[159] WB Response at 34.

[160] *San Diego Unified School District, supra,* 33 Cal.4th at 877-878.

[161] San Diego County Statement of Decision at 45-48, 97.

[162] WB Response at 34-35.

receiving streams as are accelerated flows."[163]

This statement in the Fact Sheet, however, indicating that Provision E.3.c(2) represents the only means to achieve the MEP standard, does not arise to the case specific analysis required by the Supreme Court in *Dept. of Finance*. The Fact Sheet cites no federal statute or regulation that compels this requirement. There is, thus, no finding that this provision is necessary to meet the MEP standard and no federal statute or regulation that requires it. Instead, Provision E.3.c(2) is a requirement imposed by the Regional Board in the exercise of its discretion, one that exceeds the requirements of federal law and regulations. Indeed, no EPA-issued permit contains these requirements.[164] Provision E.3.c(2) is a state, not federal, mandate.[165]

3. No Other Exceptions Apply

The Water Boards also assert that Provision E.3.c(2) is not a reimbursable state mandate because the costs associated with it are de minimis and that Claimants have fee authority with respect to private priority developments. (With respect to municipal projects, the Water Boards argue that compliance costs are voluntary because the municipality does not have to construct the project.)[166]

The costs of compliance are not de minimis. In *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, the Supreme Court found that costs incurred by a school district in holding a discretionary expulsion hearing were not reimbursable because the hearing was discretionary under state law.[167] The court further found that where costs are merely incidental to the federal mandate, and are in that context de minimis, they should be treated as part of the underlying federal mandate.[168] Under *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, the test as to whether costs are de minimis is not the amount of the cost alone, but also whether they are incidental to a federal mandate and are in that context de minimis.[169]

Here Provision E.3.c is not incidental to a federal mandate. It is a new, separate program that is not incidental to any federal statute or regulation. It cannot therefore be viewed as "de minimis" within the meaning of *San Diego Unified School Dist.*

Indeed, the Legislature in Government Code §17564(a) has set forth the minimum amount that can be claimed. That section provides that no claim can be made unless the claim exceeds $1,000. As set forth in Claimants' declarations, their claim for this provision exceeds that

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[163] Fact Sheet at F-105.

[164] Ashby Dec., ¶ 12.

[165] *Long Beach Unified School District*, 225 Cal.App.3d at 173.

[166] WB Response at 35.

[167] *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, 33 Cal.4th at 889.

[168] *Id.* at 890.

[169] *Id.*

amount.[170] Under Government Code § 17564(a) also, therefore, Claimants' claim cannot be considered de minimis.

Claimants' lack of fee authority to fund Provision E.3.c(2) is addressed in Section VII of this Rebuttal, *infra*. It also cannot be said that Claimants' municipal projects are voluntary. Claimants have an obligation to provide services to their citizens. That obligation requires Claimants to construct projects to meet those obligations, be it public safety, health, recreation or other needs. Projects constructed to meet Claimants' obligation to provide services to their citizens are not voluntary undertakings.

F. BMP Design Manual Update (Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b)

Regional Permit Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b require Claimants to update their BMP Design Manual. Again, the Water Boards contend that this is not a new program or higher level of service, it is necessary to meet the MEP standard, or otherwise falls under an exception to mandate reimbursement.

1. Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b are a New Program or Higher Level of Service

Although the Water Boards concede that Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b require updates to the BMP Design Manual with specific procedures and criteria not previously required, the Water Boards nevertheless contend that the new tasks and obligations imposed do not rise to the level of a new program or higher level of service because the requirements allegedly seek to accomplish the same objective as the federal regulations.[171]

That is not the test as to whether a requirement is a new program or higher level of service. As previously discussed, a program is new if the local government entity had not previously been required to institute it. A higher level of service exists where the mandate results in an increase in the actual level or quality of governmental services provided. Both of these determinations are made by comparing the mandate with the preexisting requirements.[172] Merely because the objective may be the same as in a previous mandate does not mean that the new mandate is still not a new program or higher level of service. For example, the State can impose new requirements in areas of education or public safety that can constitute new programs or higher levels of service, even though the objective of improving public education or public safety is the same as in prior programs.

Moreover, the federal regulation cited by the Water Boards, 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2), requires the permit application to contain a description of a planning procedure to reduce the discharge of pollutants from areas of new development and significant

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[170] *See* Declarations of Claimant representatives filed with Test Claim, ¶ 7.e.

[171] WB Response at 36.

[172] *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, 33 Cal.4th at 877-878.

redevelopment. It does not, however, require the extensive revisions to such a plan required by Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b.

Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b were not present in the 2009 Permit. Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b are a new program or higher level of service.

2. Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b Are Not Federally Mandated

The Water Boards argue, as they do with respect to other mandates in this Test Claim, that provisions E.3.d and F.2.b are necessary to meet the federal MEP standard. They cite no case-specific finding as to why these provisions are the only means to meet the MEP standard, the Regional Board having made no such finding.[173] Having failed to meet the requirements of *Dept. of Finance,* the Regional Board's Fact Sheet discussion that Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b implement the requirements of 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2) is not entitled to deference.[174]

Moreover, even though Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b may implement the requirements of the regulation, the Regional Board made no finding that the provisions represent the only means to fulfill that requirement. The regulation itself, 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2), does not require that BMP manuals must be updated in accordance with the criteria set forth in provisions E.3.d and F.2.b. Indeed, no EPA-issued permit contains such extensive requirements.[175]

As set forth in Claimant's Narrative Statement,[176] in the test claim involving the 2007 San Diego MS4 Permit the Commission has already found that the requirement to review and update BMP and local guidance materials, such as is required by Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b, are state mandates. In that test claim, the Commission was reviewing a similar "standard urban stormwater mitigation plan" that also applied to new development and redevelopment, as is the case with provisions E.3.d and F.2.b. The Commission held:

> Nothing in the federal regulation (40 C.F.R. §122.26) . . . requires local agencies to collectively review and update the BMP requirements listed in their SUSMPs. . . As in *Long Beach Unified School District v. State of California,* the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen to impose these requirements.[177]

The Commission's analysis and holding in the San Diego County Test Claim applies to this Test Claim. The Regional Permit requires specific actions that go beyond the requirements of

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[173] WB Response at 36.

[174] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 768.

[175] Ashby Dec., ¶ 13.

[176] Claimants' Narrative Statement at 5-45 to 5-46.

[177] San Diego County Statement of Decision at 51 (citing *Long Beach Unified School District* and *Hayes*).

federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the State has freely chosen to impose these requirements.

3. No Other Mandate Exception Applies

The Water Boards also contend that Claimants' costs of compliance are de minimis and that Claimants may assess fees to fund this mandate. As discussed above, however, costs are de minimis only where the costs are incidental to a federal mandate.[178] The BMP design manual update costs are independent of any federal mandate. Additionally, the costs alleged with respect to this mandate exceed the statutory amount for filing a claim set forth in Government Code § 17564.[179] The costs imposed by this mandate are not "de minimis."

The Water Boards' contention that Claimants can assess fees to fund this mandate is addressed in Section VII, *infra*, of this Rebuttal.

G. Residential Inventory and Inspections (Regional Permit Provision E.5)

Pursuant to Regional Permit Provision E.5, Claimants are required to maintain and update a watershed-based inventory of existing development that may discharge a pollutant load to or from the MS4, including residential development, and inspect those developments. The inspections must include inspections for the presence of actual or potential discharge of non stormwater, actual or potential discharge of pollutants, actual or potential illicit connections, assessment of compliance with applicable local ordinances and permits, assessment of implementation of BMPs, and coverage under the industrial general permit when applicable to industrial facilities. Claimants must also implement enforcement where necessary based on the inspections.[180] Like the other mandates, the Water Boards contend that this program is not a new program or higher level of service, it is necessary to meet the federal MEP standard, and that other mandate exceptions apply.[181]

1. Provision E.5 is a New Program or Higher Level of Service

As set forth in Claimant's Narrative Statement, the 2009 Permit required Claimants to encourage the use of pollution prevention methods by residents. The 2009 Permit, however, did not include the mandatory inventory and inspection programs that Provision E.5 now requires.[182]

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that Provision E.5 is not a new program or higher level of service because it is aimed at the same objective as Directive F.3.c of the 2009 Permit. Again, that is not the test. A program is "new" if the local government entity had not previously

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[178] *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, 33 Cal.4th at 890.

[179] *See* Declarations of Claimant representatives in support of Test Claim, ¶ 7(f).

[180] Regional Permit, Sections E.5.a, c and d.

[181] WB Response at 37-38.

[182] *Compare* 2009 Permit, Directive F3.c(1), (2), (3) and (6) *with* Regional Permit, Provision E.5.

been required to institute it, and constitutes a "higher level of service" if it results in an increase in the actual or quality of governmental services provided.[183] The Water Boards do not dispute that the inventory, inspections, and other actions required by Provision E.5 were not mandated by the 2009 Permit. Certainly, Provision E.5 requires Claimants to increase the actual level or quality of governmental services provided. Provision E.5 therefore is a new program or higher level of service.

2. Provision E.5 is Not Federally Mandated

The Water Boards also contend that Provision E.5 is a federal mandate. They do not, however, argue that it is required by a particular statute or regulation, but instead again argue that Provision E.5 is necessary to meet the MEP standard. In support of their argument, the Water Boards cite 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) and (C).[184]

The CWA does not, however, require municipalities to regulate discharges from private parties or entities, including residential property. Instead, 33 U.S.C. §1342(p)(3)(B)(iii) imposes an obligation on municipalities to control their own discharges from municipal storm sewer systems, *i.e.,* to reduce pollutants in those discharges to the maximum extent practicable.

The obligation to regulate discharges from private parties, including residential property, is an obligation of the Regional Board. Porter-Cologne requires any person who discharges or proposes to discharge "waste" that could affect the quality of the "waters of the state" to obtain a waste discharge requirement permit from the Regional Board.[185] Any person who discharges pollutants to a water of the United States is required to obtain an NPDES permit from the Regional Board.[186] Thus, the obligation to regulate discharges of waste or pollutants from residential property is a Regional Board obligation.

Moreover, nothing in the federal regulation cited by the Water Boards requires Claimants to inventory, inspect or enforce against residential property. 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) and (C) requires a municipality's permit application to contain a description of a management program that will reduce runoff from commercial and residential areas and municipal landfills. This regulation does not require any of the tasks set forth in Provision E.5. This is demonstrated by the fact that no EPA-issued permit contains these requirements.[187] Instead, by specifying those tasks, the Regional Board usurped the Claimants' ability to design a program and instead mandated its own.

The courts and this Commission have considered mandates like Provision E.5 and have found them to be state, not federal, mandates. In *Dept. of Finance*, the Supreme Court reviewed

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[183] *San Diego Unified School Dist*, 33 Cal. 4th at 877-78.

[184] WB Response at 38.

[185] Water Code §§ 13260 and 13263.

[186] Water Code § 13377.

[187] Ashby Dec., ¶ 14.

the Commission's determination in the Los Angeles County Test Claim that requirements to inspect industrial and construction sites constituted state, not federal, mandates. The Water Boards argued there that the inspections were federally mandated by reason of provisions in 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(2)(iv) that required a management program to reduce pollutants from industrial and construction sites. The Supreme Court rejected the Water Boards' argument, finding that the inspection obligations were a state obligation and that nothing in the regulations required the number and type of inspections being imposed.[188] As the Supreme Court held, the fact "that the EPA regulations contemplated some form of inspections, however, does not mean that federal law required the scope and detailed inspections required by the Permit conditions."[189]

The Supreme Court's holding applies to the Water Boards' contentions with respect to Provision E.5. .[190] The Regional Board is shifting its obligation under Porter-Cologne to regulate discharges from residential property from itself to Claimants. Provision E.5 requires acts that go beyond the requirements of the federal regulation and thus is a state, not federal mandate.[191]

3. Other Exceptions Do Not Apply

The Water Boards again contend that the costs associated with Provision E.5 are de minimis and that Claimants have fee authority to pay for them. For the reasons set forth above with respect to critical sediment yield and the BMP Design Manual update, the costs here are not de minimis;[192] they are not merely incidental to an underlying federal mandate. Claimant's lack of fee authority to fund Provision E.5 is addressed in Section VII, *infra*.

H. Retrofit and Stream Rehabilitation Requirement (Regional Permit, Provision E.5.e)

Regional Permit Provision E.5.e(1) requires Claimants to retrofit areas of existing development and Regional Permit Provision E.5.e(2) requires Claimants to rehabilitate streams, channels, and/or habitats in areas of existing development.

1. Provision E.5.e is a New Program or Higher Level of Service

As set forth in Claimants' Narrative Statement, although the 2009 Permit required a retrofitting program (which is the subject of Test claim 10-TC-11), the 2009 Permit did not require a program to encourage rehabilitation of streams, channels or habitat. The Water Boards do not dispute that the retrofit program is the subject of pending Test Claim 10-TC-11 or that rehabilitation of streams, channels and/or habitat in existing development was not included in the 2009 Permit. Instead, the Water Boards only contend that Provision E.5.e is not a new program

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[188] *Dept. of Finance*, 1 Cal.5th at 770-71.

[189] *Id.* at 771.

[190] Los Angeles County Statement of Decision at 36.

[191] *Hayes*, 11 Cal.App.4th at 1593-94; *Long Beach Unified School District*, 225 Cal.App.3d at 173.

[192] *See* Declarations of Claimant representatives, ¶ 7(g).

of higher level of service for the reasons set forth in their general responses, which argue that all the mandates at issue are not new programs or higher level of service because they are just refinements of existing requirements.[193]

As set forth in Section V.A.2 of this Rebuttal, *supra*, addressing the Water Boards' general argument that none of the mandates at issue here are new programs or higher levels of service, the proper test is to compare Provision E.5.e with the requirements of the 2009 or prior permits and determine whether the mandate set forth in E.5.e had not previously been required or whether it results in an increase in the actual level or quality of governmental services provided.[194] Applying that test, Provision E.5 is a new program or higher level of service; the program to rehabilitate streams, channels and habitat is new and would provide additional governmental services. (The retrofit program is covered by pending Test Claim 10-TC-11 and the Commission's ruling in that Test Claim will be applicable here.)

The Water Boards also assert that Provision E.5.e does not require Claimants to retrofit areas, or rehabilitate streams, channels and habitat but only implement a program to encourage such retrofitting and rehabilitation.[195] That does not make the requirement any less of a mandate. Claimants still must develop a new program to meet these requirements and expend funds implementing that program.

2. Provision E.5.e is Not Federally Mandated

The Water Boards concede that federal regulations do not explicitly require these retrofit and rehabilitation programs. Instead, the Water Boards appear to again argue that this program is part of the iterative process or necessary to meet the MEP standard.[196] Again, however, the Water Boards cite to no case-specific finding that Provision E.5.e is the only means available to attain the MEP standard. Instead, the Regional Board usurped Claimants' right to design their own program and imposed requirements that exceed the federal regulations. As such, there is no finding entitled to deference. Provision E.5.e which exceeds the federal regulations, is a state, not federal mandate.[197]

The Water Boards also argue that the EPA-issued stormwater permit to the District of Columbia contains a retrofit program. The fact that the D.C. permit contains a retrofit program, however, is also not determinative. Indeed, the D.C. permit program does not require retrofitting of streams, channels or habitat, and Provision E.5.e contains requirements other than those set forth in the D.C. permit.[198] In addition, other EPA-issued permits do not contain this provision, which

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[193] WB Response at 39.

[194] *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, 33 Cal.4th at 877-78.

[195] WB Response at 39.

[196] WB Response at 39-40.

[197] *Long Beach Unified School District*, 225 Cal.App.3d at 173.

[198] *Compare* Regional Permit Provision E.5.e *with* D.C Permit Section 4.1.5.

further evidences the fact that Provision E.5.e is not a federal requirement.[199]

3. Other Mandate Exceptions Do Not Apply

The Water Boards again argue that the costs for these programs are de minimis and that Claimants have the authority to assess fees to fund them. The Water Boards also contend that Claimants proposed Provision E.5.e in their Report of Waste Discharge.[200] For the same reasons set forth above with respect to other Test Claim requirements, the costs associated with the mandates discussed above are not de minimis, they are not merely incidental to an underlying federal mandate and they exceed the statutory amount set forth in Government Code § 17564.[201]

Contrary to the Water Boards' assertion, Claimants did not propose the program set forth in Provision E.5.e in their ROWD. The ROWD's Executive Summary, cited by the Water Boards, only stated that the permittees had performed extensive watershed mapping of hydromodification susceptibility, infiltration feasibility and reasonable BMP opportunity sites.[202] The recommendations set forth in section 3.24 of the ROWD, also cited by the Water Boards, also did not recommend the program set forth in Provision E.5.e. Instead, the permittees recommended examining *public land* for regional BMPs retrofit opportunities, not retrofitting all existing development or rehabilitating streams, channels or habitat.[203] Claimants did not propose or request the programs incorporated into Regional Permit Provision E.5.e.

Claimants' inability to assess fees to pay for this program is addressed in Section VII, *infra.*

I. Enforcement Response Plans (Regional Permit Provision E.6)

Regional Permit Provision E.6 requires Claimants to develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan as part of their Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program ("JRMP"), which is a comprehensive program that assists in controlling discharges within Claimants' jurisdictions. No such requirement was present in the 2009 Permit. No such requirement is set forth by any federal statute or regulation. Nevertheless, the Water Boards again contend both that Provision E.6 is not a new program or higher level of service and that it is required to meet the MEP standard.

1. Provision E.6 is New Program or Higher Level of Service

The Water Boards first contend that Provision E.6 is not a new program or higher level of service because the 2009 Permit required Claimants to enforce their ordinances. A comparison of Provision E.6 and the 2009 Permit, however, demonstrates that Provision E.6 is much more

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[199] See Ashby Dec., ¶ 15.

[200] WB Response at 40-41.

[201] *See* Declarations of Claimant representatives, ¶ 7(h).

[202] ROWD, May 20, 2014, a p. v.

[203] *Id.,* Section 3.2.4 at 3.2.8.

extensive and results in an increase in the actual level or quality of governmental services provided. The provisions of the 2009 Permit upon which the Water Boards rely are limited only to requiring that a Claimant enforce its own ordinance or takes steps to eliminate illicit discharges. [204]

In contrast, Provision E.6 goes much further. It requires the preparation of a response plan with four different components (E.6.a), mandates sanctions (E.6.b), mandates a time period for correction of violations, and requires escalated enforcement and reporting of non-compliant sites (E.6.d and e). These provisions are much more extensive than the 2009 Permit. They certainly will result in increase in the actual level of government services and thus constitute a mandated higher level of service.

2. Provision E.6 is Not Federally Mandated

As set forth in Claimant's Narrative Statement, no federal statute or regulation requires the enforcement response plan set forth in Provision E.6.[205]

In their response, the Water Boards do not cite any such statute or regulation. Instead, they cite 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d)(1)(ii) and 122.26(d)(2)(i), which require a permittee to have legal authority to control discharges and the contribution of pollutants to its MS4. Requiring Claimants to have such legal authority, however, is much different from the specific requirements set forth in Provision E.6.

The Water Boards also contend that Provision E.6 is a tool for transparency and evaluating implementation of the permit, and therefore it is necessary to achieve the MEP standard. The Regional Board, however, made no finding that Provision E.6 is necessary, in the circumstances of the South Orange County permittees, to meet the MEP standard. Indeed, such a provision is not in permits issued by EPA.[206]

Provision E.6 constitutes a directive from the Regional Board setting forth in detail how Claimants are to conduct enforcement. The federal regulations do not require these particular means of enforcement or such a response plan. Provision E.6 is a specified action by the Regional Board that goes beyond the federal requirement and as such, it is a state, not federal, mandate.[207]

3. No Other Mandate Exceptions Apply

The Water Boards again contend that costs for preparing and implementing Provision E.6 are de minimis, and that Claimants can assess fees and provide funds for this requirement. For the

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[204] WB Response at 41 n.179.

[205] Claimants' Narrative Statement at 5-57.

[206] Ashby Dec., ¶ 16.

[207] *Long Beach Unified School District*, 225 Cal.App.3d at 173.

same reasons set forth above, the costs associated with Provision E.6 are not de minimis.[208] The ability of Claimants to assess fees is addressed in Section VII, *infra*.

J. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program Update (Provision F.2.a)

Regional Permit Provision F.2.a requires Claimants to update their JRMPs in accordance with Provision E, which sets forth extensive obligations and requirements that must be contained in these programs. Claimants must also either annually update their JRMP with their WQIP annual report or as a part of a report of waste discharge.[209] The Water Boards again contend that Provision F.2.a is not a new program or higher level of service and is required to meet the federal MEP standard.

1. Provision F.2.a is a New Program or Higher Level of Service

The Water Boards contend that Provision F.2.a is not a new program or higher level of service because the 2009 Permit also required JRMP updates.[210]

The 2009 Permit, however, required only one update to Claimants' JRMP in accordance with the requirements of that permit.[211] In contrast, the Regional Permit requires much more extensive updates in accordance with Provision E and annual updates. The Water Boards concede that the 2009 Permit did not include the eight specific elements set forth in Provision E and do not address the annual update requirement.[212] Thus, Provision F.2.a is a thus new program or higher level of service.[213]

2. Provision F.2.a is Not Federally Mandated

Like other mandates at issue, the Water Boards again contend that Provision F.2.a is necessary to meet the MEP standard. As again is the case, the Water Boards cite no federal statute or regulation that requires all the provisions set forth in Provisions F.2.a and E to be included in an updated JRMP. The Water Boards further cite no case-specific finding that such update requirements represent the only means to meet the MEP standard.

Instead, the Water Boards cite to the EPA-issued permit for the District of Columbia and in particular a provision that required the District to update the programs in their permit.[214] The fact that EPA required the District of Columbia to update the programs in its permit, however, does not establish that federal law mandates the specific updates that are required by Provisions

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[208] *See* Declarations of Claimant representatives, ¶ 7(i).

[209] Regional Permit Provisions F.2.a(2) and (3).

[210] WB Response at 43.

[211] 2009 Permit, Directive F, p. 28.

[212] WB Response at 43.

[213] *San Diego Unified School District*, 33 Cal.4th at 877-78.

[214] WB Response at 44.

F.2.a and E of the Regional Permit. No EPA-issued permit contains the extensive requirements for updated programs that are contained in the Regional Permit,[215] and as noted, the Water Boards cite no specific statute or regulation that requires these updates.

In incorporating Provision F.2.a into the Regional Permit, the Water Boards have usurped Claimants' ability to develop their own JRMP programs and have freely chosen to impose on Claimants requirements that exceed federal law. As such, Provision F.2.a is a state, not federal, mandate.[216] Indeed, in the San Diego County Test Claim, the Commission found that similar required updates in analogous programs were state mandates because nothing in federal law or regulation requires them.[217] The same rule applies here.

3. No Other Exceptions Apply

The Water Boards also contend that the costs associated with implementing Provision F.2.a are de minimis and that Claimants have authority to assess fees to fund this program. For the reasons set forth above with respect to the other mandates, the costs incurred to implement Provision F.2.a are not de minimis.[218] Claimants do not have the authority to assess fees to fund this program as set forth in Section VII, *infra*.

K. Requirement to Appear Before and Provide Progress Reports to the Regional Board (Regional Permit Provision F.3.a)

Regional Permit Provision F.3.a requires Claimants to periodically appear before the Regional Board and provide progress reports on implementation of the WQIPs and JRMPs. These appearances and presentations are in addition to the annual reports required of Claimants.

1. Provision F.3.a is a New Program or Higher Level of Service

Nothing in the 2009 Permit required Claimants to periodically appear before the Regional Board and provide progress reports on WQIPs or JRMPs. Nevertheless, the Water Boards contend that this is not a new program or higher level of service.

There is no dispute, however, that this requirement did not exist in the 2009 Permit. It certainly is new and results in an increase in the governmental services required of and provided by Claimants. It is a new program or higher level of service.[219]

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[215] Ashby Dec., ¶17.

[216] *Hayes*, 11 Cal.App.4th at 1594; *Long Beach Unified School District*, 225 Cal.App.3d at 173.

[217] San Diego Test Claim at 41 et. seq.

[218] *See* Declarations of Claimant representatives, ¶ 7(j).

[219] *San Diego Unified School District*, 33 Cal.4th at 877-78.

2. Provision F.3.a is Not Federally Mandated

No federal statute or regulation authorizes a state agency to compel a local agency to appear before it. No federal statute or regulation requires periodic appearances before the Regional Board to provide progress reports.

The Water Boards nevertheless contend that Provision F.3.a is necessary to achieve the MEP standard, but again cite no case-specific finding or evidence in the record to support this argument.

At best, the Water Boards note that in the District of Columbia permit, EPA required an in-person meeting within 12 months of the effective date of the permit to discuss the District's progress.[220] This meeting, however, was for the purpose of determining if this reporting procedure could be used in lieu of the filing of written annual reports.[221] That is not the case with Provision F.3.a, which requires multiple appearances before the Regional Board in addition to annual reports. In any event, the requirement in the District of Columbia permit requires only a meeting, not an appearance before a public hearing and does not include all the elements that are in the WQIPs and JRMPs.

Moreover, other EPA-issued permits do not contain this requirement.[222] This omission in other permits indicates that Provision F.3a is not federally mandated; otherwise it would be in every EPA-issued permit.

3. No Other Mandate Exceptions Apply

The Water Boards again contend that the costs associated with this mandate are de minimis and that Claimants have authority to assess fees to fund this mandate. For the reasons discussed above with respect to other mandates, the costs are not de minimis.[223] For the reasons set forth in Section VII, *infra*, Claimants do not have fee authority.

VII. CLAIMANTS DO NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO LEVY SERVICE CHARGES, FEES OR ASSESSMENTS TO FUND THE MANDATED PROGRAMS

Claimants are not entitled to reimbursement if they have the authority to levy service charges, fees or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service. Govt. Code § 17556(d). Like the exception for federal mandates set forth in Govt. Code §17556(c), the State bears the burden of proving that Claimants have this authority. As the Supreme Court said with respect to the federal mandate exception, "the State must explain why"

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[220] D.C. Permit, Section 6.2.2, attached as Exhibit 45 to WB Response.

[221] *Id.*

[222] Ashby Dec., ¶ 18.

[223] *See* Declarations of Claimant representatives, ¶ 7(k).

the Claimants can assess service charges, fees or assessments to pay for mandates set forth above.[224]

The Water Boards and the DOF have not met this burden. The Water Boards and DOF's chief contention is that the fact that Claimants have to seek voter approval pursuant to Proposition 218, articles XIII C and D of the California Constitution, to assess a fee or tax does not mean that they do not have authority to do so within the meaning of Government Code section 17556(d).[225] In passing, the Water Boards also contend that Claimants can assess inspection fees or development program costs to pay for some of the mandates.[226]

Neither of these contentions meets the State's burden of explaining why the Claimants can assess charges, fees or assessments. Indeed, the Commission has already considered and rejected the Water Boards and DOF's position with respect to articles XIII C and D. In the San Diego County Stormwater Test Claim, the Water Boards and DOF made the same contention that they make here, that municipalities have authority to levy service charges, fees or assessments within the meaning of Government Code § 17556(d), even though they lack such authority under articles XIII C and D unless the charges, fees or assessments are submitted to the electorate and approved by a two-thirds vote. The Commission held:

> The Commission finds that a local agency does not have sufficient fee authority within the meaning of Government Code section 17556 if the fee or assessment is contingent on the outcome of an election by voters or property owners. The plain language of subdivision (d) of this section prohibits the Commission from finding that the permit imposes 'costs mandated by the state' if 'The local agency . . . has the *authority* to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service.' . . . Under Proposition 218, the local agency has no authority to impose the fee without the consent of the voters or property owners.
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> Additionally, it is possible that the local agency's voters or property owners may never adopt the proposed fee or assessment, but the local agency would still be required to comply with the state mandate. Denying reimbursement under these circumstances would violate the purpose of article XIII B, section 6, which is to "preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions to local agencies, which are 'ill equipped' to assume increased financial

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[224] *Dept. of Finance,* 1 Cal.5th at 769.

[225] As set forth in Claimants' Narrative Statement, the 11 mandated activities at issue here are programs that apply throughout Claimants' jurisdictions and are not directed towards individual businesses or property owners. As such any charge to pay for these programs would be a "special tax" within the meaning article XIII C, section 1(d) of the California Constitution (Test Claim Doc., Vol. II, Tab 3). No local government may impose, extend, or increase any special tax unless it is approve by a two-thirds vote of the electorate. *See generally* Claimants' Narrative Statement at 5-63 – 5-68.

[226] WB Response at 19.

responsibilities because of taxing and spending limitations that articles XIII A and XIII B impose."[227]

In reaching this result, the Commission rejected the Water Boards' contention, also made here, that *Connell v. Superior Court* (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th 382, in which the court held that economic impracticability is not a bar to levying charges or fees within the meaning of section 17556, was applicable. The Commission held:

> The Proposition 218 election requirement is not like the economic hurdle to fees in *Connell. Absent compliance with the Proposition 218 election and other procedures, there is no legal authority to impose or raise fees within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d).* The voting requirement of Proposition does not impose a mere practical or economic hurdle, as in *Connell,* but a legal and constitutional one. Without voter or property owner approval, the local agency lacks the "authority," i.e., the right or power, to levy fees sufficient to cover the costs of the state-mandated program.[228]

As a result, the Commission found the following state mandates in the San Diego County stormwater permit to be reimbursable: (1) street sweeping; (2) street sweeping reporting; (3) conveyance system cleaning; (4) conveyance system cleaning reporting; (5) educational programs; (6) watershed activities and collaboration in the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program; (7) the Regional Urban Runoff Management Program; (8) program effectiveness assessment; (9) long-term effectiveness assessment; and (10) permittee collaboration requirements.[229]

The Commission reached the same conclusion in the San Diego County Stormwater Test Claim with respect to property-related fees under article XIII D of the Constitution. To the extent that any fees imposed for the programs at issue here would be considered property-related fees, rather than a special tax, the fee would still be subject to voter approval or approval by a majority of property owners under article XIII D, section 6(c).[230] As the Commission found in the San Diego County Test Claim, this requirement also means that Claimants lack authority to impose fees for property-related services.[231]

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[227] San Diego County Statement of Decision at 106 (emphasis in original; citation omitted).

[228] *Id.* at 107 (emphasis added).

[229] *Id.* at 1-2.

[230] *See Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. v. City of Salinas* (2002) 98 Cal. App. 4th 1351 (Test Claim Doc., Vol. III, Tab 11).

[231] San Diego County Statement of Decision at 106-07. The Commission reiterated this principle in *In Re Test Claim on* Water Code Division 6, Part 2.5 [Sections 10608 through 10608.41] and Part 2.8 [Sections 10800 through 10853] as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, Chapter 4, Test Claim Nos. 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01 (December 5, 2014) (Rebuttal Doc., Tab 20). In these test claims, certain water suppliers sought reimbursement for new activities imposed on urban and agricultural water suppliers. With respect to the application of article XIII D, the Commission found that the water suppliers had fee authority, in that their fees were for water services within the meaning of article XIII D, section 6(e), and

The Water Boards and DOF nevertheless contend that Claimants have the ability to submit fees to the voters for approval, and that under *Clovis Unified School District v. Chiang* (2010) 188 Cal.App.4th 794, this ability by itself meets the requirements of Government Code § 17556(d).

Clovis is not applicable. In *Clovis* the school district was authorized to collect health fees but voluntarily chose not to do so.[232] In those circumstances, the Court of Appeal held that the Controller's office properly offset the authorized fees, whether the school district collected them or not, because the district had the authority to assess those fees.[233] Here, Claimants have not been authorized to collect fees or taxes; they currently have no such power as such authority resides directly with the electorate, pursuant to Prop 218, for any stormwater related pollution control charge. Therefore this is not a circumstance in which Claimants can assess fees but have voluntarily chosen not to do so. Indeed, if one accepted this argument, article XIII B, section 6, would be written out of the Constitution because the argument could always be made that a city or county could submit a tax or fee to the electorate. If that ability was all that was required to meet Government Code § 17556(d), a city or county could never obtain a subvention of funds. Such a result would be contrary to the people of California's intent in adopting article XIII B, section 6.

The Water Boards contend that Claimants can assess development fees to pay for the critical sediment yield (hydromodification) and BMP Design Manual Update programs.[234] These programs, however, are not directed at any specific development against which a fee can be assessed. Instead, under the critical sediment yield program (Provision E.3.c.2), Claimants must develop their own programs to assure that priority developments meet the Regional Permit's dictates. Claimants cannot simply impose a general fee on all development applications to pay for this program because article XIII C, section 1(e) of the California Constitution limits the fee for processing an application to the reasonable costs of providing this benefit to the applicant.[235]

The same is true for the BMP Design Manual update. Claimants must update their own manuals, which are then available for use in general (Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b). This also is not a program directed towards an individual development against which a fee can be assessed and cannot be funded through a general fee imposed on all development applications.

The Water Boards do not identify which program could be funded through an inspection fee. The only inspection program at issue in this test claim is residential inspection program

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therefore the fee was subject only to a majority protest, not a vote of the electorate or property owners. *Id.* at 78. In doing so, the Commission noted that the San Diego County Stormwater Test Claim was distinguishable and that, with respect to in the mandates in that test claim, "absent compliance with the Proposition 218 election and other procedures, there is no legal authority to impose or raise fees within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d)." Test Claim Nos. 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01, Decision at 77.

[232] 188 Cal. App. 4th at 810.

[233] *Id.* at 812.

[234] WB Response at 35 and 37.

[235] See Claimants' Narrative Statement at 5-64 – 5-65.

(Provision E.5). As set forth in Claimant's Narrative Statement, however, Claimants have no authority to impose a fee on residential property for the purposes of inspections. Such a fee would constitute a "property-related" fee for a property-related service and would be subject to voter approval.[236]

The Water Boards and DOF have not met their burden of showing that Claimants have the authority to levy service charges, fees or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated programs at issue here. Section 17556(d) does not apply.

VIII. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, each of the 11 mandates at issue in this Test Claim are state mandates for which Claimants are entitled to reimbursement. The Commission should find that Claimants are entitled to a subvention of funds for each mandate in accordance with article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution.

I certify and declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge.

David W. Burhenn

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[236] *See* generally, Claimant's Narrative Statement at 5-51.

ATTACHMENTS IN SUPPORT OF REBUTTAL TO COMMENTS OF STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD AND CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION, AND DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CONCERNING TEST CLAIM 15-TC-02, CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION, ORDER NOS. R9-2015-0100 AND R9-2015-0001

ATTACHMENT 1: DECLARATION OF DAVID W. BURHENN AND EXHIBIT A THERETO

ATTACHMENT 2: DECLARATION OF KAREN ASHBY AND EXHIBITS 1-6 THERETO

ATTACHMENT 1

DECLARATION OF DAVID W. BURHENN ON BEHALF OF JOINT TEST CLAIMANTS IN SUPPORT OF REBUTTAL COMMENTS

I, David W. Burhenn, declare and state as follows:

1. I am a partner in the firm of Burhenn & Gest LLP, which represents the County of Orange and the Orange County Flood Control District in Test Claim 15-TC-02, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, Order Nos. R9-2015-0100 and R9-2015-0001. As such, I have personal and first-hand knowledge of the matters set forth in this Declaration and could, if called upon, testify competently thereto.

2. Exhibit A to this Declaration is a true and correct copy of excerpts of the Fact Sheet to a municipal stormwater permit issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region ("LARWQCB") to the County of Los Angeles and other permittees on or about November 8, 2012. On May 19, 2017, I downloaded that excerpt from the website of the LARWQCB at the follow address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/stormwater/municipal/los_angeles_ms4/2016/R4-2012-0175-Att_F_amended.pdf.

3. I have reviewed the permit issued by the LARWQCB to the Los Angeles County permittees and determined that amendments to the permit in 2015 and 2016 did not include revisions to the excerpts of the Fact Sheet attached hereto as Exhibit A.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed May 19, 2017 at Los Angeles, California.

David W. Burhenn

EXHIBIT A

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

LOS ANGELES REGION

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013
Phone (213) 576 - 6600 • Fax (213) 576 - 6640
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles

ATTACHMENT F – FACT SHEET

FOR

ORDER R4-2012-0175
(as amended by Order WQ 2015-0075 and Order R4-2012-0175-A01)
NPDES PERMIT NO. CAS004001

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) DISCHARGES WITHIN THE COASTAL WATERSHEDS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, EXCEPT THOSE DISCHARGES ORIGINATING FROM THE CITY OF LONG BEACH MS4

November 8, 2012

(amended on June 16, 2015 and September 8, 2016)

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Watershed Management Division has targeted the Sun Valley Watershed "...to solve the local flooding problem while retaining all storm water runoff from the watershed, increasing water conservation, recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, and reducing stormwater pollution."[68] This aggressive plan involves several stakeholders and has implemented a variety of on-site BMPs as well as storm water infiltration retrofits and diversions.

IX. STATE MANDATES

Article XIII B, Section 6(a) of the California Constitution provides that whenever "any state agency mandates a new program or higher level of service on any local government, the state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse that local government for the costs of the program or increased level of service." The requirements of this Order do not constitute state mandates that are subject to a subvention of funds for several reasons, including, but not limited to, the following.

First, the requirements of this Order do not constitute a new program or a higher level of service as compared to the requirements contained in the previous permit, Order No. 01-182 (as amended). The overarching requirement to impose controls to reduce the pollutants in discharges from MS4s is dictated by the Clean Water Act and is not new to this permit cycle. (33 U.S.C. §1342(p)(3)(B).) The inclusion of new and advanced measures as the MS4 programs evolve and mature over time is anticipated under the Clean Water Act (55 Fed.Reg. 47990, 48052 (Nov. 16, 1990)), and these new and advanced measures do not constitute a new program or higher level of service.

Second, and more broadly, mandates imposed by federal law, rather than by a state agency, are exempt from the requirement that the local agency's expenditures be reimbursed. (Cal. Const., art. XIII B, §9, subd. (b).) This Order implements federally mandated requirements under the Clean Water Act and its requirements are therefore not subject to subvention of funds. This includes federal requirements to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, and to include such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (30 U.S.C. §1342(p)(3)(B).) Federal cases have held these provisions require the development of permits and permit provisions on a case-by-case basis to satisfy federal requirements. (*Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. U.S. E.P.A.* (9th Cir. 1992) 966 F.2d 1292, 1308, fn. 17.) The authority exercised under this Order is not reserved state authority under the Clean Water Act's savings clause (cf. *Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal.4th 613, 627-628 [relying on 33 U.S.C. § 1370, which allows a state to develop requirements which are not "less stringent" than federal requirements]), but instead is part of a federal mandate to develop pollutant reduction requirements for municipal separate storm sewer systems. To this extent, it is entirely federal authority that forms the legal basis to establish the permit provisions. (See, *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Bd.-Santa Ana Region* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4th 1377, 1389; *Building Industry Ass'n of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 866, 882-883.)

[68] http://www.sunvalleywatershed.org/watershed_management_plan/wmp-0ES.pdf

The maximum extent practicable standard is a flexible standard that balances a number of considerations, including technical feasibility, cost, public acceptance, regulatory compliance, and effectiveness. (*Building Ind. Asso., supra,* 124 Cal. App.4th at pp. 873, 874, 889.) Such considerations change over time with advances in technology and with experience gained in storm water management. (55 Fed.Reg. 47990, 48052 (Nov. 16, 1990).) Accordingly, a determination of whether the conditions contained in this Order exceed the requirements of federal law cannot be based on a point by point comparison of the permit conditions and the six minimum control measures that are required "at a minimum" to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable and to protect water quality (40 CFR § 122.34). Rather, the appropriate focus is whether the permit conditions, as a whole, exceed the maximum extent practicable standard. In recent months, the County of Los Angeles and County of Sacramento Superior Courts have granted writs setting aside decisions of the Commission on State Mandates that held that certain requirements in Phase I permits constituted unfunded mandates. In both cases, the courts found that the correct analysis in determining whether a MS4 permit constituted a state mandate was to evaluate whether the permit as a whole -- and not a specific permit provision -- exceeds the maximum extent practicable standard. (*State of Cal. v. Comm. on State Mandates* (Super. Ct. Sacramento County, 2012, No. 34-2010-80000604), *State of Cal. v. County of Los Angeles* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2011, No. BS130730.)

The requirements of the Order, taken as a whole rather than individually, are necessary to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable and to protect water quality. The Regional Water Board finds that the requirements of the Order are practicable, do not exceed federal law, and thus do not constitute an unfunded mandate. These findings are the expert conclusions of the principal state agency charged with implementing the NPDES program in California. (Cal. Wat. Code, §§ 13001, 13370.)

It should also be noted that the provisions in this Order to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges are also mandated by the Clean Water Act. (33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B)(ii).) Likewise, the provisions of this Order to implement total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) are federal mandates. The Clean Water Act requires TMDLs to be developed for water bodies that do not meet federal water quality standards. (33 U.S.C. § 1313(d).) Once the USEPA or a state establishes or adopts a TMDL, federal law requires that permits must contain effluent limitations consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any applicable waste load allocation in a TMDL. (40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).)

Third, the local agency Permittees' obligations under this Order are similar to, and in many respects less stringent than, the obligations of non-governmental dischargers who are issued NPDES permits for storm water discharges. With a few inapplicable exceptions, the Clean Water Act regulates the discharge of pollutants from point sources (33 U.S.C. § 1342) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne Act) regulates the discharge of waste (Cal. Wat. Code, § 13263), both without regard to the source of the pollutant or waste. As a result, the "costs incurred by local agencies" to protect water quality reflect an overarching regulatory scheme that places similar requirements on governmental and non-governmental dischargers. (See *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 57-58 [finding comprehensive workers compensation scheme did not create a cost for local agencies that was subject to state subvention].)

ATTACHMENT 2

DECLARATION OF KAREN ASHBY

I, Karen Ashby, hereby declare:

1. I am a Vice President at Larry Walker Associates, Inc., an environmental engineering and consulting firm that specializes in, amongst other matters, water quality management. In my capacity as a Vice President I serve as a Project Manager for stormwater and watershed management projects.

2. I have a Bachelor of Science (BS) from the University of California at Irvine and am certified as a Professional in Storm Water Quality (CPSWQ) from Envirocert International, Inc. I have been an active member of the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) since 1999 as well as a Board of Director, Vice Chair and Chair of the Association. I have over 25 years of experience in stormwater quality matters, including but not limited to, providing regulatory assistance; facilitating stakeholder groups; developing and implementing stormwater management programs and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs); developing and conducting training modules; evaluating and reporting on stormwater program effectiveness; and preparing various technical reports on stormwater management issues. Prior to joining Larry Walker Associates, I managed the area-wide municipal stormwater program for the County of Orange.

3. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein and, if called to testify, could and would testify competently thereto.

4. I was requested to perform a survey of Phase I National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) permits issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). I was further asked to review those permits to determine if they included any of the requirements that are the subject of the Test Claim filed with the Commission on State Mandates by the County of Orange and certain cities located within the County.

5. EPA currently issues Phase I NPDES MS4 permits in four jurisdictions: Idaho, Massachusetts, New Mexico and Washington, D.C. I reviewed five currently effective Phase I

permits issued to municipalities in those jurisdictions, Boise/Garden City Area (Boise), Boston, Worcester, Albuquerque, and Washington, D.C.

6. EPA issued the currently effective Albuquerque permit in 2014 and the currently effective Boise permit in 2012. EPA issued the currently effective Washington, D.C. permit in 2011 and modified this permit in 2012. The Boston and Worcester permits are older, EPA having issued the Boston Permit in 1999 and the Worcester Permit in 1998.

7. I reviewed these five EPA-issued permits to determine if they included any of the provisions that are the subject of the test claim filed by Orange County and certain cities concerning provisions in San Diego Regional Board Order No. R9-2013-0001, as amended by Order Nos. R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100 ("2015 Regional Permit"). Attached as Exhibit 1 is a chart that summarizes my review. The Albuquerque, Boise, Washington D.C., Boston and Worcester permits are attached hereto as Exhibits 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 respectively.

8. **Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards (Provisions A.2 and A.4)**. 2015 Regional Permit Provision A.2 provides that the permittees' discharges must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards in any receiving waters. Provision A.4 sets forth an iterative process as a means to achieve compliance with Provision A.2. Although the EPA-issued permits contain provisions directed at achieving water quality standards, many do not take the same approach or impose the same requirements as the 2015 Regional Permit. The Boston, Albuquerque and Worcester permits provide that the permittees shall address this requirement through implementation of Best Management Practices contained in a stormwater management plan. The District of Columbia permit likewise provides that compliance with the performance standards and provisions of the permit shall constitute adequate progress towards compliance with water quality standards. The Boise permit contains a prohibition against discharges that cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards. It provides that each permittee must use practices that ensure that discharges do not cause or contribute to such an exceedance.

9. **TMDL-Related Requirements (Regional Permit, Provision A.3.b).** Provision A.3.b requires compliance with numeric TMDL water quality based effluent limits. Three of the EPA-issued permits, Boston, Worcester, and Boise, do not contain this provision. The Albuquerque and District of Columbia permits provide that compliance with Best Management Practices in the permittee stormwater management plans shall constitute compliance or adequate progress towards compliance with TMDL requirements.

10. **Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIPs) (Regional Permit, Provisions B and F).** Provision B requires permittees to prepare water quality improvement plans for each of the watershed management areas. These plans are to contain strategies to address water quality priorities and to incorporate numeric goals and schedules for achieving those goals. Provision F sets forth the process for developing these plans, including public participation. No EPA-issued permit requires such extensive plans or the procedures set forth in the San Diego 2015 Regional Permit for developing them.

11. **Alternative Compliance (Regional Permit Provision B.3.c).** Provision B.3.c provides that permittees can comply with the Regional Permit's discharge prohibitions, ASBS requirements, receiving water limitations and TMDL water quality based effluent limits through compliance with their water quality improvement plans. No EPA-issued permit contains a provision for compliance through a secondary mechanism such as extensive water quality improvement plans.

12. **Critical Sediment and Hydromodification (Regional Permit Provision E.3.c(2)).** Provision E.3.c(2) requires permittees to require Priority Development Projects to implement on site Best Management Practices to manage hydromodification that may be caused by stormwater runoff from the projects. Provision E.3.c(2) further provides that each priority development must avoid critical sediment yield areas in order to allow critical coarse sediment to be discharged to receiving waters. The Boston, Worcester, and District of Columbia permits do not contain this requirement. The Albuquerque and Boise permits do not contain a provision as

extensive. These two permits seek to avoid or prevent hydromodification but not the specific requirements in the San Diego 2015 Regional Permit..

13. **BMP Design Manual Update (Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b).** Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b require permittees to update their Best Management Practices Design Manual. The Albuquerque, Boston, and Worcester permits do not contain this requirement. The District of Columbia and Boise permits do not contain a provision as extensive. These two permits require a stormwater management guidebook/manual but not the specific requirements required by the San Diego 2015 Regional Permit.

14. **Residential Inventory and Inspections (Regional Permit Provision E.5).** Provision E.5 requires permittees to maintain and update a watershed-based inventory of existing development that may discharge a pollutant load to or from the storm sewer system, including residential development, and inspect those developments. No EPA-issued permit contains these requirements.

15. **Retrofit and Stream Rehabilitation Requirement (Regional Permit, Provision E.5.e).** Provision E.5.e(1) requires permittees to facilitate the retrofit areas of existing development. Provision E.5.e(2) requires permittees to facilitate the rehabilitation of streams, channels or habitats in areas of existing development. The Albuquerque, Boston, Worcester, and Boise permits do not contain these requirements. The District of Columbia permit requires the development of a retrofit program but not the specific requirements of the San Diego 2015 Regional Permit.

16. **Enforcement Response Plans (Regional Permit Provision E.6).** Provision E.6 requires permittees to develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan. No EPA-issued permit contains the requirements that are set forth in the San Diego 2015 Regional Permit.

17. **Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program Update (Provision F.2.a).** Provision F.2.a requires permittees to update their Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program in accordance with Provision E, which sets forth extensive obligations and requirements that must be contained in the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program.

No EPA-issued permit contains the extensive requirements for updated programs that are contained in the San Diego 2015 Regional Permit.

18. **Requirement to Appear Before and Provide Progress Reports to the Regional Board (Regional Permit Provision F.3.a).** Provision F.3.a requires permittees to periodically appear before the Regional Board and provide progress reports on implementation of their Watershed Quality Improvement Plans and Jurisdictional Runoff Management Programs. No EPA-issued permit contains this requirement.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 19th day of May, 2017 at Davis, California.

Karen Ashby

Karen Ashby

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Exhibit 1

Summary of USEPA Phase I Permit Requirements

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City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Albuquerque, NM	MS4-Phase I (Watershed based permit)	NMR04A000	2014	Albuquerque MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. A	**Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards** **Provision A.2** – Receiving Water Limitations (RWLs) – Discharges must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards; **Provision A.4** – iterative process or WQIPs as means to comply with RWLs.	Compliance with water quality standards to be achieved through implementation of Best Management Practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods and other provisions as determined appropriate.	Pages 8 and 12 of Part I	Permittees shall address storm water management through development of a Storm Water Management Plan that shall, amongst other items, be effective in meeting this requirement. The permit contains no strict numeric effluent limits.
IV. B	**Compliance with Numeric TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits** **Provision A.3.b** - comply with applicable WQBELs established for the TMDLs in Attachment E to the Order, pursuant to the applicable TMDL compliance schedules. **Attachment E** - TMDLs for indicator bacteria, Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek) - meet interim and final numeric limits, monitoring and reporting.	Storm Water Management Plan shall incorporate best management practices consistent with the assumptions and requirements of adopted TMDLs.	Pages 8 and 15 of Part I Appendix B	Storm Water Management Plan shall incorporate best management practices consistent with the assumptions and requirements of adopted TMDLs (included within Appendix B of the Permit).
IV. C	**Water Quality Improvement Plan Requirements** **Provision B** - develop a WQIP for each Watershed Management Area identified in the Permit designed to meet water quality standards. **Provision F** - public participation, submittal, and review and modification of the WQIPs.	No	Page 23 of Part I	Permittee must develop a Storm Water Management Program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, to protect water quality and satisfy applicable surface water quality standards.
IV. D	**Alternative Compliance Option** **Provision B.3.c** - Alternative Compliance Option to comply with receiving water limitations .	No	-	-

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Albuquerque, NM	MS4-Phase I (Watershed based permit)	NMR04A000	2014	Albuquerque MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. E	**Critical Sediment and Hydromodification** **Provision E.3.c.(2)** - Hydromodification Management BMPs and avoidance of critical sediment yield areas in Priority Development Projects.	No	Page 31 of Part I	Recognition of hydromodification. - New Development/Redevelopment - The Permittee should seek to avoid or prevent hydromodification of streams and other water bodies caused by development of roads, highways, and bridges (Page 31) but does not contain the requirements set forth in the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. F	**BMP Design Manual Update** **Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b** - update BMP Design Manual to reflect new items related to development projects, including priority development projects and priority development project structural BMP performance requirements, such as updated procedure to identify pollutants and conditions of concern in selecting the most appropriate structural BMPs.	No	-	-
IV. G	**Residential Inventory and Inspections** **- Provision E.5** ("Existing Development Management") - maintain and update a watershed-based inventory of existing development that may discharge a pollutant load to and from the MS4; inspections of such developments.	No	-	-
IV. H	**Retrofit Existing Development and Rehabilitate Streams** **Provision E.5.e** - iidentification of areas of existing development as candidates for retrofitting, and use the candidates to reduce pollutants that may be discharged in storm water; develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of stream rehabilitation projects.	No	-	Retrofitting only for infrastructure and flood control devices, not existing development as a category.

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Albuquerque, NM	MS4-Phase I (Watershed based permit)	NMR04A000	2014	Albuquerque MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. I	**Enforcement Response Plans** **Provision E.6** - develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan	No	-	-
IV. J	**Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan Update** **Provision F.2.a** - process for updates to JURMP (public and stakeholder participation and comments and incorporate the eight requirements of Provision E concurrent with the submittal of the Water Quality Improvement Plan).	No	Pages 23, 47-48 of Part I	Storm Water Management Program should be developed, but does not include the extensive requirements of the San Diego Regional Permit. Public participation in the development and updating of the SWMP.
IV. K	**Appearance Before Regional Board** **Provision F.3.a** - Upon request, must appear before the Regional Board and present a Progress Report	No	-	-

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Boise/Garden City, ID	Medium MS4	IDS-027561	2012	Boise MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. A	**Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards** **Provision A.2** – Receiving Water Limitations (RWLs) – Discharges must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards; **Provision A.4** – iterative process or WQIPs as means to comply with RWLs.	Similar provisions	Pages 5, 6 and 33	Each Permittee must use practices that ensure that storm water discharges do not cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality standards. The permit contains no strict numeric effluent limits.
IV. B	**Compliance with Numeric TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits** **Provision A.3.b** - comply with applicable WQBELs established for the TMDLs in Attachment E to the Order, pursuant to the applicable TMDL compliance schedules. **Attachment E** - TMDLs for indicator bacteria, Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek) - meet interim and final numeric limits, monitoring and reporting.	No	-	No numeric effluent limits. No TMDLs - 303(d) constituents are "pollutants of concern"
IV. C	**Water Quality Improvement Plan Requirements** **Provision B** - develop a WQIP for each Watershed Management Area identified in the Permit designed to meet water quality standards. **Provision F** - public participation, submittal, and review and modification of the WQIPs.	No	Page 7	Requirement to prepare two subwatershed plans with public input, but plans not required to address all the elements required in San Diego Regional permit.
IV. D	**Alternative Compliance Option** **Provision B.3.c** - Alternative Compliance Option to comply with receiving water limitations .	No	-	-

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Boise/Garden City, ID	Medium MS4	IDS-027561	2012	Boise MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. E	**Critical Sediment and Hydromodification** **Provision E.3.c.(2)** - Hydromodification Management BMPs and avoidance of critical sediment yield areas in Priority Development Projects.	No	Pages 7 and 8 of 66	The Permittee should seek to avoid or prevent hydromodification of streams and other water bodies caused by development of roads, highways, and bridges (Page 31) but does not contain the requirements set forth in the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. F	**BMP Design Manual Update** **Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b** - update BMP Design Manual to reflect new items related to development projects, including priority development projects and priority development project structural BMP performance requirements, such as updated procedure to identify pollutants and conditions of concern in selecting the most appropriate structural BMPs.	Not as extensive	Page 15 of 66	Requires Storm Water Design Criteria Manual but not the extensive requirements of the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. G	**Residential Inventory and Inspections** **- Provision E.5** ("Existing Development Management") - maintain and update a watershed-based inventory of existing development that may discharge a pollutant load to and from the MS4; inspections of such developments.	No	-	-
IV. H	**Retrofit Existing Development and Rehabilitate Streams** **Provision E.5.e** - iidentification of areas of existing development as candidates for retrofitting, and use the candidates to reduce pollutants that may be discharged in storm water; develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of stream rehabilitation projects.	No	-	Retrofitting for flood control devices, not existing development as a category.

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Boise/Garden City, ID	Medium MS4	IDS-027561	2012	Boise MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. I	**Enforcement Response Plans** **Provision E.6** - develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan	No	Page 11 of 66	Requires development of enforcement response procedure for construction sites only.
IV. J	**Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan Update** **Provision F.2.a** - process for updates to JURMP (public and stakeholder participation and comments and incorporate the eight requirements of Provision E concurrent with the submittal of the Water Quality Improvement Plan).	No	Pages 6 and 7 of 66	Storm Water Management Program to be modified, but does not include the extensive requirements of the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. K	**Appearance Before Regional Board** **Provision F.3.a** - Upon request, must appear before the Regional Board and present a Progress Report	No	-	-

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
District of Columbia	MS4-Phase I	DC0000221, Modification #1	2011 (modified in 2012)	DC MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. A	**Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards** **Provision A.2** – Receiving Water Limitations (RWLs) – Discharges must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards; **Provision A.4** – iterative process or WQIPs as means to comply with RWLs.	Compliance with the performance standards and provisions of the permit constitute adequate progress towards compliance with water quality standards.	Page 5	Compliance with the performance standards and provisions of the permit constitute adequate progress towards compliance with water quality standards.
IV. B	**Compliance with Numeric TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits** **Provision A.3.b** - comply with applicable WQBELs established for the TMDLs in Attachment E to the Order, pursuant to the applicable TMDL compliance schedules. **Attachment E** - TMDLs for indicator bacteria, Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek) - meet interim and final numeric limits, monitoring and reporting.	Compliance with the performance standards and provisions of the permit constitute adequate progress towards compliance with waste load allocations of TMDLs.	Page 5	Compliance with the performance standards and provisions of the permit constitute adequate progress towards compliance with waste load allocations of TMDLs.
IV. C	**Water Quality Improvement Plan Requirements** **Provision B** - develop a WQIP for each Watershed Management Area identified in the Permit designed to meet water quality standards. **Provision F** - public participation, submittal, and review and modification of the WQIPs.	No	Pages 28-29	Permit requires only an implementation plan for identified TMDLs. Public participation in development/implementation of program but not the specific requirements required by the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. D	**Alternative Compliance Option** **Provision B.3.c** - Alternative Compliance Option to comply with receiving water limitations .	No	Page 5	Compliance with the provisions contained in Parts 2 through 8 of this permit, including milestones and final dates for attainment of applicable WLAs, shall constitute adequate progress toward compliance with DCWQS and WLAs for this permit term. (Page 5)

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
District of Columbia	MS4-Phase I	DC0000221, Modification #1	2011 (modified in 2012)	DC MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. E	**Critical Sediment and Hydromodification** **Provision E.3.c.(2)** - Hydromodification Management BMPs and avoidance of critical sediment yield areas in Priority Development Projects.	No	-	-
IV. F	**BMP Design Manual Update** **Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b** - update BMP Design Manual to reflect new items related to development projects, including priority development projects and priority development project structural BMP performance requirements, such as updated procedure to identify pollutants and conditions of concern in selecting the most appropriate structural BMPs.	Not as extensive	Page 14	Requires Stormwater Management Guidebook and Training but not the specific requirements required by the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. G	**Residential Inventory and Inspections** **- Provision E.5** ("Existing Development Management") - maintain and update a watershed-based inventory of existing development that may discharge a pollutant load to and from the MS4; inspections of such developments.	No	-	-
IV. H	**Retrofit Existing Development and Rehabilitate Streams** **Provision E.5.e** - identification of areas of existing development as candidates for retrofitting, and use the candidates to reduce pollutants that may be discharged in storm water; develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of stream rehabilitation projects.	No	Pages 12, 26	Retrofit Program for Existing Discharges, but does not include the extensive requirements of the San Diego Regional Permit. Retrofitting for flood control devices.

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
District of Columbia	MS4-Phase I	DC0000221, Modification #1	2011 (modified in 2012)	DC MS4

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. I	**Enforcement Response Plans** **Provision E.6** - develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan	No	-	-
IV. J	**Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan Update** **Provision F.2.a** - process for updates to JURMP (public and stakeholder participation and comments and incorporate the eight requirements of Provision E concurrent with the submittal of the Water Quality Improvement Plan).	No	-	Storm Water Management Plan to be updated with public input, but does not include the extensive requirements of the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. K	**Appearance Before Regional Board** **Provision F.3.a** - Upon request, must appear before the Regional Board and present a Progress Report	No	-	-

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Boston, MA	MS4-Phase I	MAS010001	1999* [Still valid]	Boston MS4

* EPA currently developing a permit to replace the older one.

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV.A	**Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards** **Provision A.2** – Receiving Water Limitations (RWLs) – Discharges must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards; **Provision A.4** – iterative process or WQIPs as means to comply with RWLs.	Compliance with water quality standards to be achieved through implementation of Best Management Practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods and other provisions as determined appropriate. (This permit was adopted based on a belief that MS4s were required to achieve compliance with water quality standards. (Fact Sheet, p. 2).	Page 5 and Page 2 of the fact sheet	Permittee's Stormwater Management Plan shall include Best Management Practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods and other provisions to satisfy the requirement that there be no discharge of pollutants in quantities that would cause a violation of state water quality standards (the SWMP is deemed to be protective). The permit contains no strict numeric effluent limits.
IV. B	**Compliance with Numeric TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits** **Provision A.3.b** - comply with applicable WQBELs established for the TMDLs in Attachment E to the Order, pursuant to the applicable TMDL compliance schedules. **Attachment E** - TMDLs for indicator bacteria, Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek) - meet interim and final numeric limits, monitoring and reporting.	No	-	No numeric effluent limits. No TMDLs.
IV. C	**Water Quality Improvement Plan Requirements** **Provision B** - develop a WQIP for each Watershed Management Area identified in the Permit designed to meet water quality standards. **Provision F** - public participation, submittal, and review and modification of the WQIPs.	No	Page 3 of 20 Page 5-6 of the fact sheet	Permittee required to develop a storm water program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. No significant review process.
IV. D	**Alternative Compliance Option** **Provision B.3.c** - Alternative Compliance Option to comply with receiving water limitations .	No	Page 5	Compliance with water quality standards to be achieved through implementation of Best Management Practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods and other provisions as determined appropriate. Discharges must not cause or contribute, however the SWMP is deemed to be protective. (See IV.A)

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Boston, MA	MS4-Phase I	MAS010001	1999* [Still valid]	Boston MS4

* EPA currently developing a permit to replace the older one.

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. E	**Critical Sediment and Hydromodification** **Provision E.3.c.(2)** - Hydromodification Management BMPs and avoidance of critical sediment yield areas in Priority Development Projects.	No	-	-
IV. F	**BMP Design Manual Update** **Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b** - update BMP Design Manual to reflect new items related to development projects, including priority development projects and priority development project structural BMP performance requirements, such as updated procedure to identify pollutants and conditions of concern in selecting the most appropriate structural BMPs.	No	-	-
IV. G	**Residential Inventory and Inspections** **- Provision E.5** ("Existing Development Management") - maintain and update a watershed-based inventory of existing development that may discharge a pollutant load to and from the MS4; inspections of such developments.	No	-	-
IV. H	**Retrofit Existing Development and Rehabilitate Streams** **Provision E.5.e** - identification of areas of existing development as candidates for retrofitting, and use the candidates to reduce pollutants that may be discharged in storm water; develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of stream rehabilitation projects.	No	-	Retrofitting only for flood control devices, not existing development as a category.

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Boston, MA	MS4-Phase I	MAS010001	1999* [Still valid]	Boston MS4

* EPA currently developing a permit to replace the older one.

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. I	**Enforcement Response Plans** **Provision E.6** - develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan	No	-	-
IV. J	**Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan Update** **Provision F.2.a** - process for updates to JURMP (public and stakeholder participation and comments and incorporate the eight requirements of Provision E concurrent with the submittal of the Water Quality Improvement Plan).	No	Pages 12 and 13 of 20	Storm Water Management Program can be modified, but does not include the extensive requirements of the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. K	**Appearance Before Regional Board** **Provision F.3.a** - Upon request, must appear before the Regional Board and present a Progress Report	No	-	-

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Worcester, MA	MS4-Phase I	MAS010002	1998* [Still valid]	Worcester MS4

* EPA currently developing a permit to replace the older one.

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV.A	**Compliance with Numeric Water Quality Standards** **Provision A.2** – Receiving Water Limitations (RWLs) – Discharges must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards; **Provision A.4** – iterative process or WQIPs as means to comply with RWLs.	Compliance with water quality standards to be achieved through implementation of Best Management Practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods and other provisions as determined appropriate. (This permit was adopted based on a belief that MS4s were required to achieve compliance with water quality standards. (Fact Sheet, p. 2).	Pages 5 and 6 of 21	Permittee's Storm Water Management Plan shall select measures intended to, amongst other items, meet this requirement. The permit contains no strict numeric effluent limits.
IV. B	**Compliance with Numeric TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits** **Provision A.3.b** - comply with applicable WQBELs established for the TMDLs in Attachment E to the Order, pursuant to the applicable TMDL compliance schedules. **Attachment E** - TMDLs for indicator bacteria, Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek) - meet interim and final numeric limits, monitoring and reporting.	No	-	No numeric effluent limits. No TMDLs.
IV. C	**Water Quality Improvement Plan Requirements** **Provision B** - develop a WQIP for each Watershed Management Area identified in the Permit designed to meet water quality standards. **Provision F** - public participation, submittal, and review and modification of the WQIPs.	No	Page 3 and 5 of 21	Permittee required to develop a storm water program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. No significant review process.
IV. D	**Alternative Compliance Option** **Provision B.3.c** - Alternative Compliance Option to comply with receiving water limitations.	No	Pages 5 and 6 of 21	Compliance with water quality standards to be achieved through implementation of Best Management Practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods and other provisions as determined appropriate. Discharges must not cause or contribute, however the SWMP is deemed to be protective. (See IV.A)

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Worcester, MA	MS4-Phase I	MAS010002	1998* [Still valid]	Worcester MS4

* EPA currently developing a permit to replace the older one.

Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. E	**Critical Sediment and Hydromodification** **Provision E.3.c.(2)** - Hydromodification Management BMPs and avoidance of critical sediment yield areas in Priority Development Projects.	No	-	-
IV. F	**BMP Design Manual Update** **Provisions E.3.d and F.2.b** - update BMP Design Manual to reflect new items related to development projects, including priority development projects and priority development project structural BMP performance requirements, such as updated procedure to identify pollutants and conditions of concern in selecting the most appropriate structural BMPs.	No	-	-
IV. G	**Residential Inventory and Inspections** **- Provision E.5** ("Existing Development Management") - maintain and update a watershed-based inventory of existing development that may discharge a pollutant load to and from the MS4; inspections of such developments.	No	-	-
IV. H	**Retrofit Existing Development and Rehabilitate Streams** **Provision E.5.e** - iidentification of areas of existing development as candidates for retrofitting, and use the candidates to reduce pollutants that may be discharged in storm water; develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of stream rehabilitation projects.	No	-	Retrofitting only for flood control devices, not existing development as a category.

City - State	Permit Type	Permit Number	Year Issued	Internet Link
Worcester, MA	MS4-Phase I	MAS010002	1998* [Still valid]	Worcester MS4

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Item # in Narrative Statement	San Diego Regional Permit Mandated Activity	Does this permit have the same requirement as the requirement in the San Diego Regional Permit?	Page Number	Description
IV. I	**Enforcement Response Plans** **Provision E.6** - develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan	No	-	-
IV. J	**Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan Update** **Provision F.2.a** - process for updates to JURMP (public and stakeholder participation and comments and incorporate the eight requirements of Provision E concurrent with the submittal of the Water Quality Improvement Plan).	No	Page 13 and 14 of 21	Storm Water Management Program can be modified, but does not include the extensive requirements of the San Diego Regional Permit.
IV. K	**Appearance Before Regional Board** **Provision F.3.a** - Upon request, must appear before the Regional Board and present a Progress Report	No	-	-

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Exhibit 2

Albuquerque, NM – Middle Rio Grande Watershed Based MS4 Permit (NPDES General Permit No. NMR04A000)

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Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

NPDES General Permit No. NMR04A000

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq; the "Act"), except as provided in Part I.A.5 of this permit, operators of municipal separate storm sewer systems located in the area specified in Part I.A.1 are authorized to discharge pollutants to waters of the United States in accordance with the conditions and requirements set forth herein.

Only operators of municipal separate storm sewer systems in the general permit area who submit a Notice of Intent and a storm water management program document in accordance with Part I.A.6 of this permit are authorized to discharge storm water under this general permit.

This is a renewal NPDES permit issued for these portions of the small municipal separate storm sewer systems covered under the NPDES permit No NMR040000 and NMR04000I and the large municipal separate storm sewer systems covered under the NPDES permit No NMS000101.

This permit is issued on and shall become effective on the date of publication in the Federal Register. DEC 2 2 2014

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at, midnight, December 19, 2019.

Signed by

William K. Honker, P.E.
Director
Water Quality Protection Division

Prepared by

Nelly Smith
Environmental Engineer
NPDES Permits and TMDLs Branch

MIDDLE RIO GRANDE WATERSHED BASED MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM PERMIT

Table of Contents

PART I. INDIVIDUAL PERMIT CONDITIONS

A. DISCHARGES AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS PERMIT

1. **Permit Area**. This permit is available for MS4 operators within the Middle Rio Grande Sub-Watersheds described in Appendix A. This permit may authorize stormwater discharges to waters of the United States from MS4s within the Middle Rio Grande Watershed provided the MS4:

   a. Is located fully or partially within the corporate boundary of the City of Albuquerque;

   b. Is located fully or partially within the Albuquerque urbanized area as determined by the 2000 and 2010 Decennial Census. Maps of Census 2010 urbanized areas are available at: http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/npdes/stormwater/Urbanized-Area-Maps-for-NPDES-MS4-Phase-II-Stormwater-Permits.cfm;

   c. Is designated as a regulated MS4 pursuant to 40 CFR 122.32; or

   d. This permit may also authorize an operator of a MS4 covered by this permit for discharges from areas of a regulated small MS4 located outside an Urbanized Areas or areas designated by the Director provided the permittee complies with all permit conditions in all areas covered under the permit.

2. **Potentially Eligible MS4s.** MS4s located within the following jurisdictions and other areas, including any designated by the Director, are potentially eligible for authorization under this permit:

   - City of Albuquerque
   - AMAFCA (Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority)
   - UNM (University of New Mexico)
   - NMDOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation District 3)
   - Bernalillo County
   - Sandoval County
   - Village of Corrales
   - City of Rio Rancho
   - Los Ranchos de Albuquerque
   - KAFB (Kirtland Air Force Base)
   - Town of Bernalillo
   - EXPO (State Fairgrounds/Expo NM)
   - SSCAFCA (Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority)
   - ESCAFCA (Eastern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority)
   - Sandia Laboratories, Department of Energy (DOE)
   - Pueblo of Sandia
   - Pueblo of Isleta
   -Pueblo of Santa Ana

3. **Eligibility**. To be eligible for this permit, the operator of the MS4 must provide:

   a. Public Participation: Prior submitting the Notice of Intent (NOI), the operator of the MS4 must follow the local notice and comment to procedures at Part I.D.5.h.(i).

   b. National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Eligibility Provisions

      In order to be eligible for coverage under this permit, the applicant must be in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act. Discharges may be authorized under this permit only if:

(i) Criterion A: storm water discharges, allowable non-storm water discharges, and discharge-related activities do not affect a property that is listed or is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as maintained by the Secretary of the Interior; or

(ii) Criterion B: the applicant has obtained and is in compliance with a written agreement with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) (or equivalent tribal authority) that outlines all measures the MS4 operator will undertake to mitigate or prevent adverse effect to the historic property.

Appendix C of this permit provides procedures and references to assist with determining permit eligibility concerning this provision. You must document and incorporate the results of your eligibility determination in your SWMP.

The permittee shall also comply with the requirements in Part IV.U.

4. **Authorized Non-Stormwater Discharges**. The following non-stormwater discharges need not be prohibited unless determined by the permittees, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to be significant contributors of pollutants to the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). Any such discharge that is identified as significant contributor pollutants to the MS4, or as causing or contributing to a water quality standards violation, must be addressed as an illicit discharge under the illicit discharge and improper disposal practices established pursuant to Part I.D.5.e of this permit. For all of the discharges listed below, not treated as illicit discharges, the permittee must document the reason these discharges are not expected to be significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4. This documentation may be based on either the nature of the discharge or any pollution prevention/treatment requirements placed on such discharges by the permittee.

- potable water sources, including routine water line flushing;
- lawn, landscape, and other irrigation waters provided all pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers have been applied in accordance with approved manufacturing labeling and any applicable permits for discharges associated with pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer application;
- diverted stream flows;
- rising ground waters;
- uncontaminated groundwater infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR §35.2005 (20));
- uncontaminated pumped groundwater;
- foundation and footing drains;
- air conditioning or compressor condensate;
- springs;
- water from crawl space pumps;
- individual residential car washing;
- flows from riparian habitats and wetlands;
- dechlorinated swimming pool discharges;
- street wash waters that do not contain detergents and where no un-remediated spills or leaks of toxic or hazardous materials have occurred;
- discharges or flows from fire fighting activities (does not include discharges from fire fighting training activities); and,
- other similar occasional incidental non-stormwater discharges (e.g. non-commercial or charity car washes, etc.)

5. **Limitations of Coverage**. This permit does not authorize:

a. Non-Storm Water*:* Discharges that are mixed with sources of non-storm water unless such non-storm water discharges are:

(i) In compliance with a separate NPDES permit; or

(ii) Exempt from permitting under the NPDES program; or

(iii) Determined not to be a substantial contributor of pollutants to waters of the United States. See Part I.A.4.

b. Industrial Storm Water*:* Storm water discharges associated with industrial activity as defined in 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14)(i)-(ix) and (xi).

c. Construction Storm Water*:* Storm water discharges associated with construction activity as defined in 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14)(x) or 40 CFR §122.26(b)(15).

d. Currently Permitted Discharges*:* Storm water discharges currently covered under another NPDES permit.

e. Discharges Compromising Water Quality*:* Discharges that EPA, prior to authorization under this permit, determines will cause, have the reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any applicable water quality standard. Where such a determination is made prior to authorization, EPA may notify you that an individual permit application is necessary in accordance with Part IV.M. However, EPA may authorize your coverage under this permit after you have included appropriate controls and implementation procedures in your SWMP designed to bring your discharge into compliance with water quality standards.

f. Discharges Inconsistent with a TMDL*:* You are not eligible for coverage under this permit for discharges of pollutants of concern to waters for which there is an applicable total maximum daily load (TMDL) established or approved by EPA unless you incorporate into your SWMP measures or controls that are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of such TMDL. To be eligible for coverage under this general permit, you must incorporate documentation into your SWMP supporting a determination of permit eligibility with regard to waters that have an EPA-established or approved TMDL. If a wasteload allocation has been established that would apply to your discharge, you must comply with the requirements established in Part I.C.2.b.(i). Where an EPA-approved or established TMDL has not specified a wasteload allocation applicable to municipal storm water discharges, but has not specifically excluded these discharges, adherence to a SWMP that meets the requirements in Part I.C.2.b.(ii) of this general permit will be presumed to be consistent with the requirements of the TMDL. If the EPA-approved or established TMDL specifically precludes such discharges, the operator is not eligible for coverage under this general permit.

6. **Authorization Under This General Permit**

a. Obtaining Permit Coverage.

(i) An MS4 operator seeking authorization to discharge under this general permit must submit electronically a complete notice of intent (NOI) to the e-mail address provided in Part I.B.3 (see suggested EPA R6 MS4 NOI format located in EPA website at http://epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/sw/ms4/index.htm), in accordance with the deadlines in Part I.B.1 of this permit. The NOI must include the information and attachments required by Parts I.B.2, Part I.A.3, Part I.D.5.h.(i), and I.A.5.f of this permit. By submitting a signed NOI, the applicant certifies that all eligibility criteria for permit coverage have been met. If EPA notifies a discharger (either directly, by public notice, or by making information available on the Internet) of other NOI options that become available at a later date, such as electronic submission of forms or information, the MS4 operator may take advantage of those options to satisfy the NOI submittal requirements.

(ii) If an operator changes or a new operator is added after an NOI has been submitted, the operator must submit a new or revised NOI to EPA.

(iii) An MS4 operator who submits a complete NOI and meets the eligibility requirements in Part I of this permit is authorized to discharge storm water from the MS4 under the terms and conditions of this general permit only upon written notification by the Director. After review of the NOI and any public comments on the NOI, EPA may condition permit coverage on correcting any deficiencies or on including a schedule to respond to any public comments. (See also Parts I.A.3 and Part I.D.5.h.(i).)

(iv) If EPA notifies the MS4 operator of deficiencies or inadequacies in any portion of the NOI (including the SWMP), the MS4 operator must correct the deficient or inadequate portions and submit a written statement to EPA certifying that appropriate changes have been made. The certification must be submitted within the time-frame specified by EPA and must specify how the NOI has been amended to address the identified concerns.

(v) The NOI must be signed and certified in accordance with Parts IV.H.1 and 4. Signature for the NOI, which effectively takes the place of an individual permit application, may not be delegated to a lower level under Part IV.H.2

b. Terminating Coverage.

(i) A permittee may terminate coverage under this general permit by submitting a notice of termination (NOT). Authorization to discharge terminates at midnight on the day the NOT is post-marked for delivery to EPA.

(ii) A permittee must submit an NOT to EPA within 30 days after the permittee:

(a) Ceases discharging storm water from the MS4,

(b) Ceases operations at the MS4, or

(c) Transfers ownership of or responsibility for the facility to another operator.

(iii) The NOT will consist of a letter to EPA and must include the following information:

(a) Name, mailing address, and location of the MS4 for which the notification is submitted;

(b) The name, address and telephone number of the operator addressed by the NOT;

(c) The NPDES permit number for the MS4;

(d) An indication of whether another operator has assumed responsibility for the MS4, the discharger has ceased operations at the MS4, or the storm water discharges have been eliminated; and

(e) The following certification:

I certify under penalty of law that all storm water discharges from the identified MS4 that are authorized by an NPDES general permit have been eliminated, or that I am no longer the operator of the MS4, or that I have ceased operations at the MS4. I understand that by submitting this Notice of Termination I am no longer authorized to discharge storm water under this general permit, and that discharging pollutants in storm water to waters of the United States is unlawful under the Clean Water Act where the discharge is not authorized by an NPDES permit. I also understand that the submission of this Notice of Termination does not release an operator from liability for any violations of this permit or the Clean Water Act.

(f) NOTs, signed in accordance with Part IV.H.1 of this permit, must be sent to the e-mail address in Part I.B.3. Electronic submittal of the NOT required in the permit using a compatible Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) format would be allowed if available.

B. NOTICE OF INTENT REQUIREMENTS

1. **Deadlines for Notification**.

a. Designations: Small MS4s automatically designated under 40 CFR 122.32(a)(1), large MS4s located within the corporate boundary of the COA including the COA and former co-permittees under the NPDES permit No

NMS000101, and MS4s designated under 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v), 40 CFR 122.26(a)(9)(i)(C) or (D), or 40 CFR 122.32(a)(2) are required to submit individual NOIs by the dates listed in Table 1. Any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit will be given an individualized deadline for NOI submittal by the Director at the time of designation.

In lieu of creating duplicate program elements for each individual permittee, implementation of the SWMP, as required in Part I.D, may be achieved through participation with other permittees, public agencies, or private entities in cooperative efforts to satisfy the requirements of Part D. For these programs with cooperative elements, the permittee may submit individual NOIs as established in Table 1. See also "Permittees with Cooperative Elements in their SWMP " under Part.I.B.4 and "Shared Responsibilities and Cooperative Programs" under Part I.D.3.

Table 1 Deadlines to Submit NOI

Permittee Class Type	**NOI Deadlines**
Class A: MS4s within the Cooperate Boundary of the COA including former co-permittees under the NPDES permit No NMS000101	90 days from effective date of the permit or 180 days from effective date of the permit if participating in cooperative programs for one or more program elements.
Class B: MS4s designated under 40 CFR 122.32(a)(1). Based on 2000 Decennial Census Map	90 days from effective date of the permit or 180 days from effective date of the permit if participating in cooperative programs for one or more program elements.
Class C: MS4s designated under 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v), 40 CFR 122.26(a)(9)(i)(C) or (D), or 40 CFR 122.32(a)(2) or MS4s newly designated under 122.32(a)(1) based on 2010 Decennial Census Map	180 days from effective date of the permit or notice of designation, unless the notice of designation grants a later date or; 180 days from effective date of the permit if participating in cooperative programs for one or more program elements.
Class D: MS4s within Indian Country Lands designed under 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v), 122.26(a)(9)(i)(C) or (D), 122.32(a)(1), or 122.32(a)(2)	180 days from effective date of the permit or notice of designation, unless the notice of designation grants a later date or; 180 days from effective date of the permit if participating in cooperative programs for one or more program elements.

See Appendix A for list of potential permittees in the Middle Rio Grande Watershed

b. New Operators. For new operators of all or a part of an already permitted MS4 (due to change on operator or expansion of the MS4) who will take over implementation of the existing SWMP covering those areas, the NOI must be submitted 30 days prior to taking over operational control of the MS4. Existing permittees who are expanding coverage of their MS4 area (e.g., city annexes part of unincorporated county MS4) are not required to submit a new NOI, but must comply with Part I.D.6.d.

c. Submitting a Late NOI. MS4s not able to meet the NOI deadline in Table I and Part I.B.1.b due to delays in determining eligibility should notify EPA of the circumstance and progress to date at the address in Part I.B.3 and then proceed with a late NOI. MS4 operators are not prohibited from submitting an NOI after the dates provided in Table 1 and Part I.B.1.b. If a late NOI is submitted, the authorization is only for discharges that occur after permit coverage is effective. The permitting authority reserves the right to take appropriate enforcement actions for any unpermitted discharges.

d. End of Administrative Continued Coverage under Previous Permit. Administrative continuance is triggered by a timely reapplication. Discharges submitting an NOI for coverage under this permit are considered to have met

the timely reapplication requirement if NOI is submitted by the deadlines included in Table 1 of Part I.B.1. For MS4s previously covered under either NMS000101 or NMR040000, continued coverage under those permits ends: a) the day after the applicable deadline for submittal of an NOI if a complete NOI has not been submitted or b) upon notice of authorization under this permit if a complete and timely NOI is submitted.

2. **Contents of Notice of Intent**. An MS4 operator eligible for coverage under this general permit must submit an NOI to discharge under this general permit. The NOI will consist of a letter to EPA containing the following information (see suggested EPA R6 MS4 NOI Format located in EPA website at http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/sw/ms4/index.htm) and must be signed in accordance with Part IV.H of this permit:

   a. The legal name of the MS4 operator and the name of the urbanized area and core municipality (or Indian reservation/pueblo) in which the operator's MS4 is located;

   b. The full facility mailing address and telephone number;

   c. The name and phone number of the person or persons responsible for overall coordination of the SWMP;

   d. An attached location map showing the boundaries of the MS4 under the applicant's jurisdiction. The map must include streets or other demarcations so that the exact boundaries can be located;

   e. The area of land served by the applicant's MS4 (in square miles);

   f. The latitude and longitude of the approximate center of the MS4;

   g. The name(s) of the waters of the United States that receive discharges from the system.

   h. If the applicant is participating in a cooperative program element or is relying on another entity to satisfy one or more permit obligations (see Part I.D.3), identify the entity(ies) and the element(s) the entity(ies) will be implementing;

   i. Information on each of the storm water minimum control measures in Part I.D.5 of this permit and how the SWMP will reduce pollutants in discharges to the Maximum Extent Practicable. For each minimum control measure, include the following:

      (i) Description of the best management practices (BMPs) that will be implemented;

      (ii) Measurable goals for each BMP; and

      (iii) Time frames (i.e., month and year) for implementing each BMP;

   j. Based on the requirements of Part I.A.3.b describe how the eligibility criteria for historic properties have been met;

   k. Indicate whether or not the MS4 discharges to a receiving water for which EPA has approved or developed a TMDL. If so, describe how the eligibility requirements of Part I.A.5.f and Part I.C.2 have been met.

      Note: If an individual permittee or a group of permittees seeks an alternative sub-measureable goal for TMDL controls under Part I.C.2.b.(i).(c).B, the permittee or a group of permittees must submit a preliminary proposal with the NOI. This proposal shall include, but is not limited to, the elements included in Appendix B under Section B.2.

   l. Signature and certification by an appropriate official (see Part IV.H). The NOI must include the certification statement from Part IV.H.4.

3. **Where to Submit.** The MS4 operator must submit the signed NOI to EPA via e-mail at R6_MS4Permits@epa.gov (note: there is an underscore between R6 and MS4) and NMED to the address provided in Part III.D.4. See also Part III.D.4 to determine if a copy must be **p**rovided to a Tribal agency.

   The following MS4 operators: AMAFCA, Sandoval County, Village of Corrales, City of Rio Rancho, Town of Bernalillo, SSCAFCA, and ESCAFCA must submit the signed NOI to the Pueblo of Sandia to the address provided in Part III.D.4.

   Note: See suggested EPA R6 MS4 NOI Format located in EPA website at http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/sw/ms4/index.htm. A complete copy of the signed NOI should be maintained on site. Electronic submittal of the documents required in the permit using a compatible Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) format would be allowed if available.

4. **Permittees with Cooperative Elements in their SWMP.** Any MS4 that meets the requirements of Part I.A of this general permit may choose to partner with one or more other regulated MS4 to develop and implement a SWMP or SWMP element. The partnering MS4s must submit separate NOIs and have their own SWMP, which may incorporate jointly developed program elements. If responsibilities are being shared as provided in Part I.D.3 of this permit, the SWMP must describe which permittees are responsible for implementing which aspects of each of the minimum measures. All MS4 permittees are subject to the provisions in Part I.D.6.

   Each individual MS4 in a joint agreement implementing a permit condition will be independently assessed for compliance with the terms of the joint agreement. Compliance with that individual MS4s obligations under the joint agreement will be deemed compliance with that permit condition. Should one or more individual MS4s fail to comply with the joint agreement, causing the joint agreement program to fail to meet the requirements of the permit, the obligation of all parties to the joint agreement is to develop within 30 days and implement within 90 days an alternative program to satisfy the terms of the permit.

C. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. **Compliance with Water Quality Standards**. Pursuant to Clean Water Act §402(p)(3)(B)(iii) and 40 CFR §122.44(d)(1), this permit includes provisions to ensure that discharges from the permittee's MS4 do not cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable surface water quality standards, in addition to requirements to control discharges to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) set forth in Part I.D. Permittees shall address stormwater management through development of the SWMP that shall include the following elements and specific requirements included in Part VI.

   a. Permittee's discharges shall not cause or contribute to an exceedance of surface water quality standards (including numeric and narrative water quality criteria) applicable to the receiving waters. In determining whether the SWMP is effective in meeting this requirement or if enhancements to the plan are needed, the permittee shall consider available monitoring data, visual assessment, and site inspection reports.

   b. Applicable surface water quality standards for discharges from the permittees' MS4 are those that are approved by EPA and any other subsequent modifications approved by EPA upon the effective date of this permit found at New Mexico Administrative Code §20.6.4. Discharges from various portions of the MS4 also flow downstream into waters with Pueblo of Isleta and Pueblo of Sandia Water Quality Standards;

   c. The permittee shall notify EPA and the Pueblo of Isleta in writing as soon as practical but not later than thirty (30) calendar days following each Pueblo of Isleta water quality standard exceedance at an in-stream sampling location. In the event that EPA determines that a discharge from the MS4 causes or contributes to an exceedance of applicable surface water quality standards and notifies the permittee of such an exceedance, the permittee shall, within sixty (60) days of notification, submit to EPA, NMED, Pueblo of Isleta (upon request) and Pueblo of Sandia (upon request), a report that describes controls that are currently being implemented and additional controls that will be implemented to prevent pollutants sufficient to ensure that the discharge will no longer cause or contribute to an exceedance of applicable surface water quality standards. The permittee shall implement such additional controls upon notification by EPA and shall incorporate such measures into their SWMP as described in Part I.D of this permit. NMED or the affected Tribe may provide information

documenting exceedances of applicable water quality standards caused or contributed to by the discharges authorized by this permit to EPA Region 6 and request EPA take action under this paragraph.

d. Phase I Dissolved Oxygen Program (Applicable only to the COA and AMAFCA as a continuation of program in 2012 NMS000101 individual permit): Within one year from effective date of the permit , the permittees shall revise the May 1, 2012 Strategy to continue taking measures to address concerns regarding discharges to the Rio Grande by implementing controls to eliminate conditions that cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable dissolved oxygen water quality standards in waters of the United States. The permittees shall:

(i) Continue identifying structural elements, natural or man-made topographical and geographical formations, MS4 operations activities, or oxygen demanding pollutants contributing to reduced dissolved oxygen in the receiving waters of the Rio Grande. Both dry and wet weather discharges shall be addressed. Assessment may be made using available data or collecting additional data;

(ii) Continue implementing controls, and updating/revising as necessary, to eliminate structural elements or the discharge of pollutants at levels that cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable water quality standards for dissolved oxygen in waters of the United States;

(iii) To verify the remedial action in the North Diversion Channel Embayment, the COA and AMAFCA shall continue sampling for DO and temperature until the data indicate the discharge does not exceed applicable dissolved oxygen water quality standards in waters of the United States; and

(iv) Submit a revised strategy to FWS for consultation and EPA for approval from a year of effective date of the permit and progress reports with the subsequent Annual Reports. Progress reports to include:

(a) Summary of data.

(b) Activities undertaken to identify MS4 discharge contribution to exceedances of applicable dissolved oxygen water quality standards in waters of the United States. Including summary of findings of the assessment required in Part I.C.1.d.(i).

(c) Conclusions drawn, including support for any determinations.

(d) Activities undertaken to eliminate MS4 discharge contribution to exceedances of applicable dissolved oxygen water quality standards in waters of the United States.

(e) Account of stakeholder involvement.

e. PCBs (Applicable only to the COA and AMAFCA as a continuation of program in 2012 NMS000101 individual permit and Bernalillo County): The permittee shall address concerns regarding PCBs in channel drainage areas specified in Part I.C.1.e.(vi) by developing or continue updating/revising and implementing a strategy to identify and eliminate controllable sources of PCBs that cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable water quality standards in waters of the United States. Bernalillo County shall submit the proposed PCB strategy to EPA within two (2) years from the effective date of the permit and submit a progress report with the third and with subsequent Annual Reports. COA and AMAFCA shall submit a progress report with the first and with the subsequent Annual Reports. The progress reports shall include:

(i) Summary of data.

(ii) Findings regarding controllable sources of PCBs in the channel drainages area specified in Part I.C.1.e.(vi) that cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable water quality standards in waters of the United States via the discharge of municipal stormwater.

(iii) Conclusions drawn, including supporting information for any determinations.

(iv) Activities undertaken to eliminate controllable sources of PCBs in the drainage areas specified in Part I.C.1.e.(vi) that cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable water quality standards in waters of the United States via the discharge of municipal stormwater including proposed activities that extend beyond the five (5) year permit term.

(v) Account of stakeholder involvement in the process.

(vi) Channel Drainage Areas: The PCB strategy required in Part I.C.1.e is only applicable to:

COA and AMAFCA Channel Drainage Areas:
- San Jose Drain
- North Diversion Channel

Bernalillo County Channel Drainage Areas:
- Adobe Acres Drain
- Alameda Outfall Channel
- Paseo del Norte Outfall Channel
- Sanchez Farm Drainage Area

A cooperative strategy to address PCBs in the COA, AMAFCA and Bernalillo County's drainage areas may be developed between Bernalillo County, AMAFCA, and the COA. If a cooperative strategy is developed, the cooperative strategy shall be submitted to EPA within three (3) years from the effective date of the permit and submit a progress report with the fourth and with subsequent Annual Reports,

Note: COA and AMAFCA must continue implementing the existing PCB strategy until a new Cooperative PCB Strategy is submitted to EPA.

f. Temperature (Applicable only to the COA and AMAFCA as a continuation of program in 2012 NMS000101 individual permit): The permittees must continue assessing the potential effect of stormwater discharges in the Rio Grande by collecting and evaluating additional data. If the data indicates there is a potential of stormwater discharges contributing to exceedances of applicable temperature water quality standards in waters of the United States, within thirty (30) days such as findings, the permittees must develop and implement a strategy to eliminate conditions that cause or contribute to these exceedances. The strategy must include:

(i) Identify structural controls, post construction design standards, or pollutants contributing to raised temperatures in the receiving waters of the Rio Grande. Both dry and wet weather discharges shall be addressed. Assessment may be made using available data or collecting additional data;

(ii) Develop and implement controls to eliminate structural controls, post construction design standards, or the discharge of pollutants at levels that cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable water quality standards for temperature in waters of the United States; and

(iii) Provide a progress report with the first and with subsequent Annual Reports. The progress reports shall include:

(a) Summary of data.

(b) Activities undertaken to identify MS4 discharge contribution to exceedances of applicable temperature water quality standards in waters of the United States.

(c) Conclusions drawn, including supporting information for any determinations.

(d) Activities undertaken to reduce MS4 discharge contribution to exceedances of applicable temperature water quality standards in waters of the United States.

(e) Accounting of stakeholder involvement.

2. **Discharges to Impaired Waters with and without approved TMDLs**. Impaired waters are those that have been identified pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act as not meeting applicable surface water quality standards. This may include both waters with EPA-approved Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and those for which a TMDL has not yet been approved. For the purposes of this permit, the conditions for discharges to impaired waters also extend to controlling pollutants in MS4 discharges to tributaries to the listed impaired waters in the Middle Rio Grande watershed boundary identified in Appendix A.

   a. Discharges of pollutant(s) of concern to impaired water bodies for which there is an EPA approved total maximum daily load (TMDL) are not eligible for this general permit unless they are consistent with the approved TMDL. A water body is considered impaired for the purposes of this permit if it has been identified, pursuant to the latest EPA approved CWA §303(d) list, as not meeting New Mexico Surface Water Quality Standards.

   b. The permittee shall control the discharges of pollutant(s) of concern to impaired waters and waters with approved TMDLs as provided in sections (i) and (ii) below, and shall assess the success in controlling those pollutants.

      (i) Discharges to Water Quality Impaired Water Bodies with an Approved TMDL
      If the permittee discharges to an impaired water body with an approved TMDL (see Appendix B), where stormwater has the potential to cause or contribute to the impairment, the permittee shall include in the SWMP controls targeting the pollutant(s) of concern along with any additional or modified controls required in the TMDL and this section. The SWMP and required annual reports must include information on implementing any focused controls required to reduce the pollutant(s) of concern as described below:

         (a) Targeted Controls: The SWMP submitted with the first annual report must include a detailed description of all targeted controls to be implemented, such as identifying areas of focused effort or implementing additional Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will be implemented to reduce the pollutant(s) of concern in the impaired waters.

         (b) Measurable Goals: For each targeted control, the SWMP must include a measurable goal and an implementation schedule describing BMPs to be implemented during each year of the permit term. Where the impairment is for bacteria, the permittee must, at minimum comply with the activites and schedules described in Table 1.a of Part I.C.2.(iii).

         (c) Identification of Measurable Goal: The SWMP must identify a measurable goal for the pollutant(s) of concern. The value of the measurable goal must be based on one of the following options:

            A. If the permittee is subject to a TMDL that identifies an aggregate Waste Load Allocation (WLA) for all or a class of permitted MS4 stormwater sources, then the SWMP may identify such WLA as the measurable goal. Where an aggregate WLA measurable goal is used, all affected MS4 operators are jointly responsible for progress in meeting the measurable goal and shall (jointly or individually) develop a monitoring/assessment plan. This program element may be coordinated with the monitoring required in Part III.A.

            B. Alternatively, if multiple permittees are discharging into the same impaired water body with an approved TMDL (which has an aggregate WLA for all permitted stormwater MS4s), the MS4s may combine or share efforts, in consultation with/and the approval of NMED, to determine an alternative sub-measurable goal derived from the WLA for the pollutant(s) of concern (e.g., bacteria) for their respective MS4. The SWMP must clearly define this alternative approach and must describe how the sub-measurable goals would cumulatively support the aggregate WLA. Where an aggregate WLA measurable goal has been broken into sub-measurable goals for individual MS4s, each permittee is only responsible for progress in meeting its WLA sub-measurable goal.

C. If the permittee is subject to an individual WLA specifically assigned to that permittee, the measurable goal must be the assigned WLA. Where WLAs have been individually assigned, or where the permittee is the only regulated MS4 within the urbanized area that is discharging into the impaired watershed with an approved TMDL, the permittee is only responsible for progress in meeting its WLA measurable goal.

(d) Annual Report: The annual report must include an analysis of how the selected BMPs have been effective in contributing to achieving the measurable goal and shallll include graphic representation of pollutant trends, along with computations of annual percent reductions achieved from the baseline loads and comparisons with the target loads.

(e) Impairment for Bacteria: If the pollutant of concern is bacteria, the permittee shall include focused BMPs addressing the five areas below, as applicable, in the SWMP and implement as appropriate. If a TMDL Implementation Plan (a plan created by the State or a Tribe) is available, the permittee may refer to the TMDL Implementation Plan for appropriate BMPs. The SWMP and annual report must include justification for not implementing a particular BMP included in the TMDL Implementation Plan. The permittee may not exclude BMPs associated with the minimum control measures required under 40 CFR §122.34 from their list of proposed BMPs. The BMPs shall, as appropriate, address the following:

A. Sanitary Sewer Systems
- Make improvements to sanitary sewers;
- Address lift station inadequacies;
- Identify and implement operation and maintenance procedures;
- Improve reporting of violations; and
- Strengthen controls designed to prevent over flows

B. On-site Sewage Facilities (for entities with appropriate jurisdiction)
- Identify and address failing systems; and
- Address inadequate maintenance of On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs).

C. Illicit Discharges and Dumping
- Place additional effort to reduce waste sources of bacteria; for example, from septic systems, grease traps, and grit traps.

D. Animal Sources
- Expand existing management programs to identify and target animal sources such as zoos, pet waste, and horse stables.

E. Residential Education: Increase focus to educate residents on:
- Bacteria discharging from a residential site either during runoff events or directly;
- Fats, oils, and grease clogging sanitary sewer lines and resulting overflows;
- Decorative ponds; and
- Pet waste.

(f) Monitoring or Assessment of Progress: The permittee shall monitor or assess progress in achieving measurable goals and determining the effectiveness of BMPs, and shall include documentation of this monitoring or assessment in the SWMP and annual reports. In addition, the SWMP must include methods to be used. This program element may be coordinated with the monitoring required in Part III.A. The permittee may use the following methods either individually or in conjunction to evaluate progress towards the measurable goal and improvements in water quality as follows:

A. Evaluating Program Implementation Measures: The permittee may evaluate and report progress towards the measurable goal by describing the activities and BMPs implemented, by identifying the appropriateness of the identified BMPs, and by evaluating the success of implementing the measurable goals. The permittee may assess progress by using program implementation indicators

such as: (1) number of sources identified or eliminated; (2) decrease in number of illegal dumping; (3) increase in illegal dumping reporting; (4) number of educational opportunities conducted; (5) reductions in SSOs; or, 6) increase in illegal discharge detection through dry screening, etc.; and

B. Assessing Improvements in Water Quality: The permittee may assess improvements in water quality by using available data for segment and assessment units of water bodies from other reliable sources, or by proposing and justifying a different approach such as collecting additional instream or outfall monitoring data, etc. Data may be acquired from NMED, local river authorities, partnerships, and/or other local efforts as appropriate. Progress towards achieving the measurable goal shall be reported in the annual report. Annual reports shall report the measurable goal and the year(s) during the permit term that the MS4 conducted additional sampling or other assessment activities.

(g) Observing no Progress towards the Measurable Goal: If, by the end of the third year from the effective date of the permit, the permittee observes no progress toward the measurable goal either from program implementation or water quality assessments, the permittee shall identify alternative focused BMPs that address new or increased efforts towards the measurable goal. As appropriate, the MS4 may develop a new approach to identify the most significant sources of the pollutant(s) of concern and shall develop alternative focused BMPs (this may also include information that identifies issues beyond the MS4's control). These revised BMPs must be included in the SWMP and subsequent annual reports.

Where the permittee originally used a measurable goal based on an aggregated WLA, the permittee may combine or share efforts with other MS4s discharging to the same impaired stream segment to determine an alternative sub-measurable goal for the pollutant(s) of concern for their respective MS4s, as described in Part I.C.2.b.(i).(c).B above. Permittees must document, in their SWMP for the next permit term, the proposed schedule for the development and subsequent adoption of alternative sub-measurable goals for the pollutant(s) of concern for their respective MS4s and associated assessment of progress in meeting those individual goals.

(ii) Discharges Directly to Water Quality Impaired Water Bodies without an Approved TMDL:
The permittee shall also determine whether the permitted discharge is directly to one or more water quality impaired water bodies where a TMDL has not yet been approved by NMED and EPA. If the permittee discharges directly into an impaired water body without an approved TMDL, the permittee shall perform the following activities:

(a) Discharging a Pollutant of Concern: The permittee shall:

A. Determine whether the MS4 may be a source of the pollutant(s) of concern by referring to the CWA §303(d) list and then determining if discharges from the MS4 would be likely to contain the pollutant(s) of concern at levels of concern. The evaluation of CWA §303(d) list parameters should be carried out based on an analysis of existing data (e.g., Illicit Discharge and Improper Disposal Program) conducted within the permittee's jurisdiction.

B. Ensure that the SWMP includes focused BMPs, along with corresponding measurable goals, that the permittee will implement, to reduce, the discharge of pollutant(s) of concern that contribute to the impairment of the water body. (note: Only applicable if the permittee determines that the MS4 may discharge the pollutant(s) of concern to an impaired water body without a TMDL. The SWMP submitted with the first annual report must include a detailed description of proposed controls to be implemented along with corresponding measurable goals.

C. Amend the SWMP to include any additional BMPs to address the pollutant(s) of concern.

(b) Impairment for Bacteria: Where the impairment is for bacteria, the permittee shall identify potential significant sources and develop and implement targeted BMPs to control bacteria from those sources (see Part I.C.2.b.(i).(e).A through E.. The permittee must, at minimum comply with the activities and

schedules described in Table 1.a of Part I.C.2.(iii). The annual report must include information on compliance with this section, including results of any sampling conducted by the permittee.

Note: Probable pollutant sources identified by permittees should be submitted to NMED on the following form: ftp://ftp.nmenv.state.nm.us/www/swqb/Surveys/PublicProbableSourceIDSurvey.pdf

(c) Impairment for Nutrients: Where the impairment is for nutrients (e.g., nitrogen or phosphorus), the permittee shall identify potential significant sources and develop and implement targeted BMPs to control nutrients from potential sources. The permittee must, at minimum comply with the activities and schedules described in Table 1.b of Part I.C,2, (iii). The annual report must include information on compliance with this section, including results of any sampling conducted by the permittee.

(d) Impairment for Dissolved Oxygen: See Endangered Species Act (ESA) Requirements in Part I.C.3. These program elements may be coordinated with the monitoring required in Part III.A**.**

(iii) Program Development and Implementation Schedules: Where the impairment is for nutrient constituent (e.g., nitrogen or phosphorus) or bacteria, the permittee must at minimum comply with the activities and schedules in Table 1.a and Table 1.b.

Table 1.a. Pre-TMDL Bacteria Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	**Class Permittee**				
	A Phase I MS4s	**B Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*) Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Identify potential significant sources of the pollutant of concern entering your MS4	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit
Develop (or modify an existing program ***) and implement a public education program to reduce the discharge of bacteria in municipal storm water contributed by (if applicable) by pets, recreational and exhibition livestock, and zoos.	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit
Develop (or modify an existing program ***) and implement a program to reduce the discharge of bacteria in municipal storm water contributed by areas within your MS4 served by on-site wastewater treatment systems.	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) moths from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Review results to date from the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program (see Part I.D.5.e) and modify as necessary to prioritize the detection and elimination of discharges contributing bacteria to the MS4	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit

Develop (or modify an existing program ***) and implement a program to reduce the discharge of bacteria in municipal storm water contributed by other significant source identified in the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program (see Part I.D.5.e)	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit	Twenty (20) months from effective date of permit
Include in the Annual Reports progress on program implementation and reducing the bacteria and updates their measurable goals as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs
(**) or MS4s designated by the Director
(***) Permittees previously covered under permit NMS000101 or NMR040000
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

Table 1.b. Pre-TMDL Nutrient Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	**Class Permittee**				
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**B** **Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C** **New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D** **MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Identify potential significant sources of the pollutant of concern entering your MS4	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit
Develop (or modify an existing program ***) and implement a public education program to reduce the discharge of pollutant of concern in municipal storm water contributed by residential and commercial use of fertilizer	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit
Develop (or modify an existing program ***) and implement a program to reduce the discharge of the pollutant of concern in municipal storm water contributed by fertilizer use at municipal operations (e.g., parks, roadways, municipal facilities)	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit

Develop (or modify an existing program ***) and implement a program to reduce the discharge of the pollutant of concern in municipal storm water contributed by municipal and private golf courses within your jurisdiction	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1)year from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Develop (or modify an existing program ***) and implement a program to reduce the discharge of the pollutant of concern in municipal storm water contributed by other significant source identified in the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program (see Part I.D.5.e)	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Include in the Annual Reports progress on program implementation and reducing the nutrient pollutant of concern and updates their measurable goals	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs
(**) or MS4s designated by the Director
(***) Permittees previously covered under permit NMS000101 or NMR040000
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

These program elements may be coordinated with the monitoring required in Part III.A**.**

3. **Endangered Species Act (ESA) Requirements**. Consistent with U.S. FWS Biological Opinion dated August 21, 2014 to ensure actions required by this permit are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any currently listed as endangered or threatened species or adversely affect its critical habitat, permittees shall meet the following requirements and include them in the SWMP:

   a. Dissolved Oxygen Strategy in the Receiving Waters of the Rio Grande:

      (i) The permittees must identify (or continue identifying if previously covered under permit NMS000101) structural controls, natural or man-made topographical and geographical formations, MS4 operations, or oxygen demanding pollutants contributing to reduced dissolved oxygen in the receiving waters of the Rio Grande. The permittees shall implement controls, and update/revise as necessary, to eliminate discharge of pollutants at levels that cause or contribute to exceedances of applicable water quality standards for dissolved oxygen in waters of the Rio Grande. The permittees shall submit a summary of findings and a summary of activities undertaken under Part I.C.3.a.(i) with each Annual Report. The SWMP submitted with the first and fourth annual reports must include a detailed description of controls implemented (or/and proposed control to be implemented) along with corresponding measurable goals. (Applicable to all permittees).

      (ii) As required in Part I.C.1.d, the COA and AMAFCA shall revise the May 1, 2012 Strategy for dissolved oxygen to address dissolved oxygen at the North Diversion Channel Embayment and/or other MS4 locations. The permittees shall submit the revised strategy to FWS and EPA for approval within a year of permit issuance and progress reports with the subsequent Annual Reports (see also Part I.C.1.d.(iv)). The permittees shall **e**nsure that actions to reduce pollutants or remedial activities selected for the North Diversion Channel Embayment and its watershed are implemented such that there is a reduction in

frequency and magnitude of all low oxygen storm water discharge events that occur in the Embayment or downstream in the MRG as indicated in Table 1.c. Actions to meet the year 3 measurable goals must be taken within 2 years from the effective date of the permit. Actions to meet the year 5 measurable goals must be taken within 4 years from the effective date of the permit.

Table 1.c Measurable Goals of Anoxic and Hypoxia Levels Measured by Permit Year

Permit Year	*Anoxic Events*, max*	*Hypoxic Events**, max*
Year 1	*18*	*36*
Year 2	*18*	*36*
Year 3	*9*	*18*
Year 4	*9*	*18*
Year 5	*4*	*9*

Notes:

- * Anoxic Events: See Appendix G, for oxygen saturation and dissolved oxygen concentrations at various water temperatures and atmospheric pressures for the North Diversion Channel area that are considered anoxic and associated with the Rio Grande Silvery minnow lethality.
- ** Hypoxic Events: See Appendix for G, for oxygen saturation and dissolved oxygen concentrations at various water temperatures and atmospheric pressures for the North Diversion Channel area that are considered hypoxic and associated with the Rio Grande silvery minnow harassment.

(a) The revised strategy shall include:

A. A Monitoring Plan describing all procedures necessary to continue conducting continuous monitoring of dissolved oxygen (DO) and temperature in the North Diversion Channel Embayment and at one (1) location in the Rio Grande downstream of the mouth of the North Diversion Channel within the action area (e.g., Central Bridge). The monitoring plan to be developed will describe the methodology used to assure its quality, and will identify the means necessary to address any gaps that occur during monitoring, in a timely manner (that is, within 24 to 48 hours).

B. A Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) Plan describing all standard operating procedures, quality assurance and quality control plans, maintenance, and implementation schedules that will assure timely and accurate collection and reporting of water temperature, dissolved oxygen, oxygen saturation, and flow. The QA/QC plan should include all procedures for estimating oxygen data when any oxygen monitoring equipment fail. Until a monitoring plan with quality assurance and quality control is submitted by EPA, any data, including any provisional or incomplete data from the most recent measurement period (e.g. if inoperative monitoring equipment for one day, use data from previous day) shall be used as substitutes for all values in the calculations for determinations of incidental takes. Given the nature of the data collected as surrogate for incidental take, all data, even provisional data (e.g., oxygen/water temperature data, associated metadata such as flows, date, times), shall be provided to the Service in a spreadsheet or database format within two weeks after formal request.

(b) Reporting: The COA and AMAFCA shall provide

A. An Annual Incidental Take Report to EPA and the Service that includes the following information: beginning and end date of any qualifying stormwater events, dissolved oxygen values and water temperature in the North Diversion Channel Embayment, dissolved oxygen values and water temperature at a downstream monitoring station in the MRG, flow rate in the North Diversion Channel, mean daily flow rate in the MRG, evaluation of oxygen and temperature data

as either anoxic or hypoxic using Table 2 of the BO, and estimate the number of silvery minnows taken based on Appendix A of the BO**.** Electronic copy of The Annual Incidental Take Report should be provided with the Annual Report required under Part III.B no later than December 1 for the proceeding calendar year.

B. A summary of data and findings with each Annual Report to EPA and the Service. All data collected (including provisional oxygen and water temperature data, and associated metadata), transferred, stored, summarized, and evaluated shall be included in the Annual Report. If additional data is requested by EPA or the Service, The COA and AMAFCA shall provide such as information within two weeks upon request,

The revised strategy required under Part I.C.3.a.(ii),the Annual Incidental Take Reports required under Part I.C.3.a.(ii).(b).A, and Annual Reports required under Part III.B can be submitted to FWS via e-mail nmesfo@fws.gov and joel_lusk@fws.gov, or by mail to the New Mexico Ecological Services field office, 2105 Osuna Road NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87113. (Only Applicable to the COA and AMAFCA

b. Sediment Pollutant Load Reduction Strategy (Applicable to all pemittees): The permittee must develop, implement, and evaluate a sediment pollutant load reduction strategy to assess and reduce pollutant loads associated with sediment (e.g., metals, etc. adsorbed to or traveling with sediment, as opposed to clean sediment) into the receiving waters of the Rio Grande. The strategy must include the following elements:

(i) Sediment Assessment: The permittee must identify and investigate areas within its jurisdiction that may be contributing excessive levels (e.g., levels that may contribute to exceedance of applicable Water Quality Standards) of pollutants in sediments to the receiving waters of the Rio Grande as a result of stormwater discharges. The permittee must identify structural elements, natural or man-made topographical and geographical formations, MS4 operations activities, and areas indicated as potential sources of sediments pollutants in the receiving waters of the Rio Grande. At the time of assessment, the permittee shall record any observed erosion of soil or sediment along ephemeral channels, arroyos, or stream banks, noting the scouring or sedimentation in streams. The assessment should be made using available data from federal, state, or local studies supplemented as necessary with collection of additional data. The permittee must describe, in the first annual report, all standard operating procedures, quality assurance plans to assure that accurate data are collected, summarized, evaluated and reported.

(ii) Estimate Baseline Loading: Based on the results of the sediment pollutants assessment required in Part I.C.3.b.(i) above the permittee must provide estimates of baseline total sediment loading and relative potential for contamination of those sediments by urban activities for drainage areas, sub-watersheds, Impervious Areas (IAs), and/or Directly Connected Impervious Area (DCIAs) draining directly to a surface waterbody or other feature used to convey waters of the United States. Sediment loads may be provided for targeted areas in the entire Middle Rio Grande Watershed (see Appendix A) using an individual or cooperative approach. Any data available and/or preliminary numeric modeling results may be used in estimating loads.

(iii) Targeted Controls: Include a detailed description of all proposed targeted controls and BMPs that will be implemented to reduce sediment pollutant loads calculated in PartI.C.3.b.(ii) above during the next ten (10) years of permit issuance. For each targeted control, the permittee must include interim measurable goals (e.g., interim sediment pollutant load reductions) and an implementation and maintenance schedule, including interim milestones, for each control measure, and as appropriate, the months and years in which the MS4 will undertake the required actions. Any data available and/or preliminary numeric modeling results may be used in establishing the targeted controls, BMPs, and interim measurable goals. The permittee must prioritize pollutant load reduction efforts and target areas (e..g. drainage areas, sub-watersheds, IAs, DCIAs) that generate the highest annual average pollutant loads.

(iv) Monitoring and Interim Reporting: The permittee shall monitor or assess progress in achieving interim measurable goals and determining the effectiveness of BMPs, and shall include documentation of this

monitoring or assessment in the SWMP and annual reports. In addition, the SWMP must include methods to be used. This program element may be coordinated with the monitoring required in Part III.A.

(v) Progress Evaluation and Reporting: The permittee must assess the overall success of the Sediment Pollutant Load Reduction Strategy and document both direct and indirect measurements of program effectiveness in a Progress Report to be submitted with the fifth Annual Report. Data must be analyzed, interpreted, and reported so that results can be applied to such purposes as documenting effectiveness of the BMPs and compliance with the ESA requirements specified in Part I.C.3.b. The Progress Report must include:

(a) A list of species likely to be within the action area:

(b) Type and number of structural BMPs installed;

(c) Evaluation of pollutant source reduction efforts;

(d) Any recommendation based on program evaluation;

(e) Description of how the interim sediment load reduction goals established in Part I.C.3.b.(iii) were achieved; and

(f) Future planning activities needed to achieve increase of sediment load reduction required in Part I.C.3.d.(iii).

(vi) Critical Habitat (Applicable to all permittees): Verify that the installation of stormwater BMPs will not occur in or adversely affect currently listed endangered or threatened species critical habitat by reviewing the activities and locations of stormwater BMP installation within the location of critical habitat of currently listed endangered or threatened species at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service website http://criticalhabitat.fws.gov/crithab/.

D. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (SWMP)

1. **General Requirements**. The permittee must develop, implement, and enforce a SWMP designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from a MS4 to the maximum extent practicable (MEP), to protect water quality (including that of downstream state or tribal waters), and to satisfy applicable surface water quality standards. The permittees shall continue implementation of existing SWMPs, and where necessary modify or revise existing elements and/or develop new elements to comply with all discharges from the MS4 authorized in Part I.A. The updated SWMP shall satisfy all requirements of this permit, and be implemented in accordance with Section 402(p)(3)(B) of the Clean Water Act (Act), and the Stormwater Regulations (40 CFR §122.26 and §122.34). This permit does not extend any compliance deadlines set forth in the previous permits (NMS000101 with effective date March 1, 2012 and permits No: NM NMR040000 and NMR04000I with effective date July 1, 2007).

   If a permittee is already in compliance with one or more requirements in this section because it is already subject to and complying with a related local, state, or federal requirement that is at least as stringent as this permit's requirement, the permittee may reference the relevant requirement as part of the SWMP and document why this permit's requirement has been satisfied. Where this permit has additional conditions that apply, above and beyond what is required by the related local, state, or federal requirement, the permittee is still responsible for complying with the~~se~~ additional conditions in this permit.

2. **Legal Authority**. Each permittee shall implement the legal authority granted by the State or Tribal Government to control discharges to and from those portions of the MS4 over which it has jurisdiction. The difference in each co-permittee's jurisdiction and legal authorities, especially with respect to third parties, may be taken into account in developing the scope of program elements and necessary agreements (i.e. Joint Powers Agreement, Memorandum of Agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, etc.). Permittees may use a combination of statute, ordinance, permit, contract, order, interagency or inter-jurisdictional agreement(s) with other permittees to:

a. Control the contribution of pollutants to the MS4 by stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of stormwater discharged from sites of industrial activity (applicable only to MS4s located within the corporate boundary of the COA);

b. Control the discharge of stormwater and pollutants associated with land disturbance and development activities, both during the construction phase and after site stabilization has been achieved (post-construction), consistent with Part I.D.5.a and Part I.D.5.b;

c. Prohibit illicit discharges and sanitary sewer overflows to the MS4 and require removal of such discharges consistent with Part I.D.5.e;

d. Control the discharge of spills and prohibit the dumping or disposal of materials other than stormwater (e.g. industrial and commercial wastes, trash, used motor vehicle fluids, leaf litter, grass clippings, animal wastes, etc.) into the MS4;

e. Control, through interagency or inter-jurisdictional agreements among permittees, the contribution of pollutants from one (1) portion of the MS4 to another;

f. Require compliance with conditions in ordinances, permits, contracts and/or orders; and

g. Carry out all inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures necessary to maintain compliance with permit conditions.

3. **Shared Responsibility and Cooperative Programs**.

a. The SWMP, in addition to any interagency or inter-jurisdictional agreement(s) among permittees, (e.g., the Joint Powers Agreement to be entered into by the permittees), shall clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of each permittee.

b. Implementation of the SWMP may be achieved through participation with other permittees, public agencies, or private entities in cooperative efforts to satisfy the requirements of Part I.D in lieu of creating duplicate program elements for each individual permittee.

(i) Implementation of one or more of the control measures may be shared with another entity, or the entity may fully take over the measure. A permittee may rely on another entity only if:

(a) the other entity, in fact, implements the control measure;

(b) the control measure, or component of that measure, is at least as stringent as the corresponding permit requirement; or,

(c) the other entity agrees to implement the control measure on the permittee's behalf. Written acceptance of this obligation is expected. The permittee must maintain this obligation as part of the SWMP description. If the other entity agrees to report on the minimum measure, the permittee must supply the other entity with the reporting requirements in Part III.D of this permit. The permittee remains responsible for compliance with the permit obligations if the other entity fails to implement the control measure component.

c. Each permittee shall provide adequate finance, staff, equipment, and support capabilities to fully implement its SWMP and all requirements of this permit.

4. **Measurable Goals**. The permittees shall control the discharge of pollutants from its MS4. The permittee shall implement the provisions set forth in Part I.D.5 below, and shall at a minimum incorporate into the SWMP the control measures listed in Part I.D.5 below. The SWMP shall include measurable goals, including interim milestones, for each control measure, and as appropriate, the months and years in which the MS4 will undertake the required actions and the frequency of the action.

5. **Control Measures**.

a. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control.

(i) The permittee shall develop, revise, implement, and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in any stormwater runoff to the MS4 from construction activities that result in a land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre. Reduction of stormwater discharges from construction activity disturbing less than one acre must be included in the program if that construction activity is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that would disturb one acre or more. **Permittees previously covered under permit NMS000101 or NMR040000 must continue existing programs, updating as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit**. (Note: Highway Departments and Flood Control Authorities may only apply the construction site stormwater management program to the permittees's own construction projects)

(ii) The program must include the development, implementation, and enforcement of, at a minimum:

(a) An ordinance or other regulatory mechanism to require erosion and sediment controls, as well as sanctions to ensure compliance, to the extent allowable under State, Tribal or local law;

(b) Requirements for construction site operators to implement appropriate erosion and sediment control best management practices (both structural and non-structural);

(c) Requirements for construction site operators to control waste such as, but not limited to, discarded building materials, concrete truck washout, chemicals, litter, and sanitary waste at the construction site that may cause adverse impacts to water quality (see EPA guidance at http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/menuofbmps/index.cfm?action=browse&Rbutton=detail&bmp=117);

(d) Procedures for site plan review which incorporate consideration of potential water quality impacts. The site plan review must be conducted prior to commencement of construction activities, and include a review of the site design, the planned operations at the construction site, the planned control measures during the construction phase (including the technical criteria for selection of the control measures), and the planned controls to be used to manage runoff created after the development;

(e) Procedures for receipt and consideration of information submitted by the public;

(f) Procedures for site inspection (during construction) and enforcement of control measures, including provisions to ensure proper construction, operation, maintenance, and repair. The procedures must clearly define who is responsible for site inspections; who has the authority to implement enforcement procedures; and the steps utilized to identify priority sites for inspection and enforcement based on the nature of the construction activity, topography, and the characteristics of soils and the quality of the receiving water. If a construction site operator fails to comply with procedures or policies established by the permittee, the permittee may request EPA enforcement assistance. The site inspection and enforcement procedures must describe sanctions and enforcement mechanism(s) for violations of permit requirements and penalties with detail regarding corrective action follow-up procedures, including enforcement escalation procedures for recalcitrant or repeat offenders. Possible sanctions include non-monetary penalties (such as stop work orders and/or permit denials for non-compliance), as well as monetary penalties such as fines and bonding requirements;

(g) Procedures to educate and train permittee personnel involved in the planning, review, permitting, and/or approval of construction site plans, inspections and enforcement. Education and training shall also be provided for developers, construction site operators, contractors and supporting personnel, including requiring a stormwater pollution prevention plan for construction sites within the permitee's jurisdiction;

(h) Procedures for keeping records of and tracking all regulated construction activities within the MS4, i.e. site reviews, inspections, inspection reports, warning letters and other enforcement documents. A

summary of the number and frequency of site reviews, inspections (including inspector's checklist for oversight of sediment and erosion controls and proper disposal of construction wastes) and enforcement activities that are conducted annually and cumulatively during the permit term shall be included in each annual report; and

(iii) Annually conduct site inspections of 100 percent of all construction projects cumulatively disturbing one (1) or more acres within the MS4 jurisdiction. Site inspections are to be followed by any necessary compliance or enforcement action. Follow-up inspections are to be conducted to ensure corrective maintenance has occurred; and, all projects must be inspected at completion for confirmation of final stabilization.

(iv) The permittee must coordinate with all departments and boards with jurisdiction over the planning, review, permitting, or approval of public and private construction projects/activities within the permit area to ensure that the construction stormwater runoff controls eliminate erosion and maintain sediment on site. Planning documents include, but are not limited to: comprehensive or master plans, subdivision ordinances, general land use plan, zoning code, transportation master plan, specific area plans, such as sector plan, site area plans, corridor plans, or unified development ordinances.

(v) The site plan review required in Part I.D.5.a.(ii)(d) must include an evaluation of opportunities for use of GI/LID/Sustainable practices and when the opportunity exists, encourage project proponents to incorporate such practices into the site design to mimic the pre-development hydrology of the previously undeveloped site. For purposes of this permit, pre-development hydrology shall be met according to Part I.D.5.b of this permit. (consistent with any limitations on that capture). Include a reporting requirement of the number of plans that had opportunities to implement these practices and how many incorporated these practices.

(vi) The permittee must include in the SWMP a description of the mechanism(s) that will be utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Part I.D.5.a.(i) throughout Part I.D.5.a.(v), including description of each individual BMP (both structural or non-structural) or source control measures and its corresponding measurable goal.

(vii) The permittee shall assess the overall success of the program, and document the program effectiveness in the annual report. The permittee must include in each annual report:

(a) A summary of the frequency of site reviews, inspections and enforcement activities that are conducted annually and cumulatively during the permit term.

(b) The number of plans that had the opportunity to implement GI/LID/Sustainable practices and how many incorporated the practices.

Program Flexibility Elements

(viii) The permittee may use storm water educational materials locally developed or provided by the EPA (refer to http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/npdes/swbmp/index.cfm, http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/parking.htm, http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/stormwater.htm), the NMED, environmental, public interest or trade organizations, and/or other MS4s.

(ix) The permittee may develop or update existing construction handbooks (e.g., the COA NPDES Stormwater Management Guidelines for Construction and Industrial Activities Handbook) to be consistent with promulgated construction and development effluent limitation guidelines.

(x) The construction site inspections required in Part I.D.5.a.(iii) may be carried out in conjunction with the permittee's building code inspections using a screening prioritization process.

Table 2. Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control - Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	Permittee Class				
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**B** **Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C** **New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D** **MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Development of an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism as required in Part I.D.5.a.(ii)(a)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of the permit
Develop requirements and procedures as required in Part I.D.5.a.(ii)(b) through in Part I.D.5.a.(ii)(h)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Thirteen (13) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Annually conduct site inspections of 100 percent of all construction projects cumulatively disturbing one (1) or more acres as required in Part I.D.5.a.(iii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Start Thirteen (13) months from effective date of permit and annually thereafter	Start Sixteen (16) months from effective date of permit and annually thereafter	Start eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit and thereafter	Start two (2) years from effective date of permit and thereafter
Coordinate with all departments and boards with jurisdiction over the planning, review, permitting, or approval of public and private construction projects/activities within the permit area as required in Part I.D.5.a.(iv)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit
Evaluation of GI/LID/Sustainable practices in site plan reviews as required in Part I.D.5.a.(v)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.a.(vi) and in Part I.D.5.a.(vii)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary
Enhance the program to include program elements in Part I.D.5.a.(viii) through Part I.D.5.a.(x)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs.
(**) or MS4s designated by the Director
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

b. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment

(i) The permittee must develop, revise, implement, and enforce a program to address stormwater runoff from new development and redevelopment projects that disturb greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, that discharge into the MS4. The program must ensure that controls are in place that would prevent or minimize water quality impacts. **Permittees previously covered under NMS000101 or NMR040000 must continue existing programs, updating as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit**. (Note: Highway Departments and Flood Control Authorities may only apply the post-construction stormwater management program to the permittee's own construction projects)

(ii) The program must include the development, implementation, and enforcement of, at a minimum:

(a) Strategies which include a combination of structural and/or non-structural best management practices (BMPs) to control pollutants in stormwater runoff.

(b) An ordinance or other regulatory mechanism to address post-construction runoff from new development and redevelopment projects to the extent allowable under State, Tribal or local law. The ordinance or policy must:

Incorporate a stormwater quality design standard that manages on-site the 90th percentile storm event discharge volume associated with new development sites and 80th percentile storm event discharge volume associated with redevelopment sites, through stormwater controls that infiltrate, evapotranspire the discharge volume, except in instances where full compliance cannot be achieved, as provided in Part I.D.5.b.(v). The stormwater from rooftop discharge may be harvested and used on-site for non-commercial use. Any controls utilizing impoundments that are also used for flood control that are located in areas where the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer requirements at NMAC 19.26.2.15 (see also Section 72-5-32 NMSA) apply must drain within 96 hours unless the state engineer has issued a waiver to the owner of the impoundment.

Options to implement the site design standard include, but not limited to: management of the discharge volume achieved by canopy interception, soil amendments, rainfall harvesting, rain tanks and cisterns, engineered infiltration, extended filtration, dry swales, bioretention, roof top disconnections, permeable pavement, porous concrete, permeable pavers, reforestation, grass channels, green roofs and other appropriate techniques, and any combination of these practices, including implementation of other stormwater controls used to reduce pollutants in stormwater (e.g., a water quality facility).

Estimation of the 90th or 80th percentile storm event discharge volume is included in EPA Technical Report entitled "*Estimating Predevelopment Hydrology in the Middle Rio Grande Watershed, New Mexico, EPA Publication Number 832-R-14-007*". Permittees can also estimate:

Option A: a site specific 90th or 80th percentile storm event discharge volume using methodology specified in the referenced EPA Technical Report.

Option B: a site specific pre-development hydrology and associated storm event discharge volume using methodology specified in the referenced EPA technical Report.

(c) The permittee must ensure the appropriate implementation of the structural BMPs by considering some or all of the following: pre-construction review of BMP designs; inspections during construction to verify BMPs are built as designed; post-construction inspection and maintenance of BMPs; and penalty provisions for the noncompliance with preconstruction BMP design; failure to construct BMPs

in accordance with the agreed upon pre-construction design; and ineffective post-construction operation and maintenance of BMPs;

(d) The permittee must ensure that the post-construction program requirements are constantly reviewed and revised as appropriate to incorporate improvements in control techniques;

(e) Procedure to develop and implement an educational program for project developers regarding designs to control water quality effects from stormwater, and a training program for plan review staff regarding stormwater standards, site design techniques and controls, including training regarding GI/LID/Sustainability practices. Training may be developed independently or obtained from outside resources, i.e. federal, state, or local experts;

(f) Procedures for site inspection and enforcement to ensure proper long-term operation, maintenance, and repair of stormwater management practices that are put into place as part of construction projects/activities. Procedure(s) shall include the requirement that as-built plans be submitted within ninety (90) days of completion of construction projects/activities that include controls designed to manage the stormwater associated with the completed site (post-construction stormwater management). Procedure(s) may include the use of dedicated funds or escrow accounts for development projects or the adoption by the permittee of all privately owned control measures. This may also include the development of maintenance contracts between the owner of the control measure and the permittee. The maintenance contract shall include verification of maintenance practices by the owner, allows the MS4 owner/operator to inspect the maintenance practices, and perform maintenance if inspections indicate neglect by the owner;

(g) Procedures to control the discharge of pollutants related to commercial application and distribution of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers where permittee(s) hold jurisdiction over lands not directly owned by that entity (e.g., incorporated city). The procedures must ensure that herbicides and pesticides applicators doing business within the permittee's jurisdiction have been properly trained and certified, are encouraged to use the least toxic products, and control use and application rates according to the applicable requirements; and

(h) Procedure or system to review and update, as necessary, the existing program to ensure that stormwater controls or management practices for new development and redevelopment projects/activities continue to meet the requirements and objectives of the permit.

(iii) The permittee must coordinate with all departments and boards with jurisdiction over the planning, review, permitting, or approval of public and private new development and redevelopment projects/activities within the permit area to ensure the hydrology associated with new development and redevelopment sites mimic to the extent practicable the pre-development hydrology of the previously undeveloped site, except in instances where the pre-development hydrology requirement conflicts with applicable water rights appropriation requirements. For purposes of this permit, pre-development hydrology shall be met by capturing the 90^{th} percentile storm event runoff (consistent with any limitations on that capture) which under undeveloped natural conditions would be expected to infiltrate or evapotranspirate on-site and result in little, if any, off-site runoff. (Note: This permit does not prevent permittees from requiring additional controls for flood control purposes.) Planning documents include, but are not limited to: comprehensive or master plans, subdivision ordinances, general land use plan, zoning code, transportation master plan, specific area plans, such as sector plan, site area plans, corridor plans, or unified development ordinances.

(iv) The permittee must assess all existing codes, ordinances, planning documents and other applicable regulations, for impediments to the use of GI/LID/Sustainable practices. The assessment shall include a list of the identified impediments, necessary regulation changes, and recommendations and proposed schedules to incorporate policies and standards to relevant documents and procedures to maximize infiltration, recharge, water harvesting, habitat improvement, and hydrological management of stormwater runoff as allowed under the applicable water rights appropriation requirements. The permittee must develop a report of the assessment findings, which is to be used to provide information to the permittee, of the regulation changes necessary to remove impediments and allow implementation of these practices.

(v) Alternative Compliance for Infeasibility due to Site Constrains:

(a) Infeasibility to manage the design standard volume specified in Part I(D)(5)(b)(ii)(b), or a portion of the design standard volume, onsite may result from site constraints including the following:

A. too small a lot outside of the building footprint to create the necessary infiltrative capacity even with amended soils;

B. soil instability as documented by a thorough geotechnical analysis;

C. a site use that is inconsistent with capture and reuse of storm water;

D. other physical conditions; or,

E. to comply with applicable requirements for on-site flood control structures leaves insufficient area to meet the standard.

(b) A determination that it is infeasible to manage the design standard volume specified in Part I.D.5.b.(ii)(b), or a portion of the design standard volume, on site may not be based solely on the difficulty or cost of implementing onsite control measures, but must include multiple criteria that rule out an adequate combination of the practices set forth in Part I.D,5.b.(v).

(c) This permit does not prevent imposition of more stringent requirements related to flood control. Where both the permittee's site design standard ordinance or policy and local flood control requirements on site cannot be met due to site conditions, the standard may be met through a combination of on-site and off-site controls.

(d) Where applicable New Mexico water law limits the ability to fully manage the design standard volume on site, measures to minimize increased discharge consistent with requirements under New Mexico water law must still be implemented.

(e) In instances where an alternative to compliance with the standard on site is chosen, technical justification as to the infeasibility of on-site management of the entire design standard volume, or a portion of the design standard volume, is required to be documented by submitting to the permittee a site-specific hydrologic and/or design analysis conducted and endorsed by a registered professional engineer, geologist, architect, and/or landscape architect.

(f) When a Permittee determines a project applicant has demonstrated infeasibility due to site constraints specified in Part I.D.5.b.(v) to manage the design standard volume specified in Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(b) or a portion of the design standard volume on-site, the Permittee shall require one of the following mitigation options:

A. Off-site mitigation. The off-site mitigation option only applies to redevelopment sites and cannot be applied to new development. Management of the standard volume, or a portion of the volume, may be implemented at another location within the MS4 area, approved by the permittee. The permittee shall identify priority areas within the MS4 in which mitigation projects can be completed. The permittee shall determine who will be responsible for long-term maintenance on off-site mitigation projects.

B. Ground Water Replenishment Project: Implementation of a project that has been determined to provide an opportunity to replenish regional ground water supplies at an offsite location.

C. Payment in lieu. Payment in lieu may be made to the permittee, who will apply the funds to a public stormwater project. MS4s shall maintain a publicly accessible database of approved projects for which these payments may be used.

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D. Other. In a situation where alternative options A through C above are not feasible and the permittee wants to establish another alternative option for projects, the permitte may submit to the EPA for approval, the alternative option that meets the standard.

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(vi) The permittee must estimate the number of acres of impervious area (IA) and directly connected impervious area (DCIA). For the purpose of his part, IA includes conventional pavements, sidewalks, driveways, roadways, parking lots, and rooftops. DCIA is the portion of IA with a direct hydraulic connection to the permittee's MS4 or a waterbody via continuous paved surfaces, gutters, pipes, and other impervious features. DCIA typically does not include isolated impervious areas with an indirect hydraulic connection to the MS4 (e.g., swale or detention basin) or that otherwise drain to a pervious area.

(vii) The permittee must develop an inventory and priority ranking of MS4-owned property and infrastructure (including public right-of-way) that may have the potential to be retrofitted with control measures designed to control the frequency, volume, and peak intensity of stormwater discharges to and from its MS4. In determining the potential for retrofitting, the permittee shall consider factors such as the complexity and cost of implementation, public safety, access for maintenance purposes, subsurface geology, depth to water table, proximity to aquifers and subsurface infrastructure including sanitary sewers and septic systems, and opportunities for public use and education under the applicable water right requirements and restrictions. In determining its priority ranking, the permittee shall consider factors such as schedules for planned capital improvements to storm and sanitary sewer infrastructure and paving projects; current storm sewer level of service and control of discharges to impaired waters, streams, and critical receiving water (drinking water supply sources);

(viii) The permittee must incorporate watershed protection elements into relevant policy and/or planning documents as they come up for regular review. If a relevant planning document is not scheduled for review during the term of this permit, the permittee must identify the elements that cannot be implemented until that document is revised, and provide to EPA and NMED a schedule for incorporation and implementation not to exceed five years from the effective date of this permit. As applicable to each permittee's MS4 jurisdiction, policy and/or planning documents must include the following:

(a) A description of master planning and project planning procedures to control the discharge of pollutants to and from the MS4.

(b) Minimize the amount of impervious surfaces (roads, parking lots, roofs, etc.) within each watershed, by controlling the unnecessary creation, extension and widening of impervious parking lots, roads and associated development. The permittee may evaluate the need to add impervious surface on a case-by-case basis and seek to identify alternatives that will meet the need without creating the impervious surface.

(c) Identify environmentally and ecologically sensitive areas that provide water quality benefits and serve critical watershed functions within the MS4 and ensure requirements to preserve, protect, create and/or restore these areas are developed and implemented during the plan and design phases of projects in these identified areas. These areas may include, but are not limited to critical watersheds, floodplains, and areas with endangered species concerns and historic properties. Stakeholders shall be consulted as appropriate.

(d) Implement stormwater management practices that minimize water quality impacts to streams, including disconnecting direct discharges to surface waters from impervious surfaces such as parking lots.

(e) Implement stormwater management practices that protect and enhance groundwater recharge as allowed under the applicable water rights laws.

(f) Seek to avoid or prevent hydromodification of streams and other water bodies caused by development, including roads, highways, and bridges.

(g) Develop and implement policies to protect native soils, prevent topsoil stripping, and prevent compaction of soils.

(h) The program must be specifically tailored to address local community needs (e.g. protection to drinking water sources, reduction of water quality impacts) and must be designed to attempt to maintain pre-development runoff conditions.

(ix) The permittee must update the SWMP as necessary to include a description of the mechanism(s) utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Part I.D.5.b.(i) throughout Part I.D.5.b.(viii) as well as the citations and descriptions of design standards for structural and non-structural controls to control pollutants in stormwater runoff, including discussion of the methodology used during design for estimating impacts to water quality and selecting structural and non-structural controls. Description of measurable goals for each BMP (structural or non-structural) or each stormwater control must be included in the SWMP.

(x) The permittee shall assess the overall success of the program, and document the program effectiveness in the annual report. The following information must be included in each annual report:

(a) Include a summary and analysis of all maintenance, inspections and enforcement, and the number and frequency of inspections performed annually.

(b) A cumulative listing of the annual modifications made to the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Program during the permit term, and a cumulative listing of annual revisions to administrative procedures made or ordinances enacted during the permit term.

(c) According to the schedule presented in the Program Development and Implementation Schedule in Table 3, the permittee must

A. Report the number of MS4-owned properties and infrastructure that have been retrofitted with control measures designed to control the frequency, volume, and peak intensity of stormwater discharges. The permittee may also include in its annual report non-MS4 owned property that has been retrofitted with control measures designed to control the frequency, volume, and peak intensity of stormwater discharges.

B. As required in Part I.D.5.b.(vi), report the tabulated results for IA and DCIA and its estimation methodology. In each subsequent annual report, the permittee shall estimate the number of acres of IA and DCIA that have been added or removed during the prior year. The permittee shall include in its estimates the additions and reductions resulting from development, redevelopment, or retrofit projects undertaken directly by the permittee; or by private developers and other parties in a voluntary manner on in compliance with the permittee's regulations.

Program Flexibility Elements:

(xi) The permittee may use storm water educational materials locally developed or provided by EPA (refer to http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/npdes/swbmp/index.cfm, http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/parking.htm, and http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/stormwater.htm); the NMED; environmental, public interest or trade organizations; and/or other MS4s.

(xii) When choosing appropriate BMPs, the permittee may participate in locally-based watershed planning efforts, which attempt to involve a diverse group of stakeholders including interested citizens. When developing a program that is consistent with this measure's intent, the permittee may adopt a planning process that identifies the municipality's program goals (e.g., minimize water quality impacts resulting from post-construction runoff from new development and redevelopment), implementation strategies (e.g., adopt a combination of structural and/or non-structural BMPs), operation and maintenance policies and procedures, and enforcement procedures.

(xiii) The permittee may incorporate the following elements in the Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment program required in Part I.D.5.b.(ii)(b):

(a) Provide requirements and standards to direct growth to identified areas to protect environmentally and ecologically sensitive areas such as floodplains and/or other areas with endangered species and historic properties concerns;

(b) Include requirements to maintain and/or increase open space/buffers along sensitive water bodies, minimize impervious surfaces, and minimize disturbance of soils and vegetation; and

(c) Encourage infill development in higher density urban areas, and areas with existing storm sewer infrastructure.

Table 3. Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment - Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	**Permittee Class**				
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**B** **Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C** **New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D** **MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Development of strategies as required in Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(a)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit
Development of an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism as required in Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(b)	Twenty (24) months from effective date of permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of permit	Thirty six (36) months from effective date of permit	Thirty six (36) months from effective date of permit	Thirty six (36) months from effective date of permit
Implementation and enforcement, via the ordinance or other regulatory mechanism, of site design standards as required in Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(b)	Within thirsty six (36) months from effective date of the permit	Within forty two (42) months from the effective date of the permit	Within forty eight (48) months from effective date of the permit	Within forty eight (48) months from effective date of the permit	Within forty eight (48) months from effective date of the permit
Ensure appropriate implementation of structural controls as required in Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(c) and Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(d)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of permit
Develop procedures as required in Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(e), Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(f), Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(g), and Part I.D.5.b.(ii).(h)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit

Coordinate internally with all departments and boards with jurisdiction over the planning, review, permitting, or approval of public and private construction projects/activities within the permit area as required in Part I.D.5.b.(iii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit
As required in Part I.D.5.b.(iv), the permittee must assess all existing codes, ordinances, planning documents and other applicable regulations, for impediments to the use of GI/LID/Sustainable practices	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit
As required in Part I.D.5.b.(iv), develop and submit a report of the assessment findings on GI/LID/Sustainable practices.	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Twenty seven (27) months from effective date of permit
Estimation of the number of acres of IA and DCIA as required in Part I.D.5.b.(vi)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of permit
Inventory and priority ranking as required in section in Part I.D.5.b.(vii)	Within fifteen (15) months from effective date of the permit	Within twenty four (24) months from effective date of the permit	Within thirty six (36) months from effective date of the permit	Within thirty six (36) months from effective date of the permit	Within forty two (42) months from effective date of the permit
Incorporate watershed protection elements as required in Part I.D.5.b.(viii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.b.(ix) and Part I.D.5.b.(x).	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary
Enhance the program to include program elements in Part I.D.5.b.(xi) and Part I.D.5.b.(xii)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs.
(**) or MS4s designated by the Director
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

c. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal/Co-permittee Operations.

(i) The permittee must develop, revise and implement an operation and maintenance program that includes a training component and the ultimate goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal operations. **Permittees previously covered under NMS000101 or NMR040000 must continue existing programs while updating those programs, as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit**. The program must include:

(a) Development and implementation of an employee training program to incorporate pollution prevention and good housekeeping techniques into everyday operations and maintenance activities. The employee training program must be designed to prevent and reduce storm water pollution from activities such as park and open space maintenance, fleet and building maintenance, new construction and land disturbances, and storm water system maintenance. The permittee must also develop a tracking procedure and ensure that employee turnover is considered when determining frequency of training;

(b) Maintenance activities, maintenance schedules, and long term inspections procedures for structural and non-structural storm water controls to reduce floatable, trash, and other pollutants discharged from the MS4.

(c) Controls for reducing or eliminating the discharge of pollutants from streets, roads, highways, municipal parking lots, maintenance and storage yards, fleet or maintenance shops with outdoor storage areas, salt/sand storage locations, snow disposal areas operated by the permittee, and waste transfer stations;

(d) Procedures for properly disposing of waste removed from the separate storm sewers and areas listed in Part I.D.5.c.(i).(c) (such as dredge spoil, accumulated sediments, floatables, and other debris); and

(e) Procedures to ensure that new flood management projects assess the impacts on water quality and examine existing projects for incorporating additional water quality protection devices or practices.

Note: The permittee may use training materials that are available from EPA, NMED, Tribe, or other organizations.

(ii) The Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping program must include the following elements:

(a) Develop or update the existing list of all stormwater quality facilities by drainage basin, including location and description;

(b) Develop or modify existing operational manual for de-icing activities addressing alternate materials and methods to control impacts to stormwater quality;

(c) Develop or modify existing program to control pollution in stormwater runoff from equipment and vehicle maintenance yards and maintenance center operations located within the MS4;

(d) Develop or modify existing street sweeping program. Assess possible benefits from changing frequency or timing of sweeping activities or utilizing different equipment for sweeping activities;

(e) A description of procedures used by permittees to target roadway areas most likely to contribute pollutants to and from the MS4 (i.e., runoff discharges directly to sensitive receiving water, roadway receives majority of de-icing material, roadway receives excess litter, roadway receives greater loads of oil and grease);

(f) Develop or revise existing standard operating procedures for collection of used motor vehicle fluids (at a minimum oil and antifreeze) and toxics (including paint, solvents, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides,

and other hazardous materials) used in permittee operations or discarded in the MS4, for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal;

(g) Develop or revised existing standard operating procedures for the disposal of accumulated sediments, floatables, and other debris collected from the MS4 and during permittee operations to ensure proper disposal;

(h) Develop or revised existing litter source control programs to include public awareness campaigns targeting the permittee audience; and

(i) Develop or review and revise, as necessary, the criteria, procedures and schedule to evaluate existing flood control devices, structures and drainage ways to assess the potential of retrofitting to provide additional pollutant removal from stormwater. Implement routine review to ensure new and/or innovative practices are implemented where applicable.

(j) Enhance inspection and maintenance programs by coordinating with maintenance personnel to ensure that a target number of structures per basin are inspected and maintained per quarter;

(k) Enhance the existing program to control the discharge of floatables and trash from the MS4 by implementing source control of floatables in industrial and commercial areas;

(l) Include in each annual report, a cumulative summary of retrofit evaluations conducted during the permit term on existing flood control devices, structures and drainage ways to benefit water quality. Update the SWMP to include a schedule (with priorities) for identified retrofit projects;

(m) Flood management projects: review and revise, as necessary, technical criteria guidance documents and program for the assessment of water quality impacts and incorporation of water quality controls into future flood control projects. The criteria guidance document must include the following elements:

A. Describe how new flood control projects are assessed for water quality impacts.

B. Provide citations and descriptions of design standards that ensure water quality controls are incorporated in future flood control projects.

C. Include method for permittees to update standards with new and/or innovative practices.

D. Describe master planning and project planning procedures and design review procedures.

(n) Develop procedures to control the discharge of pollutants related to the storage and application of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers applied, by the permittee's employees or contractors, to public right-of-ways, parks, and other municipal property. The permittee must provide an updated description of the data monitoring system for all permittee departments utilizing pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers.

(iii) Comply with the requirements included in the EPA Multi Sector General Permit (MSGP) to control runoff from industrial facilities (as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)(i)-(ix) and (xi)) owned or operated by the permittees and ultimately discharge to the MS4. The permittees must develop or update:

(a) A list of municipal/permittee operations impacted by this program,

(b) A map showing the industrial facilities owned and operated by the MS4,

(c) A list of the industrial facilities (other than large construction activities defined as industrial activity) that will be included in the industrial runoff control program by category and by basin. The list must include the permit authorization number or a MSGP NOI ID for each facility as applicable.

(iv) The permittee must include in the SWMP a description of the mechanism(s) utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Part I.D.5.c.(i) throughout Part I.D.5.c.(iii) and its corresponding measurable goal.

(v) The permittee shall assess the overall success of the program, and document the program effectiveness in the annual report.

Table 4. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal/Co-permittee Operations - Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	**Permittee Class**				
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**B** **Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C** **New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D** **MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
-Develop or update the Pollution Prevention/Good House Keeping program to include the elements in Part I.D.5.c.(i)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of the permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of the permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of the permit
-Enhance the program to include the elements in Part I.D.5.c.(ii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	One (1) year from effective date of the permit	Two (2) years from effective date of the permit	Two (2) years from effective date of the permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of the permit
-Develop or update a list and a map of industrial facilities owned or operated by the permittee as required in Part I.D.5.c.(iii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of the permit	One (1) year from effective date of the permit	One (1) year from effective date of the permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of the permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.c.(iv) and Part I.D.5.c.(v)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs (**) or MS4s designated by the Director
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

d. Industrial and High Risk Runoff (Applicable only to Class A permittees)

(i) The permittee must control through ordinance, permit, contract, order or similar means, the contribution of pollutants to the municipal storm sewer by storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of storm water discharged from sites of industrial activity as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)(i)-(ix) and (xi). If no such industrial activities are in a permittees jurisdiction, that permittee may certify that this program element does not apply.

(ii) The permittee must continue implementation and enforcement of the Industrial and High Risk Runoff program, assess the overall success of the program, and document both direct and indirect measurements of program effectiveness in the annual report. The program shall include:

(a) A description of a program to identify, monitor, and control pollutants in stormwater discharges to the MS4 from municipal landfills; other treatment, storage, or disposal facilities for municipal waste (e.g. transfer stations, incinerators, etc.); hazardous waste treatment, storage, disposal and recovery facilities; facilities that are subject to EPCRA Title III, Section 313; and any other industrial or commercial discharge the permittee(s) determines are contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the

MS4. (Note: If no such facilities are in a permittees jurisdiction, that permittee may certify that this program element does not apply.); and

(b) Priorities and procedures for inspections and establishing and implementing control measures for such discharges.

(iii) Permittees must comply with the monitoring requirements specified in Part III.A.4;

(iv) The permittee must modify the following as necessary:

(a) The list of the facilities included in the program, by category and basin;

(b) Schedules and frequency of inspection for listed facilities. Facility inspections may be carried out in conjunction with other municipal programs (e.g. pretreatment inspections of industrial users, health inspections, fire inspections, etc.), but must include random inspections for facilities not normally visited by the municipality;

(c) The priorities for inspections and procedures used during inspections (e.g. inspection checklist, review for NPDES permit coverage; review of stormwater pollution prevention plan; etc.); and

(d) Monitoring frequency, parameters and entity performing monitoring and analyses (MS4 permittees or subject facility). The monitoring program may include a waiver of monitoring for parameters at individual facilities based on a "no-exposure" certification;

(v) The permittee must include in the SWMP a description of the mechanism(s) utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Part I.D.5.d.(i) throughout Part I.D.5.d.(iv) and its corresponding measurable goal.

(vi) The permittee shall assess the overall success of the program, and document the program effectiveness in the annual report.

Program Flexibility Elements:

(vii) The permittee may:

(a) Use analytical monitoring data, on a parameter-by-parameter basis, that a facility has collected to comply with or apply for a State or NPDES discharge permit (other than this permit), so as to avoid unnecessary cost and duplication of effort;

(b) Allow the facility to test only one (1) outfall and to report that the quantitative data also apply to the substantially identical outfalls if:

A. A Type 1 or Type 2 industrial facility has two (2) or more outfalls with substantially identical effluents, and

B. Demonstration by the facility that the stormwater outfalls are substantially identical, using one (1) or all of the following methods for such demonstration. The NPDES Stormwater Sampling Guidance Document (EPA 833-B-92-001), available on EPA's website at provides detailed guidance on each of the three options: (1) submission of a narrative description and a site map; (2) submission of matrices; or (3) submission of model matrices.

(c) Accept a copy of a "no exposure" certification from a facility made to EPA under 40 CFR §122.26(g), in lieu of analytic monitoring.

Table 5: Industrial and High Risk Runoff - Program Development and Implementation Schedules:

Activity	Permittee Class	
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Ordinance (or other control method) as required in Part I.D.5.d.(i)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit
Continue implementation and enforcement of the Industrial and High Risk Runoff program, assess the overall success of the program, and document both direct and indirect measurements of program effectiveness in the annual report as required in Part I.D.5.d.(ii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit
Meet the monitoring requirements in Part I.D.5.d.(iii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit
Include requirements in Part I.D.5.d.(iv)	Ten (10) months from permit effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.d.(v) and Part I.D.5.d.(vi)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary
Enhance the program to include requirements in Part I.D.5.d.(vii)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs. Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

e. Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal

(i) The permittee shall develop, revise, implement, and enforce a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges (as defined at 40 CFR 122.26(b)(2)) entering the MS4. **Permittees previously covered under NMS000101 or NMR040000 must continue existing programs while updating those programs, as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit**. The permittee must:

(a) Develop, if not already completed, a storm sewer system map, showing the names and locations of all outfalls as well as the names and locations of all waters of the United States that receive discharges from those outfalls. Identify all discharges points into major drainage channels draining more than twenty (20) percent of the MS4 area;

(b) To the extent allowable under State, Tribal or local law, effectively prohibit, through ordinance or other regulatory mechanism, non-stormwater discharges into the MS4, and implement appropriate enforcement procedures and actions;

(c) Develop and implement a plan to detect and address non-stormwater discharges, including illegal dumpling, to the MS4. The permittee must include the following elements in the plan:

A. Procedures for locating priority areas likely to have illicit discharges including field test for selected pollutant indicators (ammonia, boron, chlorine, color, conductivity, detergents, *E. coli*, enterococci, total coliform, fluoride, hardness, pH, potassium, conductivity, surfactants), and visually screening outfalls during dry weather;

B. Procedures for enforcement, including enforcement escalation procedures for recalcitrant or repeat offenders;

C. Procedures for removing the source of the discharge;

D. Procedures for program evaluation and assessment; and

E. Procedures for coordination with adjacent municipalities and/or state, tribal, or federal regulatory agencies to address situations where investigations indicate the illicit discharge originates outside the MS4 jurisdiction.

(d) Develop an education program to promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of illicit connections or discharges, and distribution of outreach materials. The permittee shall inform public employees, businesses and the general public of hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste.

(e) Establish a hotline to address complaints from the public.

(f) Investigate suspected significant/severe illicit discharges within forty-eight (48) hours of detection and all other discharges as soon as practicable; elimination of such discharges as expeditiously as possible; and, requirement of immediate cessation of illicit discharges upon confirmation of responsible parties.

(g) Review complaint records for the last permit term and develop a targeted source reduction program for those illicit discharge/improper disposal incidents that have occurred more than twice in two (2) or more years from different locations. (Applicable only to class A and B permittees)

(h) If applicable, implement the program using the priority ranking develop during last permit term

(ii) The permittee shall address the following categories of non-stormwater discharges or flows (e.g., illicit discharges) only if they are identified as significant contributors of pollutants to the MS4: water line flushing, landscape irrigation, diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, uncontaminated ground water infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005(90)), uncontaminated pumped ground water, discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, air conditioning condensation, irrigation water, springs, water from crawl space pumps, footing drains, lawn watering, individual residential car washing, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges, and street wash water.

Note: Discharges or flows from fire fighting activities are excluded from the effective prohibitions against non-stormwater and need only be addressed where they are identified a significant sources of pollutants to water of the United States).

(iii) The permittee must screen the entire jurisdiction at least once every five (5) years and high priority areas at least once every year. High priority areas include any area where there is ongoing evidence of illicit discharges or dumping, or where there are citizen complaints on more than five (5) separate events within twelve (12) months. The permittee must:

(a) Include in its SWMP document a description of the means, methods, quality assurance and controls protocols, and schedule for successfully implementing the required screening, field monitoring, laboratory analysis, investigations, and analysis evaluation of data collected.

(b) Comply with the dry weather screening program established in Table 6 and the monitoring requirements specified in Part III.A.2.

(c) If applicable, implement the priority ranking system develop in previous permit term.

(iv) Waste Collection Programs: The permittee must develop, update, and implement programs to collect used motor vehicle fluids (at a minimum, oil and antifreeze) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal, and to collect household hazardous waste materials (including paint, solvents, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, and other hazardous materials) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal. Where available, collection programs operated by third parties may be a component of the programs. Permittees shall enhance these programs by establishing the following elements as a goal in the SWMP:

A. Increasing the frequency of the collection days hosted;

B. Expanding the program to include commercial fats, oils and greases; and

C. Coordinating program efforts between applicable permittee departments.

(v) Spill Prevention and Response. The permittee must develop, update and implement a program to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into the MS4. The permittees must continue existing programs while updating those programs, as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit. The Spill Prevention and Response program shall include:

(a) Where discharge of material resulting from a spill is necessary to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage, the permittee(s) shall take, or insure the party responsible for the spill takes, all reasonable steps to control or prevent any adverse effects to human health or the environment: and

(b) The spill response program may include a combination of spill response actions by the permittee (and/or another public or private entity), and legal requirements for private entities within the permittee's municipal jurisdiction.

(vi) The permittee must include in the SWMP a description of the mechanism(s) utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Part I.D.5.e.(i) throughout Part I.D.5.e.(v) and its corresponding measurable goal. A description of the means, methods, quality assurance and controls protocols, and schedule for successfully implementing the required screening, field monitoring, laboratory analysis, investigations, and analysis evaluation of data collected

(vii) The permittee shall assess the overall success of the program, and document the program effectiveness in the annual report.

(viii) The permittee must expeditiously revise as necessary, within nine (9) months from the effective date of the permit, the existing permitting/certification program to ensure that any entity applying for the use of Right of Way implements controls in their construction and maintenance procedures to control pollutants entering the MS4. (Only applicable to NMDOT)

Program Flexibility Elements

(ix) The permittee may:

(a) Divide the jurisdiction into assessment areas where monitoring at fewer locations would still provide sufficient information to determine the presence or absence of illicit discharges within the larger area;

(b) Downgrade high priority areas after the area has been screened at least once and there are citizen complaints on no more than five (5) separate events within a twelve (12) month period;

(c) Rely on a cooperative program with other MS4s for detection and elimination of illicit discharges and illegal dumping;

(d) If participating in a cooperative program with other MS4s, required detection program frequencies may be based on the combined jurisdictional area rather than individual jurisdictional areas and may use assessment areas crossing jurisdictional boundaries to reduce total number of screening locations (e.g., a shared single screening location that would provide information on more than one jurisdiction); and

(e) After screening a non-high priority area once, adopt an "in response to complaints only" IDDE for that area provided there are citizen complaints on no more than two (2) separate events within a twelve (12) month period.

(f) Enhance the program to utilize procedures and methodologies consistent with those described in "Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, A Guidance Manual for Program Development and Technical Assessments."

Table 6. Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal - Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	**Permittee Class**				
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**B** **Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C** **New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census ***)**	**D** **MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Mapping as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(a)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit
Ordinance (or other control method) as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(b)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of permit
Develop and implement a IDDE plan as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(c)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of permit
Develop an education program as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(d)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Establish a hotline as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(e)	Update as necessary	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Investigate suspected significant/severe illicit discharges as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(f)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Review complaint records and develop a targeted source reduction program as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(g)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	N/A	N/A	One (1) year from effective date of permit

Screening of system as required in Part I.D.5.e.(iii) as follows: a.) High priority areas**	1 / year	1 / year	1 / year	1 / year	1 / year
b.) Whole system	-Screen 20% of the MS4 per year	- Screen 20% of the MS4 per year	-Years 1 – 2: develop procedures as required in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(c) -Year 3: screen 30% of the MS4 -Year 4: screen 20% of the MS4 -Year 5: screen 50% of the MS4	-Years 1 – 2: develop procedures as required Part I.D.5.e.(i)(c) -Year 3: screen 30% of the MS4 -Year 4: screen 20% of the MS4 -Year 5: screen 50% of the MS4	-Years 1 – 3: develop procedures as require in Part I.D.5.e.(i)(c) -Year 4: screen 30% of the MS4 -Year 5: screen 70% of the MS4
Develop, update, and implement a Waste Collection Program as required in Part I.D.5.e.(iv)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Two (2) years from effective date of permit	Thirty (30) months from effective date of permit
Develop, update and implement a Spill Prevention and Response program to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into the MS4 as required in Part I.D.5.e.(v)	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	One (1) year from effective date of permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.e.(iii), Part I.D.5.e.(vi), and Part I.D.5.e.(vii).	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary
Enhance the program to include requirements in Part I.D.5.e.(ix)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs.
(**) High priority areas include any area where there is ongoing evidence of illicit discharges or dumpling, or where there are citizen complaints on more than five (5) separate events within twelve (12) months
(***) or MS4s designated by the Director
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

f. Control of Floatables Discharges

(i) The permittee must develop, update, and implement a program to address and control floatables in discharges into the MS4. The floatables control program shall include source controls and, where necessary, structural controls. **Permittees previously covered under NMS000101 or NMR040000 must continue existing programs while updating those programs, as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit.** The following elements must be included in the program:

(a) Develop a schedule for implementation of the program to control floatables in discharges into the MS4 (Note: AMAFCA and the City of Albuquerque should update the schedule according to the findings of the 2005 AMAFCA/COA Floatable and Gross Pollutant Study and other studies); and

(b) Estimate the annual volume of floatables and trash removed from each control facility and characterize the floatable type.

(ii) The permittee must include in the SWMP a description of the mechanism(s) utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Part I.D.5.f.(i).

(iii) The permittee shall assess the overall success of the program, and document the program effectiveness in the annual report.

Table 7. Control of Floatables Discharges - Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	**Permittee Class**				
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**B** **Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C** **New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D** **MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
- Develop a schedule to implement the program as required in Part I.D.5.f.(i)(a)	Ten (10) months from the effective date of the permit	Ten (10) months from the effective date of the permit	One (1) year from the effective date of the permit	One (1) year from the effective date of the permit	Eighteen (18) months from the effective date of the permit
-Estimate the annual volume of floatables and trash removed from each control facility and characterize the floatable type as required in Part I.D.5.f.(i)(b)	Ten (10) months from the effective date of the permit	One (1) year from the effective date of the permit	Two (2) years from the effective date of the permit	Two (2) years from the effective dae of the permit	Thirty (30) months from the effective date of the permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.f.(ii) and Part I.D.5.f.(iii).	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs.
(**) or MS4s designated by the Director
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

g. Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts

(i) The permittee shall, individually or cooperatively, develop, revise, implement, and maintain a comprehensive stormwater program to educate the community, employees, businesses, and the general public of hazards associated with the illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste and about the impact that stormwater discharges on local waterways, as well as the steps that the public can take to reduce pollutants in stormwater. **Permittees previously covered under NMS000101 and NMR040000 must continue existing programs while updating those programs, as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit**.

(ii) The permittee must implement a public education program to distribute educational knowledge to the community or conduct equivalent outreach activities about the impacts of storm water discharges on water bodies and the steps that the public can take to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff. The permittee must:

(a) Define the goals and objectives of the program based on high priority community-wide issues;

(b) Develop or utilize appropriate educational materials, such as printed materials, billboard and mass transit advertisements, signage at select locations, radio advertisements, television advertisements, and websites;

(c) Inform individuals and households about ensuring proper septic system maintenance, ensuring the proper use and disposal of landscape and garden chemicals including fertilizers and pesticides, protecting and restoring riparian vegetation, and properly disposing of used motor oil or household hazardous wastes;

(d) Inform individuals and groups how to become involved in local stream and beach restoration activities as well as activities that are coordinated by youth service and conservation corps or other citizen groups;

(e) Use tailored public education program, using a mix of locally appropriate strategies, to target specific audiences and communities. Examples of strategies include distributing brochures or fact sheets, sponsoring speaking engagements before community groups, providing public service announcements, implementing educational programs targeted at school age children, and conducting community-based projects such as storm drain stenciling, and watershed cleanups; and

(f) Use materials or outreach programs directed toward targeted groups of commercial, industrial, and institutional entities likely to have significant stormwater impacts. For example, providing information to restaurants on the impact of grease clogging storm drains and to garages on the impact of oil discharges. The permittee may tailor the outreach program to address the viewpoints and concerns of all communities, particularly minority and disadvantaged communities, as well as any special concerns relating to children. The permittee must make information available for non-English speaking residents, where appropriate.

(iii) The permittee must include the following information in the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) document:

(a) A description of a program to promote, publicize, facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or water quality associated with discharges from municipal separate storm sewers;

(b) A description of the education activities, public information activities, and other appropriate activities to facilitate the proper management and disposal of used oil and toxic materials; and

(c) A description of the mechanism(s) utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Part I.D.5.g.(i) and Part I.D.5.g.(ii) and its corresponding measurable goal.

(iv) The permittee must assess the overall success of the program, and document both direct and indirect measurements of program effectiveness in the Annual Report.

Program Flexibility Elements

(v) Where necessary to comply with the Minimum Control Measures established in Part I.D.5.g.(i) and Part I.D.5.g.(ii), the permittee should develop a program or modify/revise an existing education and outreach program to:

(a) Promote, publicize, and facilitate the use of Green Infrastructure (GI)/Low Impact Development (LID)/Sustainability practices; and

(b) Include an integrated public education program (including all permittee departments and programs within the MS4) regarding litter reduction, reduction in pesticide/herbicide use, recycling and proper

disposal (including yard waste, hazardous waste materials, and used motor vehicle fluids), and GI/LID/Sustainable practices (including xeriscaping, reduced water consumption, water harvesting practices allowed by the New Mexico State Engineer Office).

(vi) The permittee may collaborate or partner with other MS4 operators to maximize the program and cost effectiveness of the required outreach.

(vii) The education and outreach program may use citizen hotlines as a low-cost strategy to engage the public in illicit discharge surveillance.

(viii) The permittee may use stormwater educational materials provided by the State, Tribe, EPA, environmental, public interest or trade organizations, or other MS4s. The permittee may also integrate the education and outreach program with existing education and outreach programs in the Middle Rio Grande area. Example of existing programs include:

(a) Classroom education on stormwater;

A. Develop watershed map to help students visualize area impacted.

B. Develop pet-specific education

(b) Establish a water committee/advisor group;

(c) Contribute and participate in Stormwater Quality Team;

(d) Education/outreach for commercial activities;

(e) Hold regular employee trainings with industry groups

(f) Education of lawn and garden activities;

(g) Education on sustainable practices;

(h) Education/outreach of pet waste management;

(i) Education on the proper disposal of household hazardous waste;

(j) Education/outreach programs aimed at minority and disadvantaged communities and children;

(k) Education/outreach of trash management;

(l) Education/outreach in public events;

A. Participate in local events—brochures, posters, etc.

B. Participate in regional events (i.e., State Fair, Balloon Fiesta).

(m) Education/outreach using the media (e.g. publish local newsletters);

(n) Education/outreach on water conservation practices designed to reduce pollutants in storm water for home residences.

Table 8. Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts - Program Development and Implementation Schedules

Activity	Permittee Class				
	A Phase I MS4s	**B** Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)	**C** New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)	**D** MS4s within Indian Lands	**Cooperative (*)** Any Permittee with cooperative programs
Develop, revise, implement, and maintain an education and outreach program as required in Part I.D.5.g.(i) and Part I.D.5.g.(ii)	Ten (10) months from the effective date of the permit	Eleven (11) months from the effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of the permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.g.(iii) and Part I.D.5.g.(iv)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary
Enhance the program to include requirements in Part I.D.5.g.(v) through Part I.D.5.g.(viii)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs.
(**) or MS4s designated by the Director
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

h. Public Involvement and Participation

(i) The permittee must provide local public notice of and make available for public review a copy of the complete NOI and attachments (see Part I.B.2). Local public notice may be made by newspaper notice, notice at a council meeting, posting on the internet, or other method consistent with state/tribal/local public notice requirements.

The permittee must consider all public comments received during the public notice period and modify the NOI, or include a schedule to modify the SWMP, as necessary, or as required by the Director modify the NOI or/and SWMP in response to such comments. The Permittees must include in the NOI any unresolved public comments and the MS4's response to these comments. Responses provided by the MS4 will be considered as part of EPA's decision-making process. See also Appendix E Providing Comments or Requesting a Public Hearing on an Operator's NOI.

(ii) The permittee shall develop, revise, implement and maintain a plan to encourage public involvement and provide opportunities for participation in the review, modification and implementation of the SWMP; develop and implement a process by which public comments to the plan are received and reviewed by the person(s) responsible for the SWMP; and, make the SWMP available to the public and to the operator of any MS4 or Tribal authority receiving discharges from the MS4. **Permittee previously covered under NMS000101 or NMR040000 must continue existing public involvement and participation programs while updating those programs, as necessary, to comply with the requirements of this permit**.

(iii) The plan required in Part I.D.5.h.(ii) shall include a comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate. The permittee must include the following elements in the plan:

(a) A detailed description of the general plan for informing the public of involvement and participation opportunities, including types of activities; target audiences; how interested parties may access the SWMP; and how the public was involved in development of the SWMP;

(b) The development and implementation of at least one (1) assessment of public behavioral change following a public education and/or participation event;

(c) A process to solicit involvement by environmental groups, environmental justice communities, civic organizations or other neighborhoods/organizations interested in water quality-related issues, including but not limited to the Middle Rio Grande Water Quality Work Group, the Middle Rio Grande Bosque Initiative, the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Act Collaborative Program, the Middle Rio Grande-Albuquerque Reach Watershed Group, the Pueblos of Santa Ana, Sandia and Isleta, Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority, UNM Colleges and Schools, and Chartered Student Organizations; and

(d) An evaluation of opportunities to utilize volunteers for stormwater pollution prevention activities and awareness throughout the area.

(iv) The permittee shall comply with State, Tribal and local public notice requirements when implementing a public involvement/ participation program.

(v) The public participation process must reach out to all economic and ethnic groups. Opportunities for members of the public to participate in program development and implementation include serving as citizen representatives on a local stormwater management panel, attending public hearings, working as citizen volunteers to educate other individuals about the program, assisting in program coordination with other pre-existing programs, or participating in volunteer monitoring efforts.

(vi) The permittee must include in the SWMP a description of the mechanism(s) utilized to comply with each of the elements required in Parts I.D.5.h.(i) throughout Part I.D.5.h.(iv) and its corresponding measurable goal.

(vii) The permittee shall assess the overall success of the program, and document the program effectiveness in the annual report.

(viii) The permittee must provide public accessibility of the Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) document and Annual Reports online via the Internet and during normal business hours at the MS4 operator's main office, a local library, posting on the internet and/or other readily accessible location for public inspection and copying consistent with any applicable federal, state, tribal, or local open records requirements. Upon a showing of significant public interest, the MS4 operator is encouraged to hold a public meeting (or include in the agenda of in a regularly scheduled city council meeting, etc.) on the NOI, SWMP, and Annual Reports. (See Part III B)

Program Flexibility Elements

(ix) The permittee may integrate the public Involvement and participation program with existing education and outreach programs in the Middle Rio Grande area. Example of existing programs include: Adopt-A-Stream Programs; Attitude Surveys; Community Hotlines (e.g. establishment of a "311"-type number and system established to handle storm-water-related concerns, setting up a public tracking/reporting

system, using phones and social media); Revegetation Programs; Storm Drain Stenciling Programs; Stream cleanup and Monitoring program/events.

Table 9. Public Involvement and Participation - *Program Development and Implementation Schedules*

Activity	Permittee Class				
	A Phase I MS4s	**B Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*) Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Develop (or update), implement, and maintain a public involvement and participation plan as required in Part I.D.5.h.(ii) and Part I.D.5.h.(iii)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of the permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of the permit	One (1) year from effective date of the permit
Comply with State, Tribal, and local notice requirements when implementing a Public Involvement and Participation Program as required in Part I.D.5.h.(iv)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of the permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of the permit
Include elements as required in Part I.D.5.h.(v)	Ten (10) months from effective date of the permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of the permit	One (1) year from effective date of the permit	One (1) year from effective date of the permit	Eighteen (18) months from effective date of the permit
Update the SWMP document and annual report as required in Part I.D.5.h.(vi), Part I.D.5.h.(vii), and Part I.D.5.h.(viii)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary
Enhance the program to include requirements in Part I.D.5.h.(ix)	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary	Update as necessary

(*) During development of cooperative programs, the permittee must continue to implement existing programs.
(**) or MS4s designated by the Director
Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

6. **Stormwater Management Program Review and Modification**.

a. Program Review. Permittee shall participate in an annual review of its SWMP in conjunction with preparation of the annual report required in Part III.B. Results of the review shall be discussed in the annual report and shall include an assessment of:

(i) SWMP implementation, progress in achieving measurable goals, and compliance with program elements and other permit conditions;

(ii) the effectiveness of its SWMP, and any necessary modifications, in complying with the permit, including requirements to control the discharge of pollutants, and comply with water quality standards and any applicable approved TMDLs; and the adequacy of staff, funding levels, equipment, and support capabilities to fully implement the SWMP and comply with permit conditions.

(a) Project staffing requirements, in man hours, for the implementation of the MS4 program during the upcoming year.

(b) Staff man hours used during the previous year for implementing the MS4 program. Man hours may be estimated based on staff assigned, assuming a forty (40) hour work week.

b. Program Modification. The permittee(s) may modify its SWMP with prior notification or request to the EPA and NMED in accordance with this section.

(i) Modifications adding, but not eliminating, replacing, or jeopardizing fulfillment of any components, controls, or requirements of its SWMP may be made by the permittee(s) at any time upon written notification to the EPA.

(ii) Modifications replacing or eliminating an ineffective or unfeasible component, control or requirement of its SWMP, including monitoring and analysis requirements described in Parts III.A and V, may be requested in writing at any time. If request is denied, the EPA will send a written explanation of the decision. Modification requests shall include the following:

(a) a description of why the SWMP component is ineffective, unfeasible (including cost prohibitions), or unnecessary to support compliance with the permit;

(b) expectations on the effectiveness of the proposed replacement component; and

(c) an analysis of how the proposed replacement component is expected to achieve the goals of the component to be replaced.

(iii) Modifications resulting from schedules contained in Part VI may be requested following completion of an interim task or final deadline.

(iv) Modification requests or notifications shall be made in writing, signed in accordance with Part IV.H.

c. Program Modifications Required by EPA. Modifications requested by EPA shall be made in writing, set forth the time schedule for the permittee(s) to develop the modifications, and offer the permittee(s) the opportunity to propose alternative program modifications to meet the objective of the requested modification. The EPA may require changes to the SWMP as needed to:

(i) Address impacts on receiving water quality caused, or contributed to, by discharges from the MS4;

(ii) Include more stringent requirements necessary to comply with new State or Federal statutory or regulatory requirements;

(iii) Include such other conditions deemed necessary by the EPA to comply with the goals and requirements of the Clean Water Act; or

(iv) If, at any time, EPA determines that the SWMP does not meet permit requirements.

d. Transfer of Ownership, Operational Authority, or Responsibility for SWMP Implementation: The permittee(s) shall implement the SWMP:

(i) On all new areas added to their portion of the MS4 (or for which they become responsible for implementation of stormwater quality controls) as expeditiously as possible, but not later than one (1) year from addition of the new areas. Implementation may be accomplished in a phased manner to allow additional time for controls that cannot be implemented immediately;

(ii) Within ninety (90) days of a transfer of ownership, operational authority, or responsibility for SWMP implementation, the permittee(s) shall have a plan for implementing the SWMP on all affected areas. The plan may include schedules for implementation; and information on all new annexed areas and any resulting updates required to the SWMP shall be submitted in the annual report.

7. **Retention of Program Records**. The permittee shall retain SWMP records developed in accordance with Part I.D, Part IV.P, and Part VI for at least five (5) years after coverage under this permit terminates.

8. **Qualifying State, Tribal or Local Program**. The permittee may substitute the BMPs and measurable goals of an existing storm water pollution control program to qualify for compliance with one or more of the minimum control measures if the existing measure meets the requirements of the minimum control measure as established in Part I.D.5

PART II. NUMERIC DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS

A. DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS. Reserved

PART III. MONITORING, ASSESSMENT, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

A. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

The permittee must develop, in consultation with NMED and EPA (and affected Tribes if monitoring locations would be located on Tribal lands), and implement a comprehensive monitoring and assessment program designed to meet the following objectives:

- Assess compliance with this permit;
- Assess the effectiveness of the permittee's stormwater management program;
- Assess the impacts to receiving waters resulting from stormwater discharges;
- Characterize stormwater discharges;
- Identify sources of elevated pollutant loads and specific pollutants;
- Detect and eliminate illicit discharges and illegal connections to the MS4; and
- Assess the overall health and evaluate long-term trends in receiving water quality.

The permittee shall be select specific monitoring locations sufficient to assess effects of storm water discharges on receiving waters. The monitoring program may take advantage of monitoring stations/efforts utilized by the permittees or others in previous stormwater monitoring programs or other water quality monitoring efforts. Data collected by others at such stations may be used to satisfy part, or all, of the permit monitoring requirements provided the data collection by that party meets the requirements established in Part III.A.1 throughout Part III.A.5. The comprehensive monitoring and assessment program shall be described in the SWMP document and the results must be provided in each annual report.

Implementation of the comprehensive monitoring and assessment program may be achieved through participation with other permittees to satisfy the requirements of Part III.A.1 throughout Part III.A.5 below in lieu of creating duplicate program elements for each individual permittee.

1. **Wet Weather Monitoring**: The permittees shall conduct wet weather monitoring to gather information on the response of receiving waters to wet weather discharges from the MS4 during both wet season (July 1 through October 31) and dry Season (November 1 through June 30). Wet Weather Monitoring shall be conducted at outfalls, internal sampling stations, and/or in-stream monitoring locations at each water of the US that runs in each entity or entities' jurisdiction(s). Permittees may choose either Option A or Option B below:

   a. *Option A*: Individual monitoring

      (i) Class A: Perform wet weather monitoring at a location coming into the MS4 jurisdictional area (upstream) and leaving the MS4 jurisdictional area (downstream), see Appendix D. Monitor for TSS, TDS, COD, BOD_5, DO, oil and grease, *E.coli*, pH, total kjeldahl nitrogen, nitrate plus nitrite, dissolved phosphorus, total ammonia plus organic nitrogen, total phosphorus, PCBs and gross alpha. Monitoring of temperature shall be also conducted at outfalls and/or Rio Grande monitoring locations. Phase I permittees must include additional parameters from monitoring conducted under permit NMS000101 (from last 10 years) whose mean values are at or above a WQS. Permittee must sample these pollutants a minimum of 10 events during the permit term with at least 5 events in wet season and 4 events in dry season.

      (ii) Class B, C, and D: Perform wet weather monitoring at a location coming into the MS4 jurisdictional area (upstream) and leaving the MS4 jurisdictional area (downstream), see Appendix D. Monitor for TSS, TDS, COD, BOD_5, DO, oil and grease, *E.coli*, pH, total kjeldahl nitrogen, nitrate plus nitrite, dissolved phosphorus, total ammonia plus organic nitrogen, total phosphorus, PCBs and gross alpha. Monitoring of temperature shall be also

conducted at outfalls and/or Rio Grande monitoring locations. If applicable, include additional parameters from monitoring conducted under permits NMR040000 or/and NMR04000I whose mean values are at or above a WQS; sample these pollutants a minimum of 8 events per location during the permit term with at least 4 events in wet season and 2 events in dry season.

b. *Option B*: Cooperative Monitoring Program

Develop a cooperative wet weather monitoring program with other permittees in the Middle Rio Grande watershed (see map in Appendix A). The program will monitor waters coming into the watershed (upstream) and leaving the watershed (downstream), see suggested sampling locations in Appendix D. The program must include sampling for TSS, TDS, COD, BOD5, DO, oil and grease, *E.coli*, pH, total kjeldahl nitrogen, nitrate plus nitrite, dissolved phosphorus, total ammonia plus organic nitrogen, total phosphorus, PCBs and Gross alpha. Monitoring of temperature shall be also conducted at outfalls and/or Rio Grande monitoring locations. Permittees must include additional parameters from monitoring conducted under permits NMS000101, NMR040000 or/and NMR04000I whose mean values are at or above a WQS. The monitoring program must sample the pollutants for a minimum of 7 storm events per location during the permit term with at least 3 events wet season and 2 events in dry season.

Note: Seasonal monitoring periods are: Wet Season: July 1 through October 31; Dry Season: November 1 through June 30.

c. Wet weather monitoring shall be performed only when the predicted (or actual) rainfall magnitude of a storm event is greater than 0.25 inches and an antecedent dry period of at least forty-eight (48) hours after a rain event greater than 0.1 inch in magnitude is satisfied. Monitoring methodology will consist of collecting a minimum of four (4) grab samples spaced at a minimum interval of fifteen (15) minutes each (or a flow weighted automatic composite, see Part III.A.5.a.(i)). Individual grab samples shall be preserved and delivered to the laboratory where samples will be combined into a single composite sample from each monitoring location.

d. Monitoring methodology at each MS4 monitoring location shall be collected during any portion of the monitoring location's discharge hydrograph (i.e. first flush, rising limb, peak, and falling limb) after a discernible increase in flow at the tributary inlet.

e. The permittee must comply with the schedules contained in Table 10. The results of the Wet Weather Monitoring must be provided in each annual report.

f. DO, pH, conductivity, and temperature shall be analyzed in the field within fifteen (15) minutes of sample collection.

g. Alternate wet weather monitoring locations established in Part III.A.1.a or Part III.A.1.b may be substituted for just cause during the term of the permit. Requests for approval of alternate monitoring locations shall be made to the EPA and NMED in writing and include the rationale for the requested monitoring station relocation. Unless disapproved by the EPA, use of an alternate monitoring location (except for those with numeric effluent limitations) may commence thirty (30) days from the date of the request. For monitoring locations where numeric effluent limitations have been established, the permit must be modified prior to substitution of alternate monitoring locations. At least six (6) samples shall be collected during the first year of monitoring at substitute monitoring locations. If there are less than six sampleable events, this should be document for reporting purposes.

h. Response to monitoring results: The monitoring program must include a contingency plan for collecting additional monitoring data within the MS4 or at additional appropriate instream locations should monitoring results indicate that MS4 discharges may be contributing to instream exceedances of WQS. The purpose of this additional monitoring effort would be to identify sources of elevated pollutant loadings so they could be addressed by the SWMP.

Table 10. Wet Weather Monitoring Program Implementation Schedules:

Activity	**Permittee Class**				
	A **Phase I MS4s**	**B** **Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)**	**C** **New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census **)**	**D** **MS4s within Indian Lands**	**Cooperative (*)** **Any Permittee with cooperative programs**
Submit wet weather monitoring preference to EPA (i.e., individual monitoring program vs. cooperative monitoring program) with NOI submittals	NOI submittal Deadline (see Table 1)	NOI submittal Deadline (see Table 1)	NOI submittal Deadline (see Table 1)	NOI submittal Deadline (see Table 1)	NOI submittal Deadline (see Table 1)
Submit a detailed description of the monitoring scheme to EPA and NMED for approval. The monitoring scheme should include: a list of pollutants; a description of monitoring sites with an explanation of why those sites were selected; and a detailed map of all proposed monitoring sites	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Ten (10) months from effective date of permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Twelve (12) months from effective date of permit
Submit certification that all wet weather monitoring sites are operational and begin sampling	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Eleven (11) months from effective date of permit	Thirteen (13) months from effective date of permit	Thirteen (13) months from effective date of permit	Fourteen (14) months from effective date of permit
Update SWMP document and submit annual reports	Annually	Annually	Annually	Annually	Annually

(**) or MS4s designated by the Director

Note: The deadlines established in this table may be extended by the Director for any MS4 designated as needing a permit after issuance of this permit to accommodate expected date of permit coverage.

2. **Dry Weather Discharge Screening of MS4**: Each permittee shall identify, investigate, and address areas within its jurisdiction that may be contributing excessive levels of pollutants to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System as a result of dry weather discharges (i.e., discharges from separate storm sewers that occur without the direct influence of runoff from storm events, e.g. illicit discharges, allowable non-stormwater, groundwater infiltration, etc.). Due to the arid and semi-arid conditions of the area, the dry weather discharges screening program may be carried out during both wet season (July 1 through October 31) and dry Season (November 1 through June 30). Results of the assessment

shall be provided in each annual report. This program may be coordinated with the illicit discharge detection and elimination program required in Part I.D.5.e. The dry weather screening program shall be described in the SWMP and comply with the schedules contained in Part I.D.5.e.(iii). The permittee shall

a. Include sufficient screening points to adequately assess pollutant levels from all areas of the MS4.

b. Screen for, at a minimum, BOD_5, sediment or a parameter addressing sediment (e.g., TSS or turbidity), E. coli, Oil and Grease, nutrients, any pollutant that has been identified as cause of impairment of a waterbody receiving discharges from that portion of the MS4, including temperature.

c. Specify the sampling and non-sampling techniques to be issued for initial screening and follow-up purposes. Sample collection and analysis need not conform to the requirements of 40 CFR Part 136; and

d. Perform monitoring only when an antecedent dry period of at least seventy-two (72) hours after a rain event greater than 0.1 inch in magnitude is satisfied. Monitoring methodology shall consist of collecting a minimum of four (4) grab samples spaced at a minimum interval of fifteen (15) minutes each. Grab samples will be combined into a single composite sample from each station, preserved, and delivered to the laboratory for analysis. A flow weighted automatic composite sample may also be used.

3. **Floatable Monitoring:** The permittees shall establish locations for monitoring/assessing floatable material in discharges to and/or from their MS4. Floatable material shall be monitored at least twice per year at priority locations and at minimum of two (2) stations except as provided in Part III.A.3. below. The amount of collected material shall be estimated in cubic yards.

a. One (1) station should be located in the North Diversion (only applicable to the COA and AMAFCA).

b. Non-traditional MS4 as defined in Part VII shall sample/assess at one (1) station.

c. Phase II MS4s shall sample/assess at one (1) station within their jurisdiction or participate in a cooperative floatable monitoring plan addressing impacts on perennial waters of the US on a larger watershed basis.

A cooperative monitoring program may be established in partnership with other MS4s to monitor and assess floatable material in discharges to and/or from a joint jurisdictional area or watershed basis.

4. **Industrial and High Risk Runoff Monitoring** (Applicable only to Class A permittees): The permittees shall monitor stormwater discharges from Type 1 and 2 industrial facilities which discharge to the MS4 provided such facilities are located in their jurisdiction. (Note: if no such facilities are in the permittee's jurisdiction, the permittee must certify that this program element does not apply). The permittee shall:

a. Conduct analytical monitoring of Type 1 facilities that discharge to the MS4. Type 1 facilities are municipal landfills; hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities; facilities that are subject to EPCRA Title III, Section 313; and industrial facilities the permittee(s) determines are contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the MS4.

(i) The following parameters shall be monitored:
- any pollutants limited in an existing NPDES permit to a subject facility;

- oil and grease;
- chemical oxygen demand (COD);
- pH;
- biochemical oxygen demand, five-day (BOD_5);
- total suspended solids (TSS);
- total phosphorous;
- total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN);
- nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen;
- any discharge information required under 40 CFR §122.21(g)(7)(iii) and (iv);
- total cadmium;
- total chromium;
- total copper;
- total lead;
- total nickel;
- total silver;
- total zinc; and,
- PCBs.

(ii) Frequency of monitoring shall be established by the permittee(s), but may not be less than once per year;

(iii) In lieu of the above parameter list, the permittee(s) may alter the monitoring requirement for any individual Type 1 facility:

(a) To coincide with the corresponding industrial sector-specific monitoring requirements of the 2008 Multi-Sector General Stormwater Permit or any applicable general permit issued after September 2008. This exception is not contingent on whether a particular facility is actually covered by the general permit; or

(b) To coincide with the monitoring requirements of any individual permit for the stormwater discharges from that facility, and

(c) Any optional monitoring list must be supplemented by pollutants of concern identified by the permittee(s) for that facility.

b. Conduct appropriate monitoring (e.g. analytic, visual), as determined by the permittee(s), at Type 2 facilities that discharge to the MS4. Type 2 facilities are other municipal waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities (e.g. POTWs, transfer stations, incinerators) and industrial or commercial facilities the permittee(s) believed contributing pollutants to the MS4. The permittee shall include in each annual report, a list of parameters of concern and monitoring frequencies required for each type of facility.

c. May use analytical monitoring data, on a parameter-by-parameter basis, that a facility has collected to comply with or apply for a State or NPDES discharge permit (other than this permit), so as to avoid unnecessary cost and duplication of effort;

d. May allow the facility to test only one (1) outfall and to report that the quantitative data also apply to the substantially identical outfalls if:

(i) A Type 1 or Type 2 industrial facility has two (2) or more outfalls with substantially identical effluents, and

(ii) Demonstration by the facility that the stormwater outfalls are substantially identical, using one (1) or all of the following methods for such demonstration. The NPDES Stormwater Sampling Guidance Document (EPA 833-B-92-001), available on EPA's website at provides detailed guidance on each of the three options: (1) submission of a narrative description and a site map; (2) submission of matrices; or (3) submission of model matrices.

b. May accept a copy of a "no exposure" certification from a facility made to EPA under 40 CFR §122.26(g), in lieu of analytic monitoring.

5. **Additional Sample Type, Collection and Analysis**:

a. Wet Weather (or Storm Event) Discharge Monitoring: If storm event discharges are collected to meet the objectives of the Comprehensive Monitoring and Assessment Program required in Part III.A (e.g., assess compliance with this permit; assess the effectiveness of the permittee's stormwater management program; assess the impacts to receiving waters resulting from stormwater discharges), the following requirements apply:

(i) Composite Samples: Flow-weighted composite samples shall be collected as follows:

(a) Composite Method – Flow-weighted composite samples may be collected manually or automatically. For both methods, equal volume aliquots may be collected at the time of sampling and then flow-proportioned and composited in the laboratory, or the aliquot volume may be collected based on the flow rate at the time of sample collection and composited in the field.

(b) Sampling Duration – Samples shall be collected for at least the first three (3) hours of discharge. Where the discharge lasts less than three (3) hours, the permittee should report the value. .

(c) Aliquot Collection – A minimum of three (3) aliquots per hour, separated by at least fifteen (15) minutes, shall be collected. Where more than three (3) aliquots per hour are collected, comparable intervals between aliquots shall be maintained (e.g. six aliquots per hour, at least seven (7) minute intervals).

(ii) Grab Samples: Grab samples shall be taken during the first two (2) hours of discharge.

b. Analytical Methods: Analysis and collection of samples shall be done in accordance with the methods specified at 40 CFR §136. Where an approved 40 CFR §136 method does not exist, any available method may be used unless a particular method or criteria for method selection (such as sensitivity) has been specified in the permit. The minimum quantification levels (MQLs) in Appendix F are to be used for reporting pollutant data for NPDES permit applications and/or compliance reporting.

Screening level tests may utilize less expensive "field test kits" using test methods not approved by EPA under 40 CFR 136, provided the manufacturers published detection ranges are adequate for the illicit discharge detection purposes.

EPA Method 1668 shall be utilized when PCB water column monitoring is conducted to determine compliance with permit requirements. For purposes of sediment sampling in dry weather as part of a screening program to identify area(s) where PCB control/clean-up efforts may need to be focused, either the Arochlor test (EPA Method 8082) or USGS test method (8093) may be utilized, but must use EPA Method 1668 (latest revision) for confirmation and determination of specific PCB levels at that location.

EPA Method 900.0 shall be utilized when gross alpha water column monitoring is conducted to determine compliance with permit requirements.

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B. ANNUAL REPORT

The permittees shall submit an annual report to be submitted by no later than **December 1st.** See suggested form at http://epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/sw/ms4/index.htm**.** The report shall cover the previous year from **July 1st to June 30rd** and include the below separate sections. Additionally, the year one (1) and year four (4) annual report shall include submittal of a complete SWMP revision.

At least forty five (45) days prior to submission of each Annual Report, the permittee must provide public notice of and make available for public review and comment a draft copy of the Annual Report. All public input must be considered in preparation of the final Annual Reports and any changes to the SWMP.

Note: A complete copy of the signed Annual Report should be maintained on site.

1. **SWMP(s) status of implementation**: shall include the status of compliance with all schedules established under this permit and the status of actions required in Parts I, III, and VI.

2. **SWMP revisions**: shall include revisions, if necessary, to the assessments of controls or BMPs reported in the permit application (or NOI for coverage under this permit) under 40 CFR §122.26(d)(2)(v) and §122.34(d)(1)(i) are to be included, as well as a cumulative list of all SWMP revisions during the permit term.

   Class A permittees shall include revisions, if necessary, to the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application (or NOI for coverage under this permit) under §122.26(d)(2)(vi).

3. **Performance assessment**: shall include:

   a. an assessment of performance in terms of measurable goals, including, but not limited to, a description of the number and nature of enforcement actions and inspections, public education and public involvement efforts;

   b. a summary of the data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the monitoring year (July 1 to June 30); actual values of representative monitoring results shall be included, if results are above minimum quantification level (MQL); and

   c. an identification of water quality improvements or degradation.

4. **Annual expenditures**: for the reporting period, with a breakdown for the major elements of the stormwater management program and the budget for the year following each annual report. (Applicable only to Class A permittees)

5. **Annual Report Responsibilities for Cooperative Programs:** preparation of a system-wide report with cooperative programs may be coordinated among cooperating MS4s and then used as part of individual Annual Reports. The report of a cooperative program element shall indicate which, if any, permittee(s) have failed to provide the required information on the portions of the MS4 for which they are responsible to the cooperation permittees.

   a. Joint responsibility for reports covering cooperative programs elements shall be limited to participation in preparation of the overview for the entire system and inclusion of the identity of any permittee who failed to provide input to the annual report.

b. Individual permittees shall be individually responsible for content of the report relating to the portions of the MS4 for which they are responsible and for failure to provide information for the system-wide annual report no later than July 31st of each year.

6. **Public Review and Comment**: a brief summary of any issues raised by the public on the draft Annual Report, along with permittee's responses to the public comments.

7. **Signature on Certification of Annual Reports**: The annual report shall be signed and certified, in accordance with Part IV.H and include a statement or resolution that the permittee's governing body or agency (or delegated representative) has reviewed or been apprised of the content of the Annual Report. Annual report shall be due no later than December 1st of each year. A complete copy of the signed Annual Report should be maintained on site.

C. CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE OF RECORDS.

All reports required by the permit and other information requested by the EPA shall be signed and certified in accordance with Part IV.H.

D. REPORTING: WHERE AND WHEN TO SUBMIT

1. Monitoring results (Part III.A.1, Part III.A.3, Part III.A.5.a) obtained during the reporting period running from July 1st to June 30th shall be submitted on discharge monitoring report (DMR) forms along with the annual report required by Part III.B. A separate DMR form is required for each monitoring period (season) specified in Part III.A.1. If any individual analytical test result is less than the minimum quantification level (MQL) listed for that parameter, then a value of zero (0) may be used for that test result for the discharge monitoring report (DMR) calculations and reporting requirements. The annual report shall include the actual value obtained, if test result is less than the MQL (See Appendix F).

2. Signed copies of DMRs required under Part III, the Annual Report required by Part III.B, and all other reports required herein, shall be submitted in electronic form to R6_MS4Permits@epa.gov (note: there is an underscore between R6 and MS4).

   Copy of a suggested Annual Report Format is located in EPA R6 website: http://epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/sw/ms4/index.htm.

   Electronic submittal of the documents required in the permit using a compatible Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) format would be allowed if available.

3. Requests for SWMP updates, modifications in monitoring locations, or application for an individual permit shall, be submitted to,:

   U.S. EPA, Region 6
   Water Quality Protection Division
   Operations Support Office (6WQ-O)
   1445 Ross Avenue
   Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

4. Additional Notification. Permittee(s) shall also provide copies of NOIs, DMRs, annual reports, NOTs, requests for SWMP updates, items for compliance with permit requirements for Compliance with Water Quality Standards in Part I.C.1, TMDL's reports established in Part I.C.2, monitoring scheme, reports, and certifications required in Part III.A.1, programs or changes in monitoring locations, and all other reports required herein, to:

New Mexico Environment Department
Attn: Bruce Yurdin, Program Manager
Surface Water Quality Bureau
Point Source Regulation Section
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

Pueblo of Sandia Environment Department
Attn: Scott Bulgrin, Water Quality Manager
481 Sandia Loop
Bernalillo, NM 87004
(Note: Only those MS4s with discharges upstream of or to waters under the jurisdictional of the Pueblo of Sandia: AMAFCA, Sandoval County, Village of Corrales, City of Rio Rancho, Town of Bernalillo, SSCAFCA, and ESCAFCA)

Pueblo of Isleta
Attn: Ramona M. Montoya, Environment Division Manager
P.O. Box 1270
Isleta NM 87022

(Notes: Only the City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA), New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) District 3, KAFB (Kirtland Air Force Base), Sandia Labs (DOE), and Bernalillo County). All parties submitting an NOI or NOT shall notify the Pueblo of Isleta in writing that a NOI or NOT has been submitted to EPA

Water Resources Division Manager
Pueblo of Santa Ana
2 Dove Road
Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico 87004
(Note: Only those MS4s with discharges upstream of or to waters under the jurisdictional of the Pueblo of Santa Ana)

PART IV. STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS

A. DUTY TO COMPLY.

The permittee(s) must comply with all conditions of this permit insofar as those conditions are applicable to each permittee, either individually or jointly. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (The Act) and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or for denial of a permit renewal application.

B. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF PERMIT CONDITIONS.

The EPA will adjust the Civil and administrative penalties listed below in accordance with the Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule (Federal Register: Dec. 31, 1996, Volume 61, No. 252, pages 69359-69366, as corrected, March 20, 1997, Volume 62, No. 54, pages 13514-13517) as mandated by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 for inflation on a periodic basis. This rule allows EPA's penalties to keep pace with inflation. The Agency is required to review its penalties at least once every four years thereafter and to adjust them as necessary for inflation according to a specified formula. The civil and administrative penalties listed below were adjusted for inflation starting in 1996.

1. **Criminal Penalties**.
   a. Negligent Violations: The Act provides that any person who negligently violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a fine of not less than $2,500 nor more than $25,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

   b. Knowing Violations: The Act provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a fine of not less than $5,000 nor more than $50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years, or both.

   c. Knowing Endangerment: The Act provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act and who knows at that time that he is placing another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury is subject to a fine of not more than $250,000, or by imprisonment for not more than fifteen (15) years, or both.

   d. False Statement: The Act provides that any person who knowingly makes any false material statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained under the Act or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under the Act, shall upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than $10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than two (2) years, or by both. If a conviction is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment shall be by a fine of not more than $20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than four (4) years, or by both. (See Section 309(c)(4) of the Act).

2. **Civil Penalties**. The Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $27,500 per day for each violation.

3. **Administrative Penalties**. The Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act is subject to an administrative penalty, as follows:

   a. Class I penalty: Not to exceed $11,000 per violation nor shall the maximum amount exceed $27,500.

b. Class II penalty: Not to exceed $11,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues nor shall the maximum amount exceed $137,500.

C. DUTY TO REAPPLY. If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the permit expiration date, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit. The application shall be submitted at least 180 days prior to expiration of this permit. The EPA may grant permission to submit an application less than 180 days in advance but no later than the permit expiration date. Continuation of expiring permits shall be governed by regulations promulgated at 40 CFR §122.6 and any subsequent amendments.

D. NEED TO HALT OR REDUCE ACTIVITY NOT A DEFENSE. It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

E. DUTY TO MITIGATE. The permittee(s) shall take all reasonable steps to control or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

F. DUTY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION. The permittee(s) shall furnish to the EPA, within a time specified by the EPA, any information which the EPA may request to determine compliance with this permit. The permittee(s) shall also furnish to the EPA upon request copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

G. OTHER INFORMATION. When the permittee becomes aware that he or she failed to submit any relevant facts or submitted incorrect information in any report to the EPA, he or she shall promptly submit such facts or information.

H. SIGNATORY REQUIREMENTS. For a municipality, State, or other public agency, all DMRs, SWMPs, reports, certifications or information either submitted to the EPA or that this permit requires be maintained by the permittee(s), shall be signed by either a:

1. Principal executive officer or ranking elected official; or

2. Duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:

   a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described above and submitted to the EPA.

   b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of manager, operator, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.

3. If an authorization is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new written authorization satisfying the requirements of this paragraph must be submitted to the EPA prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.

4. Certification: Any person signing documents under this section shall make the following certification: "I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

I. PENALTIES FOR FALSIFICATION OF MONITORING SYSTEMS. The Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by fines and imprisonment described in Section 309 of the Act.

J. OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE LIABILITY. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under section 311 of the Act or section 106 of CERCLA.

K. PROPERTY RIGHTS. The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, nor any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property nor any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State or local laws or regulations.

L. SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit shall not be affected thereby.

M. REQUIRING A SEPARATE PERMIT.

1. The EPA may require any permittee authorized by this permit to obtain a separate NPDES permit. Any interested person may petition the EPA to take action under this paragraph. The Director may require any permittee authorized to discharge under this permit to apply for a separate NPDES permit only if the permittee has been notified in writing that a permit application is required. This notice shall include a brief statement of the reasons for this decision, an application form (as necessary), a statement setting a deadline for the permittee to file the application, and a statement that on the effective date of the separate NPDES permit, coverage under this permit shall automatically terminate. Separate permit applications shall be submitted to the address shown in Part III.D. The EPA may grant additional time to submit the application upon request of the applicant. If an owner or operator fails to submit, prior to the deadline of the time extension, a separate NPDES permit application as required by the EPA, then the applicability of this permit to the permittee is automatically terminated at the end of the day specified for application submittal.

2. Any permittee authorized by this permit may request to be excluded from the coverage of this permit by applying for a separate permit. The permittee shall submit a separate application as specified by 40 CFR §122.26(d) for Class A permittees and by 40 CFR §122.33(b)(2) for Class B, C, and D permittees, with reasons supporting the request to the Director. Separate permit applications shall be submitted to the address shown in Part III.D.3. The request may be granted by the issuance of a separate permit if the reasons cited by the permittee are adequate to support the request.

3. When an individual NPDES permit is issued to a discharger otherwise subject to this permit, or the permittee is authorized to discharge under an alternative NPDES general permit, the applicability of this permit to the individual NPDES permittee is automatically terminated on the effective date of the individual permit or the date of authorization of coverage under the alternative general permit, whichever the case may be. When an individual NPDES permit is denied to an operator otherwise subject to this permit, or the operator is denied for coverage under an alternative NPDES general permit, the applicability of this permit to the individual NPDES permittee is automatically terminated on the date of such denial, unless otherwise specified by the permitting authority.

N. STATE / ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.

1. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State law or regulation under authority preserved by section 510 of the Act.

2. No condition of this permit shall release the permittee from any responsibility or requirements under other environmental statutes or regulations.

O. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit and with the requirements of stormwater management programs. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. Proper operation and maintenance requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems, installed by a permittee only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

P. MONITORING AND RECORDS.

1. The permittee must retain records of all monitoring information, including, all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, copies of Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs), a copy of the NPDES permit, and records of all data used to complete the NOI for this permit, for a period of at least three years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application, or for the term of this permit, whichever is longer. This period may be extended by request of the permitting authority at any time.

2. The permittee must submit its records to the permitting authority only when specifically asked to do so. The permittee must retain a description of the SWMP required by this permit (including a copy of the permit language) at a location accessible to the permitting authority. The permittee must make its records, including the NOI and the description of the SWMP, available to the public if requested to do so in writing.

3. Records of monitoring information shall include:
   a. The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
   b. The initials or name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
   c. The date(s) analyses were performed;
   d. The time(s) analyses were initiated;
   e. The initials or name(s) of the individual(s) who performed the analyses;
   f. References and written procedures, when available, for the analytical techniques or methods used; and
   g. The results of such analyses, including the bench sheets, instrument readouts, computer disks or tapes, etc., used to determine these results.

4. The permittee must maintain, for the term of the permit, copies of all information and determinations used to document permit eligibility under Parts I.A.5.f and Part I.A.3.b.

Q. MONITORING METHODS. Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR §136, unless other test procedures have been specified in this permit. The minimum quantification levels (MQLs) in Appendix F are to be used for reporting pollutant data for NPDES permit applications and/or compliance reporting.

R. INSPECTION AND ENTRY. The permittee shall allow the EPA or an authorized representative of EPA, or the State, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

1. Enter the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;

2. Have access to and copy at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;

3. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and

4. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Act, any substance or parameters at any location.

S. PERMIT ACTIONS. This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

T. ADDITIONAL MONITORING BY THE PERMITTEE(S). If the permittee monitors more frequently than required by this permit, using test procedures approved under 40 CFR §136 or as specified in this permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). Such increased monitoring frequency shall also be indicated on the DMR.

U. ARCHEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC SITES (Applicable to areas within the corporate boundary of the City of Albuquerque and Tribal lands). This permit does not authorize any stormwater discharges nor require any controls to control stormwater runoff which are not in compliance with any historic preservation laws.

1. In accordance with the Albuquerque Archaeological Ordinance (Section 2-12-2, 14-16-5, and 14-14-3-4), an applicant for either:

   a. A preliminary plan for any subdivision that is five acres or more in size; or

   b. A site development plan or master development plan for a project that is five acres or more in size on property that is zoned SU-1 Special Use, IP Industrial Park, an SU-2 zone that requires site plan review, PC Planned Community with a site, or meets the Zoning Code definition of a Shopping Center must first obtain either a Certificate of No Effect or a Certificate of Approval from the City Archaeologist. Details of the requirements for a Certificate of No Effect or a Certificate of Approval are described in the ordinance. Failure to obtain a certificate as required by ordinance shall subject the property owner to the penalties of §1-1-99 ROA 1994.

2. If municipal excavation and/or construction projects implementing requirements of this permit will result in the disturbance of previously undisturbed land, and the project is not required to have a separate NPDES permit (e.g. general permit for discharge of stormwater associated with construction activity), then the permittee may seek authorization for stormwater discharges from such sites of disturbance by:

   a. Submitting, thirty (30) days prior to commencing land disturbance, the following to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and to appropriate Tribes and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers for evaluation of possible effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places:

      (i) A description of the construction or land disturbing activity and the potential impact that this activity may have upon the ground, and

      (ii) A copy of a USGS topographic map outlining the location of the project and other ancillary impact areas.

      (iii) The addresses of the SHPO. Sandia Pueblo, and Isleta Pueblo are:

      State Historic Preservation Officer
      New Mexico Historic Preservation Division

Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Ste. 236
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Pueblo of Sandia Environment Department
Attn: Frank Chaves, Environment Director
481 Sandia Loop
Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004

Pueblo of Isleta
Department of Cultural and Historic Preservation
Attn: Daniel Waseta, Director
P.O. Box 1270
Isleta NM 87022

Water Resources Division Manager
Pueblo of Santa Ana
2 Dove Road
Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico 87004

3. If the permittee receives a request for an archeological survey or notice of adverse effects from the SHPO, the permittee shall delay such activity until:

   a. A cultural resource survey report has been submitted to the SHPO for a review and a determination of no effect or no adverse effect has been made, and

   b. If an adverse effect is anticipated, measures to minimize harm to historic properties have been agreed upon between the permittee and the SHPO.

4. If the permittee does not receive notification of adverse effects or a request for an archeological survey from the SHPO within thirty (30) days, the permittee may proceed with the activity.

5. Alternately, the permittee may obtain authorization for stormwater discharges from such sites of disturbance by applying for a modification of this permit. The permittee may apply for a permit modification by submitting the following information to the Permitting Authority 180 days prior to commencing such discharges:

   a. A letter requesting a permit modification to include discharges from activities subject to this provision, in accordance with the signatory requirements in Part IV.H.

   b. A description of the construction or land disturbing activity and the potential impact that this activity may have upon the ground; County in which the facility will be constructed; type of facility to be constructed; size area (in acres) that the facility will encompass; expected date of construction; and whether the facility is located on land owned or controlled by any political subdivision of New Mexico; and

   c. A copy of a USGS topographic map outlining the location of the project and other ancillary impact areas.

V. **CONTINUATION OF THE EXPIRED GENERAL PERMIT**. If this permit is not reissued or replaced prior to the expiration date, it will be administratively continued in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act and remain in force and effect. Any permittee who was granted permit coverage prior to the expiration date will automatically remain covered by the continued permit until the earlier of:

1. Reissuance or replacement of this permit, at which time the permittee must comply with the Notice of Intent conditions of the new permit to maintain authorization to discharge; or

2. Issuance of an individual permit for your discharges; or

3. A formal permit decision by the permitting authority not to reissue this general permit, at which time the permittee must seek coverage under an alternative general permit or an individual permit.

W. **PERMIT TRANSFERS**: This permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the permitting authority. The permitting authority may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Act.

X. **ANTICIPATED NONCOMPLIANCE**. The permittee must give advance notice to the permitting authority of any planned changes in the permitted small MS4 or activity which may result in noncompliance with this permit. (see

Y. **PROCEDURES FOR MODIFICATION OR REVOCATION**: Permit modification or revocation will be conducted according to 40 CFR 122.62, 122.63, 122.64 and 124.5.

PART V. PERMIT MODIFICATION

A. MODIFICATION OF THE PERMIT. The permit may be reopened and modified, in accordance with 40 CFR §122.62, §122.63, and §124.5, during the life of the permit to address:

1. Changes in the State's Water Quality Management Plan, including Water Quality Standards;

2. Changes in applicable water quality standards, statutes or regulations;

3. A new permittee who is the owner or operator of a portion of the MS4;

4. Changes in portions of the SWMP that are considered permit conditions;

5. Construction activities implementing requirements of this permit that will result in the disturbance of previously undisturbed land and not required to have a separate NPDES permit; or

6. Other modifications deemed necessary by the EPA to meet the requirements of the Act.

B. MODIFICATION OF THE SWMP(s). Only those portions of the SWMPs specifically required as permit conditions shall be subject to the modification requirements of 40 CFR §124.5. Addition of components, controls, or requirements by the permittee(s); replacement of an ineffective or infeasible control implementing a required component of the SWMP with an alternate control expected to achieve the goals of the original control; and changes required as a result of schedules contained in Part VI shall be considered minor changes to the SWMP and not modifications to the permit. (See also Part I.D.6)

C. CHANGES IN REPRESENTATIVE MONITORING SITES. Changes in monitoring sites, other than those with specific numeric effluent limitations (as described in Part III.A.1.g), shall be considered minor modifications to the permit and shall be made in accordance with the procedures at 40 CFR §122.63.

PART VI. SCHEDULES FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE.

A. IMPLEMENTATION AND AUGMENTATION OF THE SWMP(s). The permittee(s) shall comply with all elements identified in Parts I and III for SWMP implementation and augmentation, and permit compliance. The EPA shall have sixty (60) days from receipt of a modification or augmentation made in compliance with Part VI to provide comments or request revisions. During the initial review period, EPA may extend the time period for review and comment. The permittee(s) shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of the EPA's comments or required revisions to submit a response. All changes to the SWMP or monitoring plans made to comply with schedules in Parts I and III must be approved by EPA prior to implementation.

B. COMPLIANCE WITH EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS. Reserved.

C. REPORTING COMPLIANCE WITH SCHEDULES. No later than fourteen (14) days following a date for a specific action (interim milestone or final deadline) identified in the Part VI schedule(s), the permittee(s) shall submit a written notice of compliance or noncompliance to the EPA in accordance with Part III.D.

D. MODIFICATION OF THE SWMP(s). The permittee(s) shall modify its SWMP, as appropriate, in response to modifications required in Part VI.A. Such modifications shall be made in accordance with Part V.B.

PART VII. DEFINITIONS

All definitions contained in Section 502 of the Act shall apply to this permit and are incorporated herein by reference. Unless otherwise specified, additional definitions of words or phrases used in this permit are as follows:

(1) **Baseline Load** means the load for the pollutant of concern which is present in the waterbody before BMPs or other water quality improvement efforts are implemented.

(2) **Best Management Practices (BMPs)** means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to waters of the United States. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

(3) **Bioretention** means the water quality and water quantity stormwater management practice using the chemical, biological and physical properties of plants, microbes and soils for the removal of pollution from stormwater runoff.

(4) **Canopy Interception** means the interception of precipitation, by leaves and branches of trees and vegetation that does not reach the soil.

(5) **Contaminated Discharges:** The following discharges are considered contaminated:

- Has had a discharge resulting in the discharge of a reportable quantity for which notification is or was required pursuant to 40 CFR 117.21 or 40 CFR 302.6 at any time since November 16, 1987; or
- Has had a discharge resulting in the discharge of a reportable quantity for which notification is or was required pursuant to 40 CFR 110.6 at any time since November 16, 1987; or
- Contributes to a violation of an applicable water quality standard**.**

(6) **Controls** or **Control Measures** or **Measures** means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or control the pollution of waters of the United States. Controls also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

(7) **Controllable Sources**: Sources, private or public, which fall under the jurisdiction of the MS4.

(8) **CWA** or **The Act** means Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) Pub.L. 92-500, as amended Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. 96-483 and Pub. L. 97-117, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et.seq.

(9) **Co-permittee** means a permittee to a NPDES permit that is only responsible for permit conditions relating to the discharge for which it is operator.

(10) **Composite Sample** means a sample composed of two or more discrete samples. The aggregate sample will reflect the average water quality covering the compositing or sample period.

(11) **Core Municipality** means, for the purpose of this permit, the municipality whose corporate boundary (unincorporated area for counties and parishes) defines the municipal separate storm sewer system. (ex. City of Dallas for the Dallas Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, Harris County for unincorporated Harris County).

(12) **Direct Connected Impervious Area (DCIA)** means the portion of impervious area with a direct hydraulic connection to the permitee's municipal separate storm sewer system or a waterbody via continuous paved surfaces, gutters, pipes, and other impervious features. Direct connected impervious area typically does not include isolated impervious areas with an indirect hydraulic connection to the municipal separate storm sewer system (e.g., swale or detention basin) or that otherwise drain to a pervious area.

(13) **Director** means the Regional Administrator or an authorized representative.

(14) **Discharge** for the purpose of this permit, unless indicated otherwise, means discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer system.

(15) **Discharge-related activities"** include: activities which cause, contribute to, or result in storm water point source pollutant discharges; and measures to control storm water discharges, including the sitting, construction and operation of best management practices (BMPs) to control, reduce or prevent storm water pollution.

(16) **Engineered Infiltration** means an underground device or system designed to accept stormwater and slowly exfiltrates it into the underlying soil. This device or system is designed based on soil tests that define the exfiltration rate.

(17) **Evaporation** means rainfall that is changed or converted into a vapor.

(18) **Evapotranspiration** means the sum of evaporation and transpiration of water from the earth's surface to the atmosphere. It includes evaporation of liquid or solid water plus the transpiration of plants.

(19) **Extended Filtration** means a structural stormwater practice which filters stormwater runoff through vegetation and engineered soil media. A portion of the stormwater runoff drains into an underdrain system which slowly releases it after the storm is over.

(20) **Facility** means any NPDES "point source" or any other facility (including land or appurtenances thereto) that is subject to regulation under the NPDES program.
(21) **Flood Control Projects** mean major drainage projects developed to control water quantity rather than quality, including channelization and detention.
(22) **Flow-weighted composite sample** means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of aliquots collected at a constant time interval, where the volume of each aliquot is proportional to the flow rate of the discharge.
(23) **Grab Sample** means a sample which is taken from a wastestream on a one-time basis without consideration of the flow rate of the wastestream and without consideration of time.
(24) **Green Infrastructure** means an array of products, technologies, and practices that use natural systems – or engineered systems that mimic natural processes – to enhance overall environmental quality and provide utility services. As a general principal, Green Infrastructure techniques use soils and vegetation to infiltrate, evapotranspirate, and/or recycle stormwater runoff. When used as components of a stormwater management system, Green Infrastructure practices such as green roofs, porous pavement, rain gardens, and vegetated swales can produce a variety of environmental benefits. In addition to effectively retaining and infiltrating rainfall, these technologies can simultaneously help filter air pollutants, reduce energy demands, mitigate urban heat islands, and sequester carbon while also providing communities with aesthetic and natural resource benefits.
(25) **Hydromodification** means the alteration of the natural flow of water through a landscape, and often takes the form of channel straightening, widening, deepening, or relocating existing, natural stream channels. It also can involve excavation of borrow pits or canals, building of levees, streambank erosion, or other conditions or practices that change the depth, width or location of waterways. Hydromodification usually results in water quality and habitat impacts.
(26) **Illicit connection** means any man-made conveyance connecting an illicit discharge directly to a municipal separate storm sewer.
(27) **Illicit discharge** means any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of stormwater except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer) and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities.
(28) **Impervious Area (IA)** means conventional pavements, sidewalks, driveways, roadways, parking lots, and rooftops.
(29) **Indian Country** means:
   a. All land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and, including rights-of-way running through the reservation;
   b. All dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States whether within the originally or subsequently acquired territory thereof, and whether within or without the limits of a state; and
   c. All Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights-of-way running through the same. This definition includes all land held in trust for an Indian tribe.
(30) **Individual Residence** means, for the purposes of this permit, single or multi-family residences. (e.g. single family homes and duplexes, town homes, apartments, etc.)
(31) **Infiltration** means the process by which stormwater penetrates the soil.
(32) **Land application unit** means an area where wastes are applied onto or incorporated into the soil surface (excluding manure spreading operations) for treatment or disposal.
(33) **Landfill** means an area of land or an excavation in which wastes are placed for permanent disposal, and which is not a land application unit, surface impoundment, injection well, or waste pile.
(34) **Land Use** means the way in which land is used, especially in farming and municipal planning.
(35) **Large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system** means all municipal separate storm sewers that are either: (i) located in an incorporated place (city) with a population of 100,000 or more as determined by the latest Decennial Census by the Bureau of Census (these cities are listed in Appendix F of 40 CFR §122); or (ii) located in the counties with unincorporated urbanized populations of 100,000 or more, except municipal separate storm sewers are located in the incorporated places, townships, or towns within such counties (these counties are listed in Appendices H and I of 40 CFR §122); or (iii) owned or operated by a municipality other than those described in Paragraph (i) or (ii) and that are designated by the Regional Administrator as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system.
(36) **MEP** means maximum extent practicable, the technology-based discharge standard for municipal separate storm sewer systems to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges. A discussion of MEP as it applies to small MS4s is found at 40 CFR 122.34. CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requires that a municipal permit "shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system design, and engineering methods, and other provisions such as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.
(37) **Measurable Goal** means a quantitative measure of progress in implementing a component of storm water management program.

(38) **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4)** means all separate storm sewers that are defined as "large" or "medium" or "small" municipal separate storm sewer systems pursuant to paragraphs 40 CFR §122.26(b)(4), (b)(7), and (b)(16), or designated under paragraph 40 CFR §122.26(a)(1)(v).

(39) **Non-traditional MS4** means systems similar to separate storm sewer systems in municipalities, such as systems at military bases, large hospital or prison complexes, and highways and other thoroughfares. The term does not include separate storm sewers in very discrete areas, such as individual buildings. 40 CFR 122.26(a)(16)(iii).

(40) **NOI** means Notice of Intent to be covered by this permit (see Part I.B of this permit)

(41) **NOT** means Notice of Termination.

(42) **Outfall** means a *point source* as defined by 40 CFR 122.2 at the point where a municipal separate storm sewer discharges to waters of the United States and does not include open conveyances connecting two municipal separate storm sewers, or pipes, tunnels or other conveyances which connect segments of the same stream or other waters of the United States and are used to convey waters of the United States.

(43) **Percent load reduction** means the difference between the baseline load and the target load divided by the baseline load.

(44) **Owner or operator** means the owner or operator of any "facility or activity" subject to regulation under the NPDES program.

(45) **Permittee** refers to any person (defined below) authorized by this NPDES permit to discharge to Waters of the United States.

(46) **Permitting Authority** means EPA, Region 6.

(47) **Person** means an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal agency, or an agent or employee thereof.

(48) **Point Source** means any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural stormwater runoff.

(49) **Pollutant** is defined at 40 CFR 122.2. Pollutant means dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, filter back-wash, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge. Munitions, chemical waste, biological materials, radioactive materials (except those regulated under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2011), heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock sand, cellar dirt and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water.

(50) **Pre-development Hydrology**, Predevelopment hydrology is generally the rain volume at which runoff would be produced when a site or an area is in its natural condition, prior to development disturbances. For the Middle Rio Grande area, EPA considers predevelopment conditions to be a mix of woods and desert shrub.

(51) **Rainfall and Rainwater Harvesting** means the collection, conveyance, and storage of rainwater. The scope, method, technologies, system complexity, purpose, and end uses vary from rain barrels for garden irrigation in urban areas, to large-scale collection of rainwater for all domestic uses.

(52) **Soil amendment** means adding components to in-situ or native soils to increase the spacing between soil particles so that the soil can absorb and hold more moisture. The amendment of soils changes various other physical, chemical and biological characteristics so that the soils become more effective in maintaining water quality.

(53) **Storm drainage projects** include stormwater inlets, culverts, minor conveyances and a host of other structures or devices.

(54) **Storm sewer**, unless otherwise indicated, means a municipal separate storm sewer.

(55) **Stormwater** means stormwater runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

(56) **Stormwater Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity** means the discharge from any conveyance which is used for collecting and conveying stormwater and which is directly related to manufacturing, processing, or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant (See 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14) for specifics of this definition).

(57) **Target load** means the load for the pollutant of concern which is necessary to attain water quality goals (e.g. applicable water quality standards).

(58) **Stormwater Management Program (SWMP)** means a comprehensive program to manage the quality of stormwater discharged from the municipal separate storm sewer system. For the purposes of this permit, the Stormwater Management Program is considered a single document, but may actually consist of separate programs (e.g. "chapters") for each permittee.

(59) **Targeted controls** means practices implemented to address particular pollutant of concern. For example litter program targets floatables.

(60) **Time-weighted composite** means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of equal volume aliquots collected at a constant time interval.

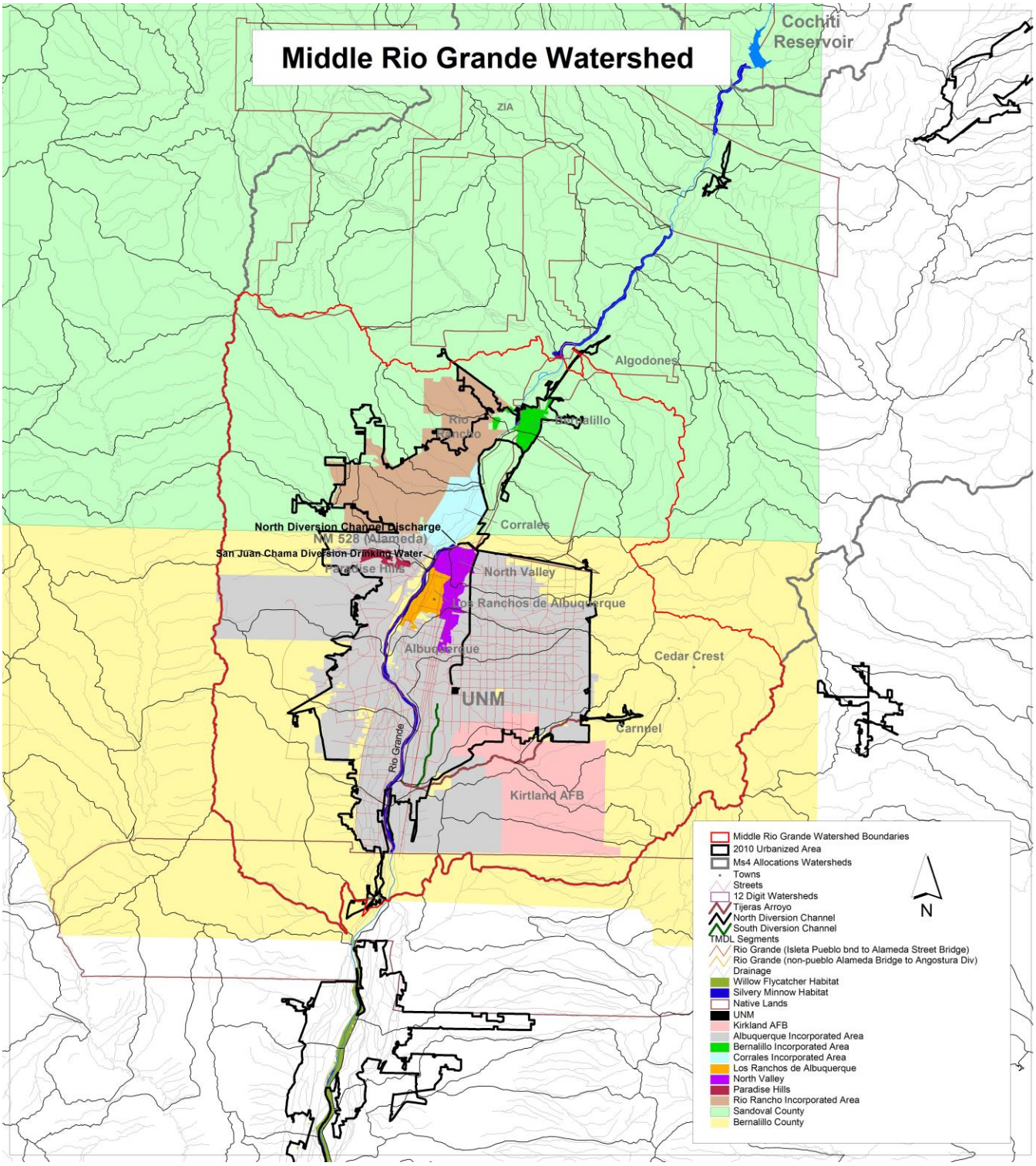
(61) **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)** means a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards. A TMDL is the sum of individual wasteload allocations for point sources (WLA), load allocations for non-point sources and natural background (LA), and must consider seasonal variation and include a margin of safety. The TMDL comes in the form of a technical document or plan.

(62) **Toxicity** means an LC50 of <100% effluent.
(63) **Waste load allocation (WLA)** means the portion of a receiving water's loading capacity that is allocated to one of its existing or future point sources of pollution. WLAs constitute a type of water quality-based effluent limitation.
(64) **Wetlands** means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.
(65) **Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)** means the aggregate toxic effect of an effluent measured directly by a toxicity test.

PART VIII PERMIT CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC AREAS OR INDIAN COUNTY LANDS

Reserved

Appendix A - Middle Rio Grande Watershed Jurisdictions and Potential Permittees



Middle Rio Grande Watershed Jurisdictions and Potential Permittees

Class A:
City of Albuquerque
AMAFCA (Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority)
UNM (University of New Mexico)
NMDOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation District 3)

Class B:
Bernalillo County
Sandoval County
Village of Corrales
City of Rio Rancho
Los Ranchos de Albuquerque
KAFB (Kirtland Air Force Base)
Town of Bernalillo
EXPO (State Fairgrounds/Expo NM)
SSCAFCA (Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority)
NMDOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation District 3)

Class C:
ESCAFCA (Eastern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority)
Sandia Labs (DOE)

Class D:
Pueblo of Sandia
Pueblo of Isleta
Pueblo of Santa Ana

Note: There could be additional potential permittees.
NMDOT Dist. 3 falls into the Class A type permittee, if an individual program is developed or/and implemented. The timelines for cooperative programs should be used, if NMDOT Dist. 3 cooperates with other permittees.

Appendix B - Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)

B.1. Approved Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) Tables

A bacteria TMDL for the Middle Rio Grande was approved by the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission on April 13, 2010, and by EPA on June 30, 2010. The new TMDL modifies: 1) the indicator parameter for bacteria from fecal coliform to *E. coli*, and 2) the way the WLAs are assigned

Discharges to Impaired Waters – TMDL Waste Load Allocations (WLAs)[2] for *E. coli*: Rio Grande[1]

Stream Segment	Stream Name	Permittee Class	FLOW CONDITIONS & ASSOCIATED WLA (cfu/day)[3]				
			High	Moist	Mid-Range	Dray	Low
2105_50	Isleta Pueblo boundary to Alameda Street Bridge (based on flow at USGS Station NM08330000)	Class A [4]	$3.36x10^{10}$	$8.41 x10^{10}$	$5.66 x10^{10}$	$2.09 x10^{10}$	$4.67 x10^{9}$
		Class B[5] Class C[6]	$3.73 x10^{9}$	$9.35 x10^{9}$	$6.29 x10^{9}$	$2.32 x10^{9}$	$5.19 x10^{8}$
2105.1_00	non-Pueblo Alameda Bridge to Angostura Diversion (based on flow at USGS Station NM08329928)	Class A	$5.25 x10^{10}$	$1.52 x10^{10}$	_	$5.43 x10^{9}$	$2.80 x10^{9}$
		Class B Class C	$2.62 x10^{11}$	$7.59 x10^{10}$	_	$2.71 x10^{10}$	$1.40 x10^{10}$

1 Total Maximum Daily Load for the Middle Rio Grande Watershed, NMED, 2010.
2 The WLAs for the stormwater MS4 permit was based on the percent jurisdiction area approach. Thus, the MS4 WLAs are a percentage of the available allocation for each hydrologic zone, where the available allocation = TMDL – WLA – MOS.
3 Flow conditions relate to percent of days the flow in the Rio Grande at a USGS Gauge exceeds a particular level: High 0-10%; Moist 10-40%; Mid-Range 40-60%; Dry 60-90%; and Low 90-100%. (Source: Figures 4.3 and 4.4 in 2010 Middle Rio Grande TMDL)
4 Phase I MS4s
5 Phase II MS4s (2000 Census)
6 New Phase II MS4s (2010 Census or MS4s designated by the Director)

Estimating Target Loadings for Particular Monitoring Location:

The Table in B.2 below provides a mechanism to calculate, based on acreage within a drainage area, a target loading value for a particular monitoring location.

B.2. Calculating Alternative Sub-measurable Goals

Individual permittees or a group of permittees seeking alternative sub-measureable goals under C.2.b.(i).(c).B should consult NMED. Preliminary proposals should be submitted with the Notice of Intent (NOI) under Part I.B.2.k according to the due dates specified in Part I.B.1.a of the permit. This proposal shall include, but is not limited to, the following items

B.2.1 **Determine base loading for subwatershed areas consistent with TMDL**

a. Using the table below, the permittee must develop a target load consistent with the TMDL for any sampling point in the watershed (even if it includes area outside the jurisdictional area of the permit).

E. coli loading on a per area basis (cfu/sq mi/day)

	high	moist	mid	dry	low
Alameda to Isleta	1.79E+09	4.48E+08	3.02E+08	1.11E+08	2.58E+07
Angostura to Alameda	3.25E+09	9.41E+08	5.19E+08	3.37E+08	1.74E+08

b. An estimation of the pertinent, subwatershed area that the permittee is responsible for and the basis for determining that area, including the means for excluding any tributary inholdings;

c. Using the total loading for the watershed (from part a) and the percentage of the watershed area that is part of the permitee(s) jurisdiction (part b) to calculate a base WLA for this subwatershed.

B.2.2 Set Alternative subwatershed targets

a. Permittee(s) may reallocate WLA within and between subwatershed based on factors including:

- Population density within the pertinent watershed area;
- Slope of the waterway;
- Percent impervious surface and how that value was determined;
- Stormwater treatment, installation of green infrastructure for the control or treatment of stormwater and stormwater pollution prevention and education programs within specific watersheds

b. A proposal for an alternative subwatershed target must include the rationale for the factor(s) used

B.2.3 Ensure overall compliance with TMDL WLA allocation

The permitee(s) will provide calculations demonstrating the total WLA under the alternative proposed in (Part II) is consistent with the baseline calculated in (Part I) based on their total jurisdictional area. Permittee(s) will not be allowed to allocate more area within the watershed than is accorded to them under their jurisdictional area. For permittees that work cooperatively, WLA calculations may be combined and used where needed within the sub-watershed amongst the cooperating parties.

WLA calculations must be sent as part of the Notice of Intent to EPA via e-mail at R6_MS4Permits@epa.gov. These calculations must also be sent to:

Sarah Holcomb
Industrial and Stormwater Team Leader
NMED Surface Water Quality Bureau
P.O. Box 5469,

Appendix C - Historic Properties Eligibility Procedures

MS4 operators must determine whether their MS4's storm water discharges, allowable non-storm water discharges, or construction of best management practices (BMPs) to control such discharges, have potential to affect a property that is either listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

For existing dischargers who do not need to construct BMPs for permit coverage, a simple visual inspection may be sufficient to determine whether historic properties are affected. However, for MS4s which are new storm water dischargers and for existing MS4s which are planning to construct BMPs for permit eligibility, MS4 operators should conduct further inquiry to determine whether historic properties may be affected by the storm water discharge or BMPs to control the discharge. In such instances, MS4 operators should first determine whether there are any historic properties or places listed on the National Register or if any are eligible for listing on the register (e.g., they are "eligible for listing").

Due to the large number of entities seeking coverage under this permit and the limited number of personnel available to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers nationwide to respond to inquiries concerning the location of historic properties, EPA suggests that MS4 operators first access the "National Register of Historic Places" information listed on the National Park Service's web page (www.nps.gov/nr/). Addresses for State Historic Preservation Officers and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers are listed in Parts II and III of this appendix, respectively. In instances where a Tribe does not have a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, MS4 operators should contact the appropriate Tribal government office when responding to this permit eligibility condition. MS4 operators may also contact city, county or other local historical societies for assistance, especially when determining if a place or property is eligible for listing on the register. Tribes that do not currently reside in an area may also have an interest in cultural properties in areas they formerly occupied. Tribal contact information is available at http://www.epa.gov/region06/6dra/oejta/tribalaffairs/index.html

The following three scenarios describe how MS4 operators can meet the permit eligibility criteria for protection of historic properties under this permit:

(1) If historic properties are not identified in the path of an MS4's storm water and allowable non-storm water discharges or where construction activities are planned to install BMPs to control such discharges (e.g., diversion channels or retention ponds), then the MS4 operator has met the permit eligibility criteria under Part I.A.3.b.(i).

(2) If historic properties are identified but it is determined that they will not be affected by the discharges or construction of BMPs to control the discharge, the MS4 operator has met the permit eligibility criteria under Part.I.A.3.b.(ii).

(3) If historic properties are identified in the path of an MS4's storm water and allowable non-storm water discharges or where construction activities are planned to install BMPs to control such discharges, and it is determined that there is the potential to adversely affect the property, the MS4 operator can still meet the permit eligibility criteria under Part I.A.3.b.(ii) if he/she obtains and complies with a written agreement with the appropriate State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer which outlines measures the MS4 operator will follow to mitigate or prevent those adverse effects. The operator should notify EPA before exercising this option.

The contents of such a written agreement must be included in the MS4's Storm Water Management Program.

In situations where an agreement cannot be reached between an MS4 operator and the State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, MS4 operators should contact EPA for assistance.

The term "adverse effects" includes but is not limited to damage, deterioration, alteration or destruction of the historic property or place. EPA encourages MS4 operators to contact the appropriate State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer as soon as possible in the event of a potential adverse effect to a historic property.

MS4 operators are reminded that they must comply with applicable State, Tribal and local laws concerning the protection of historic properties and places.

I. Internet Information on the National Register of Historic Places
An electronic listing of the ``National Register of Historic Places," as maintained by the National Park Service on its National Register Information System (NRIS), can be accessed on the Internet at www.nps.gov/nr/.

II. State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO)
SHPO List for areas covered by the permit:

NEW MEXICO
Historic Preservation Div, Office of Cultural Affairs
Bataan Memorial Building, 407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM 87501
505-827-6320 FAX: 505-827-6338

III. Tribal Historic Preservation Officers
(THPO)
In instances where a Tribe does not have a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, please contact the appropriate Tribal government office when responding to this permit eligibility condition.

Tribal Historic Preservation Officers:
Mescalero Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, New Mexico 88340

Pueblo of Sandia Environment Department
Attn: Frank Chaves, Environment Director
481 Sandia Loop
Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004

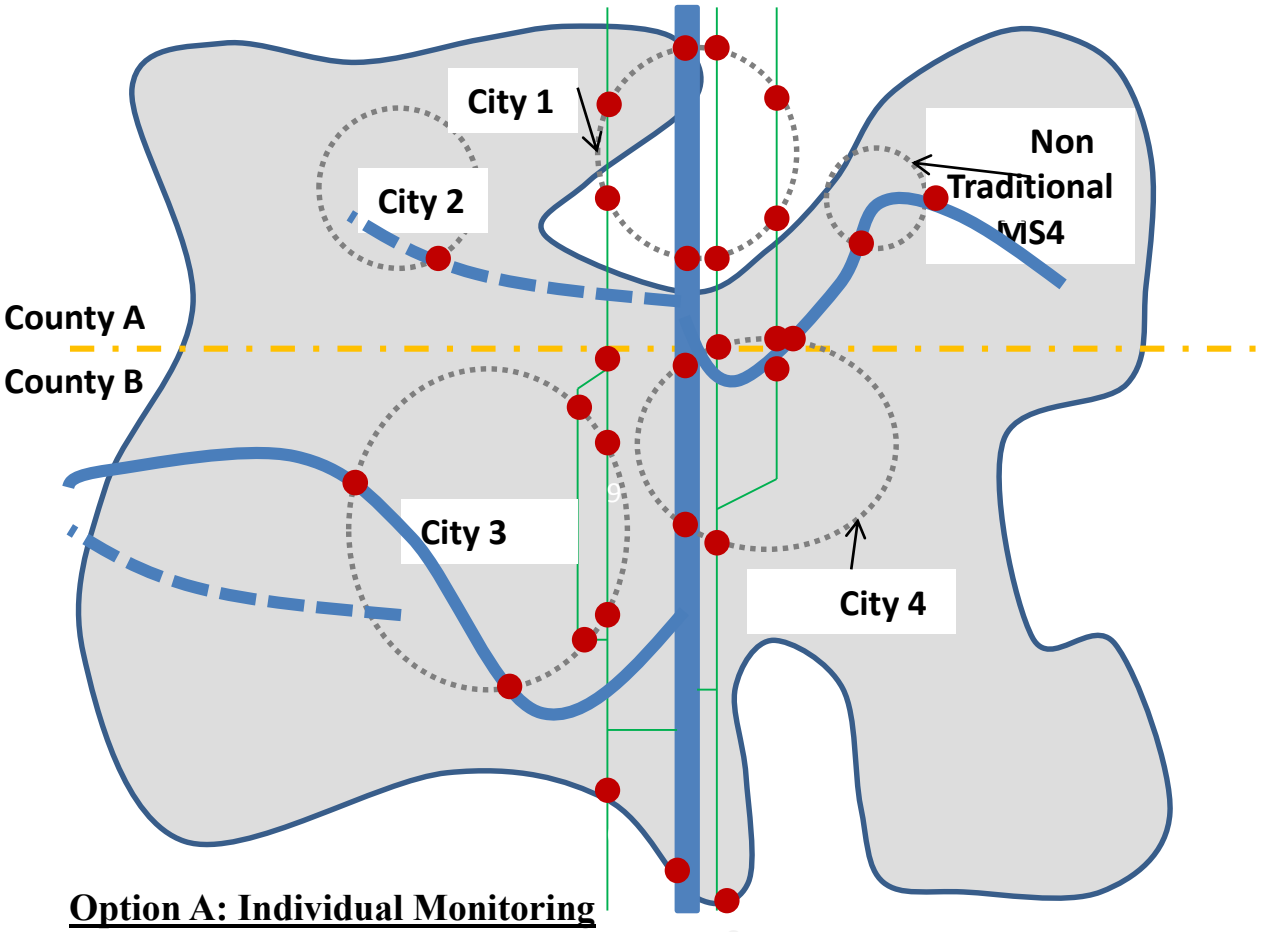
Pueblo of Isleta
Department of Cultural and Historic Preservation
Attn: Dr. Henry Walt, THPO
P.O. Box 1270
Isleta NM 87022

Water Resources Division Manager
Pueblo of Santa Ana
2 Dove Road
Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico 87004

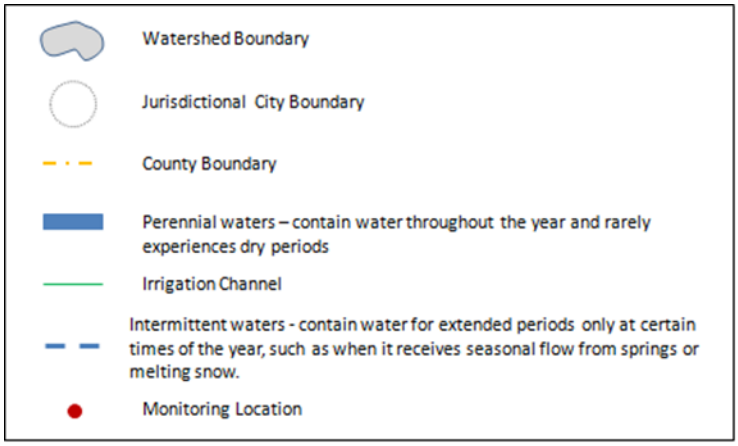
For more information:
National Association of Tribal Historic
Preservation Officers
P.O. Box 19189
Washington, DC 20036-9189
Phone: (202) 628-8476
Fax: (202) 628-2241

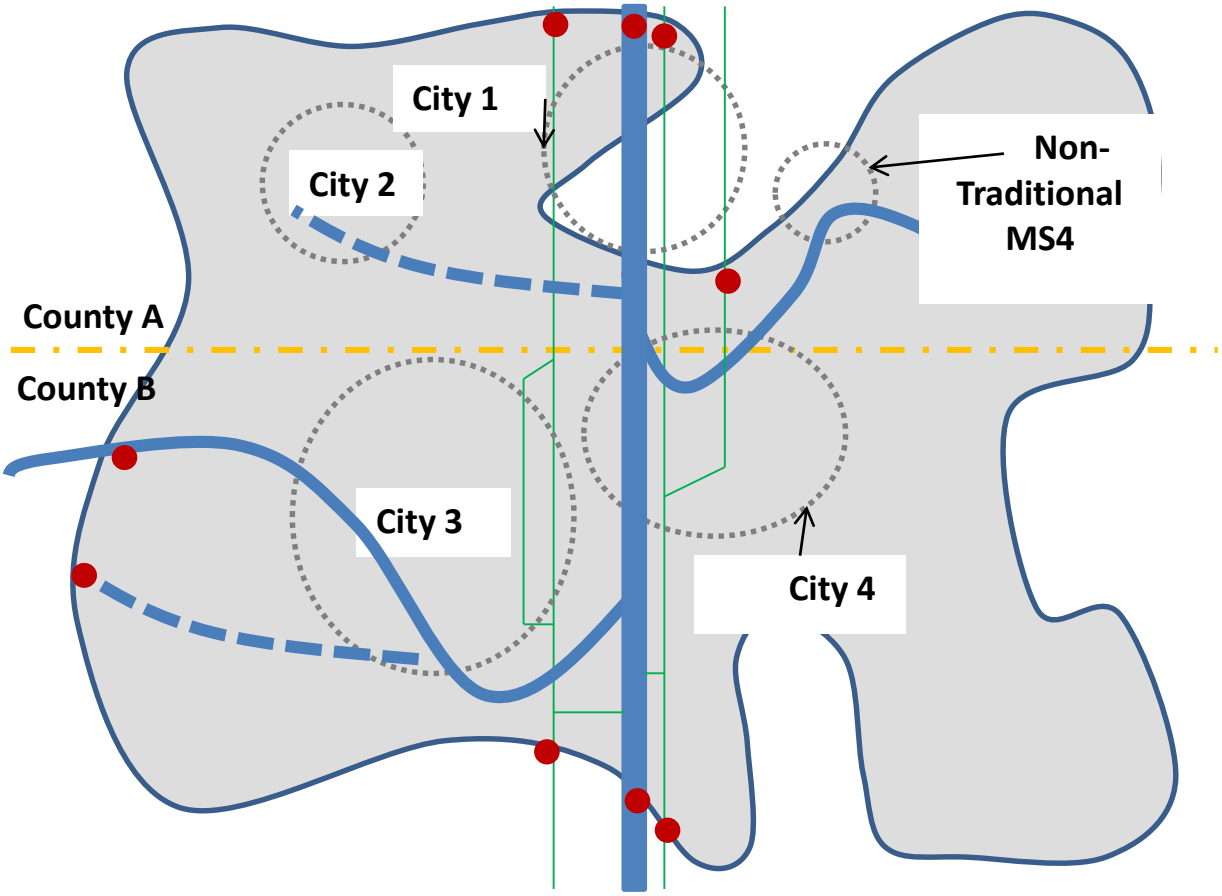
IV. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Suite 803, Washington, DC 20004 Telephone: (202) 606-8503, Fax: (202) 606-8647/8672, E-mail: achp@achp.gov

Appendix D - Suggested Initial Phase Sampling Location Concepts – Wet Weather Monitoring

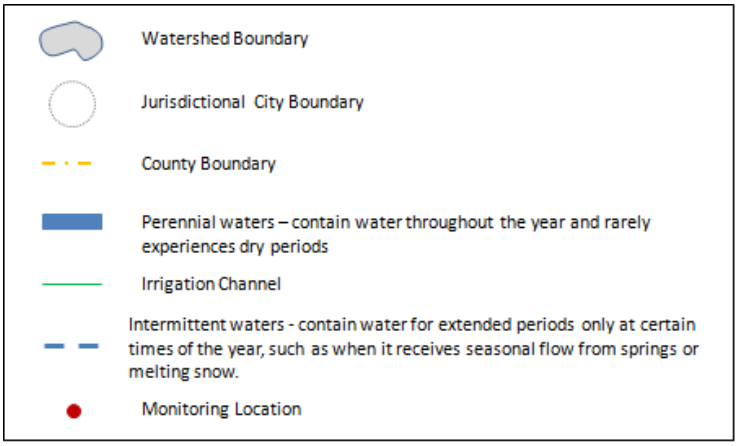


Option A: Individual Monitoring





Option B: Cooperative Monitoring



Appendix E - Providing Comments or Requesting a Public Hearing on an MS4 Operator's NOI

NOTE: Appendix E is for public information only and does not impose conditions on the permittee.

Any interested person may provide comments or request a public hearing on a Notice of Intent (NOI) submitted under this general permit. The general permit itself is not reopened for comment during the period an NOI is available for review and comment.

A. How Will I Know A MS4 is Filing an NOI and How Can I Get a Copy?
The permittee is required to provide a local public notice that they are filing an NOI and make a copy of the draft NOI submittal available locally. EPA will put basic information from all NOIs received on the Internet at: **http://www.epa.gov/region6/6wq/npdes/sw/sms4/index.htm .** You may contact the listed MS4 representative for local access to the NOI. You may also request a copy from EPA by contacting Ms. Dorothy Brown at 214-665-8141 or **brown.dorothy@epa.gov** or via mail at the Address in Item D below, attention Dorothy Brown.

B. When Can I File Comments or a Hearing Request?
You can file comments and/or request a hearing as soon as a NOI is filed, but your request must be postmarked or physically received by EPA within thirty (30) calendar days of the date the NOI is posted on the web site in Section A.

C. How Do I File Comments or Make My Hearing Request?
Your comments and/or hearing request must be in writing and must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. You should be as specific as possible and include suggested remedies where possible. You should include any data supporting your position(s). If you are submitting the request on behalf of a group or organization, you should describe the nature and membership of the group or organization. Electronic format comments in MS-WORD or PDF format are preferred.

D. Where Do I Send Copies of My Comments or Hearing Request?
Electronic Format: Submit one copy of your comments or hearing request via e-mail to Ms. Dorothy Brown at **brown.dorothy@epa.gov** and copy the Operator of the MS4 at the address on the NOI (send hard copy to MS4 Operator if no e-mail address provided). You may also submit via compact disk or diskette formatted for PCs to addresses for hard copy below. (Hard Copy: You must send an original and one copy of your comments or hearing request to EPA at the address below and a copy to the Operator of the MS4 at the address provided on the NOI)

U.S. EPA Region 6
Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ-NP)
Attn: Dorothy Brown
1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202

E. How Will EPA Determine Whether or Not To Hold a Public Hearing?
EPA will evaluate all hearing requests received on an NOI to determine if a significant degree of public interest exists and whether issues raised may warrant clarification of the MS4 Operator's NOI submittal. EPA will hold a public hearing if a significant amount of public interest is evident. EPA may also, at the Agency's discretion, hold either a public hearing or an informal public meeting to clarify issues related to the NOI submittal. EPA may hold a single public hearing or public meeting covering more than one MS4 (e.g., for all MS4s in an Urbanized Area, etc.).

F. How Will EPA Announce a Pubic Hearing or Public Meeting?
EPA will provide public notice of the time and place for any public hearing or public meeting in a major newspaper with local distribution and via the Internet at **http://www.epa.gov/region6/6wq/npdes/sw/sms4/index.htm**.

G. What Will EPA Do With Comments on an NOI?
EPA will take all comments made directly or in the course of a public hearing or public meeting into consideration in determining whether or not the MS4 that submitted the NOI is appropriately covered under the general permit. The MS4 operator will have the opportunity to provide input on issues raised. The Director may require the MS4 operator to supplement or amend the NOI submittal in order to be authorized under the general permit or may direct the MS4 Operator to submit an individual permit application. A summary of issues raised and EPA's responses will be made available online at **http://www.epa.gov/region6/6wq/npdes/sw/sms4/index.htm.** A hard copy may also be requested by contacting Ms. Dorothy Brown (see paragraph D)

Appendix F - Minimum Quantification Levels (MQL's)

The following Minimum Quantification Levels (MQL's) are to be used for reporting pollutant data for NPDES permit applications and/or compliance reporting.

POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l	POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l
METALS, RADIOACTIVITY, CYANIDE and CHLORINE			
Aluminum	2.5	Molybdenum	10
Antimony	60	Nickel	0.5
Arsenic	0.5	Selenium	5
Barium	100	Silver	0.5
Beryllium	0.5	Thalllium	0.5
Boron	100	Uranium	0.1
Cadmium	1	Vanadium	50
Chromium	10	Zinc	20
Cobalt	50	Cyanide	10
Copper	0.5	Cyanide, weak acid dissociable	10
Lead	0.5	Total Residual Chlorine	33
Mercury (*)	0.0005 0.005		
DIOXIN			
2,3,7,8-TCDD	0.00001		
VOLATILE COMPOUNDS			
Acrolein	50	1,3-Dichloropropylene	10
Acrylonitrile	20	Ethylbenzene	10
Benzene	10	Methyl Bromide	50
Bromoform	10	Methylene Chloride	20
Carbon Tetrachloride	2	1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	10
Chlorobenzene	10	Tetrachloroethylene	10
Clorodibromomethane	10	Toluene	10
Chloroform	50	1,2-trans-Dichloroethylene	10
Dichlorobromomethane	10	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	10
1,2-Dichloroethane	10	Trichloroethylene	10
1,1-Dichloroethylene	10	Vinyl Chloride	10
1,2-Dichloropropane	10		
ACID COMPOUNDS			
2-Chlorophenol	10	2,4-Dinitrophenol	50
2,4-Dichlorophenol	10	Pentachlorophenol	5
2,4-Dimethylphenol	10	Phenol	10
4,6-Dinitro-o-Cresol	50	2,4,6-Trichlorophenol	10

POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l	POLLUTANTS	MQL µg/l
		BASE/NEUTRAL	
Acenaphthene	10	Dimethyl Phthalate	10
Anthracene	10	Di-n-Butyl Phthalate	10
Benzidine	50	2,4-Dinitrotoluene	10
Benzo(a)anthracene	5	1,2-Diphenylhydrazine	20
Benzo(a)pyrene	5	Fluoranthene	10
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	10	Fluorene	10
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	5	Hexachlorobenzene	5
Bis(2-chloroethyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorobutadiene	10
Bis(2-chloroisopropyl)Ether	10	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	10
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)Phthalate	10	Hexachloroethane	20
Butyl Benzyl Phthalate	10	Indeno(1,2,3-cd)Pyrene	5
2-Chloronapthalene	10	Isophorone	10
Chrysene	5	Nitrobenzene	10
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	5	n-Nitrosodimethylamine	50
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodi-n-Propylamine	20
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	10	n-Nitrosodiphenylamine	20
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	10	Pyrene	10
3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine	5	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	10
Diethyl Phthalate	10		
		PESTICIDES AND PCBS	
Aldrin	0.01	Beta-Endosulfan	0.02
Alpha-BHC	0.05	Endosulfan sulfate	0.02
Beta-BHC	0.05	Endrin	0.02
Gamma-BHC	0.05	Endrin Aldehyde	0.1
Chlordane	0.2	Heptachlor	0.01
4,4'-DDT and derivatives	0.02	Heptachlor Epoxide	0.01
Dieldrin	0.02	PCBs **	0.2
Alpha-Endosulfan	0.01	Toxaphene	0.3

(MQL's Revised November 1, 2007)

(*) Default MQL for Mercury is 0.005 unless Part I of your permit requires the more sensitive Method 1631 (Oxidation / Purge and Trap / Cold vapor Atomic Fluorescence Spectrometry), then the MQL shall be 0.0005.

(**) EPA Method 1668 should be utilized when PCB water column monitoring is conducted to determine compliance with permit requirements. Either the Arochlor test (EPA Method 8082) or USGS test method (8093) may be utilized for purposes of sediment sampling as part of a screening program, but must use EPA Method 1668 (latest revision) for confirmation and determination of specific PCB levels at that location.

Appendix G – Oxygen Saturation and Dissolved Oxygen Concentrations North Diversion Channel Area

Concentrations of dissolved oxygen in water at various atmospheric pressures and temperatures with 100 percent oxygen saturation, 54.3 percent oxygen saturation (associated with hypoxia and harassment of silvery minnows), and 8.7 percent oxygen saturation (associated with anoxia and lethality of silvery minnows) at the North Diversion Channel (NDC) (based on USGS DO website <http://water.usgs.gov/software/DOTABLES/> for pressures between 628 to 648 millimeters of mercury (Hg)). Source: Biological Consultation Cons. #22420-2011-F-0024-R001

Water temp.	100°/o Oxygen Saturation at NDC			54.3% saturation = Harassmen			8.7% saturation= 50%Lethality		
("C)	628mmHg	638mmHg	648mmHg	628mmHg	638mmHg	648mmHg	628mmHg	638mmHg	64BmmHg
0	12.1	12.3	12.5	66	6.7	6.8	1.1	1.1	1.1
1	11.7	11.9	12.1	64	6.5	6.6	1.0	1.0	11
2	11.4	11.6	11.8	6.2	6.3	8.4	1.0	1.0	1.0
▼	11.1	11.3	11.5	6.0	6.1	6.2	1.0	1.0	1.0
4	10.8	11	11.2	5.9	6.0	6.1	0.9	1.0	1.0
5	10.5	10.7	10.9	5.7	5.8	59	0.9	0.9	0.9
6	10.3	10.4	10.6	5.6	5.8	5.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
7	10	10.2	10.3	5.4	5.5	5.6	0.9	09	0.9
8	9.8	9.9	10.1	5.3	5.4	5.5	0.9	0.9	0.9
8	9.5	9.7	9.6	52	53	5.3	08	0.8	0.9
▼▼	93	9.5	96	50	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.8	0.8
11	9.1	9.2	9.4	4.9	5.0	5.1	0.8	0.8	08
12	8.9	9	9.2	4.8	4.9	5.0	0.8	0.8	08
13	8.7	8.8	9	4.7	4.8	4.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
14	8.5	8.6	8.8	4.8	4.7	4.8	0.7	0.7	0.0
15	8.3	8.4	8.8	4.5	4.6	4.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
16	0.1	83	0.4	4.4	4.5	4.6	07	0.7	0.7
17	8	8.1	8.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	0.7	0.7	0.7
16	7.8	7.9	8	4.2	43	43	07	0.7	0.7
19	76	7.8	7.9	4.1	4.2	4.3	0.7	07	0.7
20	7.5	76	7.7	4.1	4.1	42	07	07	0.7
21	7.3	7.4	7.6	4.0	4.0	4.1	0.6	0.6	0.7
22	7.2	7.3	7.4	3.9	4.0	4.0	0.6	0.6	0.6
23	7	72	7.3	3.8	3.9	4.0	0.6	0.6	0.6
24	6.9	7	7.1	3.7	3.8	3.9	0.6	0.6	0.6
25	6.8	69	7	3.7	3.7	3.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
26	6.7	68	6.9	3.6	3.7	3.7	0.6	0.6	06
27	6.5	8.6	8.8	3.5	3.6	3.7	06	0.6	0.8
26	6.4	8.5	8.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	0.6	0.8	08
29	6.3	8.4	6.5	3.4	3.5	3.5	0.5	06	0.8
20	82	8.3	6.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	0.5	0.5	0.8
31	6.1	6.2	6.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	0.5	0.5	OS
32	6	6.1	6.2	3.3	3.3	34	0.5	0.5	0.5
33	5.0	6	6.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	0.5	0.5	0.5
34	5.8	5.9	6	3.1	3.2	3.3	0.5	0.5	0.5
	5.7	5.6	5.9	31	3.1	3.2	0.5	0.5	0.5

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Exhibit 3

Boise, ID – Boise/Garden City Area MS4 Permit (Permit No. IDS-027561)

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United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101

Authorization to Discharge Under the
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 *et seq.*, as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, P.L. 100-4, the "Act",

Ada County Highway District,
Boise State University,
City of Boise,
City of Garden City.
Drainage District #3,
and the Idaho Transportation Department District #3,

(hereinafter "the Permittees")

are authorized to discharge from all municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) outfalls existing as of the effective date of this Permit to waters of the United States, including the Boise River and its tributaries, in accordance with the conditions set forth herein.

This Permit will become effective February 1, 2013.

This Permit, and the authorization to discharge, expires at midnight, January 30, 2018.

Permittees must reapply for permit reissuance on or before August 3, 2017, 180 days before the expiration of this Permit, if the Permittees intend to continue operations and discharges from the MS4s beyond the term of this Permit.

Signed this 12th day of December, 2012.

Daniel D. Opalski, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds, Region 10
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Table of Contents

I. Applicability

A. Permit Area. This Permit covers all areas within the corporate boundary of the City of Boise and Garden City, Idaho, which are served by the municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) owned or operated by the Ada County Highway District, Boise State University, City of Boise, City of Garden City, Drainage District #3, and/or the Idaho Transportation Department District #3 (the Permittees).

B. Discharges Authorized Under This Permit. Subject to the conditions set forth herein, the Permittees are authorized to discharge storm water to waters of the United States from the MS4s identified in Part I.A.

As provided in Part I.D, this Permit also authorizes the discharge of flows from the MS4s which are categorized as allowable non-storm water discharge, storm water discharge associated with industrial activity, and storm water discharge associated with construction activity.

C. Permittees' Responsibilities

1. **Individual Responsibility**. Each Permittee is individually responsible for Permit compliance related only to portions of the MS4 owned or operated solely by that Permittee, or where this Permit requires a specific Permittee to take an action.
2. **Joint Responsibility.** Each Permittee is jointly responsible for Permit compliance:
   a) related to portions of the MS4 where operational or storm water management program (SWMP) implementation authority has been transferred to all of the Permittees in accordance with an intergovernmental agreement or agreement between the Permittees;
   b) related to portions of the MS4 where Permittees jointly own or operate a portion of the MS4;
   c) related to the submission of reports or other documents required by Parts II and IV of this Permit; and
   d) Where this Permit requires the Permittees to take an action and a specific Permittee is not named.
3. **Intergovernmental Agreement.** The Permittees must maintain an intergovernmental agreement describing each organization's respective roles and responsibilities related to this Permit. Any previously signed agreement may be updated, as necessary, to comply with this requirement. An updated intergovernmental agreement must be completed no later than July 1, 2013. A copy of the updated intergovernmental agreement must be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with the 1st Year Annual Report.

D. Limitations on Permit Coverage

1. **Non-Storm Water Discharges**. Permittees are not authorized to discharge non-storm water from the MS4, except where such discharges satisfy one of the following three conditions:

   a) The non-storm water discharges are in compliance with a separate NPDES permit;

   b) The non-storm water discharges result from a spill and:

      (i) are the result of an unusual and severe weather event where reasonable and prudent measures have been taken to prevent and minimize the impact of such discharge; or

      (ii) consist of emergency discharges required to prevent imminent threat to human health or severe property damage, provided that reasonable and prudent measures have been taken to prevent and minimize the impact of such discharges;

   or

   c) The non-storm water discharges satisfy each of the following two conditions:

      (i) The discharges consist of uncontaminated water line flushing; potable water sources; landscape irrigation (provided all pesticides, herbicides and fertilizer have been applied in accordance with manufacturer's instructions); lawn watering; irrigation water; flows from riparian habitats and wetlands; diverted stream flows; springs; rising ground waters; uncontaminated ground water infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR § 35.2005(20)) to separate storm sewers; uncontaminated pumped ground water or spring water; foundation and footing drains (where flows are not contaminated with process materials such as solvents); uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate; water from crawlspace pumps; individual residential car washing; dechlorinated swimming pool discharges; routine external building wash down which does not use detergents; street and pavement wash waters, where no detergents are used and no spills or leaks of toxic or hazardous materials have occurred (unless all spilled material has been removed); fire hydrant flushing; or flows from emergency firefighting activities; and

      (ii) The discharges are not sources of pollution to waters of the United States. A discharge is considered a source of pollution to waters of the United States if it:

         1) Contains hazardous materials in concentrations found to be of public health significance or to impair beneficial uses in receiving waters. (Hazardous materials are those

that are harmful to humans and animals from exposure, but not necessarily ingestion);

2) Contains toxic substances in concentrations that impair designated beneficial uses in receiving waters. (Toxic substances are those that can cause disease, malignancy, genetic mutation, death, or similar consequences);

3) Contains deleterious materials in concentrations that impair designated beneficial uses in receiving waters. (Deleterious materials are generally substances that taint edible species of fish, cause taste in drinking waters, or cause harm to fish or other aquatic life);

4) Contains radioactive materials or radioactivity at levels exceeding the values listed in 10 CFR Part 20 in receiving waters;

5) Contains floating, suspended, or submerged matter of any kind in concentrations causing nuisance or objectionable conditions or in concentrations that may impair designated beneficial uses in receiving waters;

6) Contains excessive nutrients that can cause visible slime growths or other nuisance aquatic growths that impair designated beneficial uses in receiving waters;

7) Contains oxygen-demanding materials in concentrations that would result in anaerobic water conditions in receiving waters; or

8) Contains sediment above quantities specified in IDAPA 58.01.02.250.02.e or in the absence of specific sediment criteria, above quantities that impair beneficial uses in receiving waters; or

9) Contains material in concentrations that exceed applicable natural background conditions in receiving waters (IDAPA 58.01.02.200. 09). Temperature levels may be increased above natural background conditions when allowed under IDAPA 58.01.02.401.

2. **Discharges Threatening Water Quality.** Permittees are not authorized to discharge storm water that will cause, or have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to, an excursion above the Idaho water quality standards.

3. **Snow Disposal to Receiving Waters**. Permittees are not authorized to push or dispose of snow plowed within the Permit area directly into waters of the United States, or directly into the MS4(s). Discharges from any Permittee's snow disposal and snow management practices are authorized under this Permit only when such sites and practices are designed, conducted, operated, and maintained to prevent and reduce pollutants in the discharges to the maximum

extent practicable so as to avoid excursions above the Idaho water quality standards.

4. **Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial and Construction Activity.** Permittees are authorized to discharge storm water associated with industrial activity (as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)), and storm water associated with construction activity (as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)(x) and (b)(15)), from their MS4s, only when such discharges are otherwise authorized under an appropriate NPDES permit.

II. Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) Requirements

A. General Requirements

1. **Reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.** The Permittees must implement and enforce a SWMP designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from their MS4 to the maximum extent practicable (MEP), and to protect water quality in receiving waters. The SWMP as defined in this Permit must include best management practices (BMPs), controls, system design, engineering methods, and other provisions appropriate to control and minimize the discharge of pollutants from the MS4s.

   a) **SWMP Elements**. The required SWMP control measures are outlined in Part II.SWMP assessment/monitoring requirements are described in Part IV. Each Permittee must use practices that are selected, implemented, maintained, and updated to ensure that storm water discharges do not cause or contribute to an exceedance of an applicable Idaho water quality standard.

   b) **SWMP Documentation.** Each Permittee must prepare written documentation of the SWMP as implemented within their jurisdiction. The SWMP documentation must be organized according to the program components in Parts II and IV of this Permit, and must provide a current narrative physical description of the Permittee's MS4, illustrative maps or graphics, and all related ordinances, policies and activities as implemented within their jurisdiction. Each Permittee's SWMP documentation must be submitted to EPA with the 1st Year Annual Report.

      (i) Each Permittee must provide an opportunity for public review and comment on their SWMP documentation, consistent with applicable state or local requirements and Part II.B.6 of this Permit.

      (ii) Each Permittee's SWMP documentation must be updated at least annually and submitted as part of each subsequent Annual Report. (The document format used for Annual Report(s) submitted to EPA by the Permittees' prior to the effective date of this Permit may be modified to meet this requirement.)

   c) **SWMP Information.** The SWMP must include an ongoing program for gathering, tracking, maintaining, and using information to set priorities, evaluate SWMP implementation and Permit compliance.

d) **SWMP Statistics**. Permittees must track the number of inspections, official enforcement actions and types of public education activities and outcomes as stipulated by the respective program component. This information must be included in the Annual Report.

2. **Shared Implementation with outside entities.** Implementation of one or more of the SWMP minimum control measures may be shared with or delegated to another entity other than the Permittee(s). A Permittee may rely on another entity only if:

   a) The other entity, in fact, implements the minimum control measure;

   b) The action, or component thereof , is at least as stringent as the corresponding Permit requirement; and

   c) The other entity agrees to implement the minimum control measure on the Permittee's behalf. A binding written acceptance of this obligation is required. Each Permittee must maintain and record this obligation as part of the SWMP documentation. If the other entity agrees to report on the minimum control measure, the Permittees must supply the other entity with the reporting requirements in Part IV.C of this Permit. The Permittees remain responsible for compliance with the Permit obligation if the other entity fails to implement the required minimum control measure.

3. **Modification of the SWMP**. Minor modifications to the SWMP may be made in accordance with Part II.E of this Permit.

4. **Subwatershed Planning.** No later than September 30, 2016, the Permittees must jointly complete at least two individual sub-watershed plans for areas served by the MS4s within the Permit area. For the purposes of this Permit, the terms "subwatershed" and "storm sewershed" are defined as in Part VII. For each plan document, the subwatershed planning area must drain to at least one of the water bodies listed in Table II.C.

   Selected subwatersheds must be identified in the 1st Year Annual Report. Two completed subwatershed plan documents must be submitted to EPA as part of the 4th Year Annual Report.

   a) The Permittees must actively engage stakeholders in the development of each plan, and must provide opportunities for public input, consistent with Part II.B.6.

   b) The Permittees may modify and update any existing watershed planning document(s) to address the requirements of this Part.

   c) Each subwatershed plan must describe the extent and nature of the existing storm sewershed, and identify priority aquatic resources and beneficial uses to be protected or restored within the subwatershed planning area. Each subwatershed plan must contain a prioritized list of potential locations or opportunities for protecting or restoring such resources or beneficial uses through storm water infiltration, evapotranspiration or rainfall

harvesting/reuse, or other site-based low impact development (LID) practices. See Parts II.B.2.a, and II.B.2.c.

d) Each subwatershed plan must include consideration and discussion of how the Permittees will provide incentives, or enforce requirements, through their respective Stormwater Management Programs to address the following principles:

(i) Minimize the amount of impervious surfaces (roads, parking lots, roofs) within each watershed, by minimizing the creation, extension and widening of roads and associated development.

(ii) Preserve, protect, create and restore ecologically sensitive areas that provide water quality benefits and serve critical watershed functions. These areas may include, but are not limited to; riparian corridors, headwaters, floodplains and wetlands.

(iii) Prevent or reduce thermal impacts to water bodies, including requiring vegetated buffers along waterways, and disconnecting discharges to surface waters from impervious surfaces such as parking lots.

(iv) Seek to avoid or prevent hydromodification of streams and other water bodies caused by development, including roads, highways, and bridges.

(v) Preserve and protect trees, and other vegetation with important evapotranspirative qualities.

(vi) Preserve and protect native soils, prevent topsoil stripping, and prevent compaction of soils.

B. Minimum Control Measures. The following minimum control measures must be accomplished through each Permittee's Storm Water Management Program:

1. **Construction Site Runoff Control Program.** The Permittees must implement a construction site runoff control program to reduce discharges of pollutants from public and private construction activity within its jurisdiction.

The Permittees' construction site management program must include the requirements described below:

a) **Ordinance and/or other regulatory mechanism**. To the extent allowable under local or state law, Permittees must adopt, implement, and enforce requirements for erosion controls, sediment controls, and materials management techniques to be employed and maintained at each construction project from initial clearing through final stabilization. Each Permittee must require construction site operators to maintain adequate and effective controls to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from construction sites. The Permittees must use enforcement actions (such as, written warnings, stop work orders or fines) to ensure compliance.

No later than September 30, 2015, each Permittee must update their ordinances or other regulatory mechanisms, as necessary, to be consistent with this Permit and with the current version of the *NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities*, Permit #IDR12-0000 (NPDES Construction General Permit or CGP).

b) **Manuals Describing Construction Storm Water Management Controls and Specifications.** The Permittees must require construction site operators within their jurisdiction to use construction site management controls and specifications as defined within manuals adopted by the Permittees.

No later than September 30, 2015, the Permittees must update their respective manuals, as necessary, to include requirements for the proper installation and maintenance of erosion controls, sediment controls, and material containment/pollution prevention controls during all phases of construction activity. The manual(s) must include all acceptable control practices, selection and sizing criteria, illustrations, and design examples, as well as recommended operation and maintenance of each practice. At a minimum, the manual(s) must include requirements for erosion control, sediment control, and pollution prevention which complement and do not conflict with the current version of the CGP. If the manuals previously adopted by the individual Permittee do not meet these requirements, the Permittee may create supplemental provisions to include as part of the adopted manual in order to comply with this Permit.

c) **Plan Review and Approval.** The Permittees must review and approve preconstruction site plans from construction site operators within their jurisdictions. Permittees must ensure that the construction site operator is prohibited from commencing construction activity prior to receipt of written approval.

(i) The Permittees must not approve any erosion and sediment control (ESC) plan or Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) unless it contains appropriate site-specific construction site control measures meeting the Permittee's requirements as outlined in Part II.B.1.b.

(ii) Prior to the start of a construction project disturbing one or more acres, or disturbing less than one acre but is part of a larger common plan of development, the Permittees must advise the construction site operator(s) to seek or obtain necessary coverage under the NPDES Construction General Permit.

(iii) Permittees must use qualified individuals, knowledgeable in the technical review of ESC plans/SWPPPs, to conduct such reviews.

(iv) Permittees must document the review of each ESC plan and/or SWPPP using a checklist or similar process.

d) **Construction Site Inspections**. The Permittees must inspect construction sites occurring within their jurisdictions to ensure compliance with their

applicable requirements. The Permittees may establish an inspection prioritization system to identify the frequency and type of inspection based upon such factors as project type, total area of disturbance, location, and potential threat to water quality. If a prioritization system is used, the Permittee must include a description of the current inspection prioritization in the SWMP document required in Part II.A, and summarize the nature and number of inspections conducted during the previous reporting period in each Annual Report.

(i) Inspections of construction sites must include, but not be limited to:

- As applicable, a check for coverage under the Construction General Permit by reviewing any authorization letter or Notice of Intent (NOI) during initial inspections;
- Review the applicable ESC plan/SWPPP to determine if control measures have been installed, implemented, and maintained as approved;
- Assessment of compliance with the Permittees' ordinances/requirements related to storm water runoff, including the implementation and maintenance of required control measures;
- Assessment of the appropriateness of planned control measures and their effectiveness;
- Visual observation of non-storm water discharges, potential illicit connections, and potential discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff;
- Education or instruction related to on storm water pollution prevention practices, as needed or appropriate; and
- A written or electronic inspection report.

(ii) The Permittees must track the number of construction site inspections conducted throughout the reporting period, and verify that the sites are inspected at the minimum frequencies required by the inspection prioritization system. Construction site inspections must be tracked and reported with each Annual Report.

(iii) Based on site inspection findings, each Permittee must take all necessary follow-up actions (i.e., re-inspection, enforcement) to ensure compliance. Follow-up and enforcement actions must be tracked and reported with each Annual Report.

e) **Enforcement Response Policy for Construction Site Management Program**. No later than September 30, 2016, each Permittee must develop and implement a written escalating enforcement response policy (ERP) appropriate to their organization. Upon implementation of the policy in its jurisdiction, each Permittee must submit its completed ERP to EPA with the 4th Year Annual Report. The ERP for City of Boise, City of Garden City, and Ada County Highway District must address enforcement of construction site runoff controls for all currently regulated construction projects within their jurisdictions. The ERP for Idaho Transportation Department District 3, Drainage District 3, and Boise State University must address contractual enforcement of construction site runoff controls at construction sites within their jurisdictions. Each ERP must describe the Permittee's potential responses to violations with an appropriate educational or enforcement response. The ERP must address repeat violations through progressively stricter responses as needed to achieve compliance. Each ERP must describe how the Permittee will use the following types of enforcement response, as available, based on the type of violation:

(i) Verbal Warnings: Verbal warnings are primarily consultative in nature. At a minimum, verbal warnings must specify the nature of violation and required corrective action.

(ii) Written Notices: Written notices must stipulate the nature of the violation and the required corrective action, with deadlines for taking such action.

(iii) Escalated Enforcement Measures: The Permittees must have the legal ability to employ any combination of the enforcement actions below (or their functional equivalent):

- The ERP must indicate when the Permittees will initiate a Stop Work Order. Stop work orders must require that construction activities be halted, except for those activities directed at cleaning up, abating discharge, and installing appropriate control measures.
- The Permittees must also use other escalating measures provided under local or state legal authorities, such as assessing monetary penalties. The Permittees may perform work necessary to improve erosion control measures and collect the funds from the responsible party in an appropriate manner, such as collecting against the project's bond, or directly billing the responsible party to pay for work and materials.

f) **Construction General Permit Violation Referrals.** For those construction projects which are subject to the NPDES Construction General Permit and do not respond to Permittee educational efforts, the Permittee may provide to EPA information regarding construction project operators which cannot demonstrate that they have appropriate NPDES Permit

coverage and/or site operators deemed by the Permittee as not complying with the NPDES Construction General Permit. Permittees may submit such information to the EPA NPDES Compliance Hotline in Seattle, Washington, by telephone, at (206) 553-1846, and include, at a minimum, the following information:

- Construction project location and description;
- Name and contact information of project owner/ operator;
- Estimated construction project disturbance size; and
- An account of information provided by the Permittee to the project owner/ operator regarding NPDES filing requirements.

(i) **Enforcement Tracking.** Permittees must track instances of non-compliance either in hard-copy files or electronically. The enforcement case documentation must include, at a minimum, the following:

- Name of owner/operator;
- Location of construction project;
- Description of violation;
- Required schedule for returning to compliance;
- Description of enforcement response used, including escalated responses if repeat violations occur;
- Accompanying documentation of enforcement response (e.g., notices of noncompliance, notices of violations, etc.); and
- Any referrals to different departments or agencies.

g) **Construction Program Education and Training.** Throughout the Permit term, the Permittees must ensure that all staff whose primary job duties are related to implementing the construction program (including permitting, plan review, construction site inspections, and enforcement) are trained to conduct such activities. The education program must also provide regular training opportunities for construction site operators. This training must include, at a minimum:

(i) *Erosion and Sediment Control/Storm Water Inspectors*:

- Initial training regarding proper control measure selection, installation and maintenance as well as administrative requirements such as inspection reporting/tracking and the implementation of the enforcement response policy; and

- Annual refresher training for existing inspection staff to update them on preferred BMPs, regulation changes, Permit updates, and policy or standards updates.

(ii) *Other Construction Inspectors*: Initial training on general storm water issues, basic control measure implementation information, and procedures for notifying the appropriate personnel of noncompliance.

(iii) *Plan Reviewers*:

- Initial training regarding control measure selection, design standards, review procedures;

- Annual training regarding new control measures, innovative approaches, Permit updates, regulation changes and policy or standard updates.

(iv) *Third-Party Inspectors and Plan Reviewers*. If the Permittee utilizes outside parties to either conduct inspections and or review plans, these outside staff must be trained per the requirements listed in Part II.B.1.f.i.-iii above.

(v) *Construction Operator Education*. At a minimum, the Permittees must educate construction site operators within the Permit area as follows:

- At least once per year, the Permittees must either provide information to all construction companies on existing training opportunities or develop new training for construction operators regarding appropriate selection, installation, and use of required construction site control measures at sites within the Permit area.

- The Permittees must require construction site operators to have at least one person on-site during construction that is appropriately trained in erosion and sediment control.

- The Permittees must require construction operators to attend training at least once every three years.

- The Permittees must provide appropriate information and outreach materials to all construction operators who may disturb land within their jurisdiction.

2. Storm Water Management for Areas of New Development and Redevelopment. At a minimum, the Permittees must implement and enforce a program to control storm water runoff from new development and redevelopment projects that result in land disturbance of 5,000 square feet or more, excluding individual one or two family dwelling development or redevelopment. This program must apply to private and public sector development, including roads and streets. The program implemented by the Permittees must ensure that permanent controls or practices are utilized at each new development and redevelopment site to protect water quality. The program must include, at a minimum, the elements described below:

a) **Ordinance or other regulatory mechanisms**. No later than the expiration date of this Permit, each Permittee must update its applicable ordinance or regulatory mechanism which requires the installation and long-term maintenance of permanent storm water management controls at new development and redevelopment projects. Each Permittee must update their ordinance/regulatory mechanism to the extent allowed by local and state law, consistent with the individual Permittee's respective legal authority. Permittees must submit their revised ordinance/regulatory mechanism as part of the 5th Year Annual Report.

(i) The ordinance/regulatory mechanism must include site design standards for all new and redevelopment that require, in combination or alone, storm water management measures that keep and manage onsite the runoff generated from the first 0.6 inches of rainfall from a 24-hour event preceded by 48 hours of no measureable precipitation. Runoff volume reduction can be achieved by canopy interception, soil amendments, bioretention, evapotranspiration, rainfall harvesting, engineered infiltration, extended filtration, and/or any combination of such practices that will capture the first 0.6 inches of rainfall. An Underground Injection Control permit may be required when certain conditions are met. The ordinance or regulatory mechanism must require that the first 0.6 inches of rainfall be 100% managed with no discharge to surface waters, except when the Permittee chooses to implement the conditions of II.B.2.a.ii below.

(ii) For projects that cannot meet 100% infiltration/evapotranspiration/reuse requirements onsite, the Permittees' program may allow offsite mitigation within the same subwatershed, subject to siting restrictions established by the Permittee. The Permittee allowing this option must develop and apply criteria for determining the circumstances under which offsite mitigation may be allowed. A determination that the onsite retention requirement cannot be met must be based on multiple factors, including but not limited to technical feasibility or logistic practicality (e.g. lack of available space, high groundwater, groundwater contamination, poorly infiltrating soils, shallow bedrock, and/or a land use that is inconsistent with

capture and reuse or infiltration of storm water). Determinations may not be based solely on the difficulty and/or cost of implementing such measures. The Permittee(s) allowing this option must create an inventory of appropriate mitigation projects and develop appropriate institutional standards and management systems to value, estimate and track these situations. Using completed subwatershed plans or other mechanisms, the Permittee(s) must identify priority areas within subwatersheds in which off-site mitigation may be conducted.

(iii) The ordinance or regulatory mechanism must include the following water quality requirements:

- Projects with potential for excessive pollutant loading(s) must provide water quality treatment for associated pollutants before infiltration.
- Projects with potential for excessive pollutant loading(s) that cannot implement adequate preventive or water quality treatment measures to ensure compliance with Idaho surface water standards must properly convey storm water to a NPDES permitted wastewater treatment facility or via a licensed waste hauler to a permitted treatment and disposal facility.

(iv) The ordinance or other regulatory mechanism must include procedures for the Permittee's review and approval of permanent storm water management plans for new development and redevelopment projects consistent with Part II.B.1.d.

(v) The ordinance or other regulatory mechanism must include sanctions (including fines) to ensure compliance, as allowed under state or local law.

b) **Storm Water Design Criteria Manual.** No later than September 30, 2015, each Permittee must update as necessary their existing Storm Water Design Criteria Manual specifying acceptable permanent storm water management and control practices. The manual must contain design criteria for each practice. In lieu of updating a manual, a Permittee may adopt a manual created by another entity which complies with this section. The manual must include:

(i) Specifications and incentives for the use of site-based practices appropriate to local soils and hydrologic conditions;

(ii) A list of acceptable practices, including sizing criteria, performance criteria, design examples, and guidance on selection and location of practices; and

(iii) Specifications for proper long term operation and maintenance, including appropriate inspection interval and self-inspection checklists for responsible parties.

c) **Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development (LID) Incentive Strategy and Pilot Projects**. No later than September 30, 2015, the Permittees must develop a strategy to provide incentives for the increased use of LID techniques in private and public sector development projects within each Permittee's jurisdiction. Permittees must comply with applicable State and local public notice requirements when developing this Strategy. Pursuant to Part IV.A.2.a, the Strategy must reference methods of evaluating at least three (3) Green Infrastructure/LID pilot projects as described below. Permittees must implement the Green Infrastructure/LID Incentive Strategy, and complete an effectiveness evaluation of at least three pilot projects, prior to the expiration date of this Permit.

(i) As part of the 3rd Year Annual Report, the Permittees must submit the written Green Infrastructure /LID Incentive Strategy; the Strategy must include a description of at least three selected pilot projects, and a narrative report on the progress to evaluate the effectiveness of each selected LID technique or practice included in the pilot project. Each pilot project must include an evaluation of the effectiveness of LID technique(s) or practice(s) used for on-site control of water quality and/or quantity. Each Pilot Project must involve at least one or more of the following characteristics:

- The project manages runoff from at least 3,000 square feet of impervious surface;
- The project involves transportation related location(s) (including parking lots);
- The drainage area of the project is greater than five acres in size; and/or
- The project involves mitigation of existing storm water discharges to one or more of the water bodies listed in Table II.C.

(ii) Consistent with Part IV.A.10, the Permittees must evaluate the performance of LID technique(s) or practice(s) in each pilot project, and include a progress report on overall strategy implementation in the 4th Annual Report. Final pilot project evaluations must be submitted in the 5th Year Annual Report. The Permittees must monitor, calculate or model changes in runoff quantities for each of the pilot project sites in the following manner:

- For retrofit projects, changes in runoff quantities shall be calculated as a percentage of 100% pervious surface before and after implementation of the LID technique(s) or practice(s).
- For new construction projects, changes in runoff quantities shall be calculated for development scenarios both with LID technique(s) or practice(s) and without LID technique(s) or practice(s).

- The Permittees must measure runoff flow rate and subsequently prepare runoff hydrographs to characterize peak runoff rates and volumes, discharge rates and volumes, and duration of discharge volumes. The evaluation must include quantification and description of each type of land cover contributing to surface runoff for each pilot project, including area, slope, vegetation type and condition for pervious surfaces, and the nature of impervious surfaces.
- The Permittees must use these runoff values to evaluate the overall effectiveness of various LID technique(s) or practice(s) and to develop recommendations for future adoption of LID technique(s) or practice(s) that address appropriate use, design, type, size, soil type and operation and maintenance practices.

(iii) **Riparian Zone Management and Outfall Disconnection.** No later than September 30, 2015, the Permittees must identify and prioritize riparian areas appropriate for Permittee acquisition and protection. Prior to the expiration date of this Permit, the Permittees must undertake and complete at least one project designed to reduce the flow of untreated urban storm water discharging through the MS4 system through the use of vegetated swales, storm water treatment wetlands and/or other appropriate techniques. The Permittees must submit the list of prioritized riparian protection areas, and a status report on the planning and implementation of the outfall disconnection project, as part of the 3rd Year Annual Report. Documentation of the completed outfall disconnection project must be included in the 5th Year Annual Report.

(iv) **Repair of Public Streets, Roads and Parking Lots.** When public streets, roads or parking lots are repaired (as defined in Part VII), the Permittees performing these repairs must evaluate the feasibility of incorporating runoff reduction techniques into the repair by using canopy interception, bioretention, soil amendments, evaporation, rainfall harvesting, engineered infiltration, rain gardens, infiltration trenches, extended filtration and/or evapotranspiration and/or any combination of the aforementioned practices. Where such practices are found to be technically feasible, the Permittee performing the repair must use such practices in the design and repair. These requirements apply only to projects whose design process is started after the effective date of this Permit. As part of the 5th Year Annual Report, the Permittees must list the locations of street, road and parking lot repair work completed since the effective date of the Permit that have incorporated such runoff reduction practices, and the receiving water body(s) benefitting from such practices. This documentation must include a general description of the project design, estimated total cost, and estimates of total flow

volume and pollutant reduction achieved compared to traditional design practices.

d) **Plan Review and Approval.** The Permittees must review and approve pre-construction plans for permanent storm water management. The Permittees must review plans for consistency with the ordinance/regulatory mechanism and Storm Water Design Criteria Manual required by this Part. The Permittees must ensure that the project operator is prohibited from commencing construction activity prior to receipt of written approval from the Permittee.

(i) The Permittees must not approve or recommend for approval any plans for permanent storm water controls that do not contain appropriate permanent storm water management practices that meet the minimum requirements specified in this Part.

(ii) Permittees must use qualified individuals, knowledgeable in the technical review of plans for permanent storm water controls to conduct such reviews.

(iii) Permittees must document the review of each plan using a checklist or similar process.

e) **Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of Permanent Storm Water Management Controls.**

(i) **Inventory and Tracking.** The Permittees must maintain a database tracking all new public and private sector permanent storm water controls. No later than January 30, 2018, all of the available data on existing permanent storm water controls known to the Permittees must be included in the inventory database. For the purposes of this Part, new permanent controls are those installed after February 1, 2013; existing permanent controls are those installed prior to February 1, 2013. The tracking must begin in the plan review stage with a database that incorporates geographic information system (GIS) information. The tracking system must also include, at a minimum: type and number of practices; O&M requirements, activity and schedule; responsible party; and self-inspection schedule.

(ii) **O&M Agreements.** Where parties other than the Permittees are responsible for operation and maintenance of permanent storm water controls, the Permittees must require a legally enforceable and transferable O&M agreement with the responsible party, or other mechanism, that assigns permanent responsibility for maintenance of structural or treatment control storm water management practices.

f) **Inspection and Enforcement of Permanent Storm Water Management Controls.** The Permittees must ensure proper long term operation and

maintenance of all permanent storm water management practices within the Permittees' respective jurisdiction. The Permittees must implement an inspection program, and define and prioritize new development and redevelopment sites for inspections of permanent storm water management controls. Factors used to prioritize sites must include, but not be limited to: size of new development or redevelopment area; sensitivity and/or impaired status of receiving water(s); and, history of non-compliance at the site during the construction phase.

(i) No later than September 30, 2017, all high priority locations must be inventoried and associated inspections must be scheduled to occur at least once annually. The inspections must determine whether storm water management or treatment practices have been properly installed (i.e., an "as built" verification). The inspections must evaluate the operation and maintenance of such practices, identify deficiencies and potential solutions, and assess potential impacts to receiving waters.

(ii) No later than September 30, 2017, the Permittees must develop checklists to be used by inspectors during these inspections, and must maintain records of all inspections conducted on new development and redevelopment sites.

(iii) No later than September 30, 2017, the Permittees must develop and implement an enforcement strategy similar to that required in Section II.B.1.e to maintain the integrity of permanent storm water management and treatment practices.

g) **Education and Training on Permanent Storm Water Controls**. No later than September 30, 2015, the Permittees must begin a training program for appropriate audiences regarding the selection, design, installation, operation and maintenance of permanent storm water controls. The training program and materials must be updated as necessary to include information on updated or revised storm water treatment standards, design manual specifications, Low Impact Development techniques or practices, and proper operation and maintenance requirements.

(i) No later than September 30, 2016, and annually thereafter, all persons responsible for reviewing plans for new development and redevelopment and/or inspecting storm water management practices and treatment controls must receive training sufficient to determine the adequacy of storm water management and treatment controls at proposed new development and redevelopment sites.

(ii) No later than September 30, 2016, and at least annually thereafter, Permittees must provide training to local audiences on the storm water management requirements described in this Part.

3. Industrial and Commercial Storm Water Discharge Management. The Permittees must implement a program to reduce to the MEP the discharge of pollutants from industrial and commercial operations within their jurisdiction. Throughout the Permit term, the Permittees must conduct educational and/or enforcement efforts to reduce the discharge of pollutants from those industrial and commercial locations which are considered to be significant contributors of phosphorus, bacteria, temperature, and/or sediment to receiving waters. At a minimum, the program must include the following elements:

a) **Inventory of Industrial and Commercial Facilities/Activities**. No later than September 30, 2016, the Permittees must update the inventory and map of facilities and activities discharging directly to their MS4s.

(i) At a minimum, the inventory must include information listing the watershed/receiving water body, facility name, address, nature of business or activity, and North American or Standard Industrial Classification code(s) that best reflect the facility's product or service;

(ii) The inventory must include the following types of facilities: municipal landfills (open and closed); Permittee-owned maintenance yards and facilities; hazardous waste recovery, treatment, storage and disposal facilities; facilities subject to Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, 42 U.S.C. 11023; all industrial sectors listed in 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14); vehicle or equipment wash systems; commercial animal facilities, including kennels, race tracks, show facilities, stables, or other similar commercial locations where improper management of domestic animal waste may contribute pollutants to receiving waters or to the MS4; urban agricultural activities; and other industrial or commercial facility that the Permittees determine is contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the MS4 and associated receiving waters.

(iii) The Permittees must collectively identify at least two specific industrial/commercial activities or sectors operating within the Permit area for which storm water discharges are not being adequately addressed through existing programs. No later than September 30, 2016, the Permittees must develop best management practices for each activity, and educate the selected industrial/commercial audiences regarding these performance expectations. Example activities for consideration include, but are not limited to: landscaping businesses; wholesale or retail agricultural and construction supply businesses; urban agricultural activities; power washers; commercial animal facilities; commercial car/truck washing operations; and automobile repair shops.

b) **Inspection of Industrial and Commercial Facilities/Activities**. The Permittees must work cooperatively throughout the Permit term to prioritize

and inspect selected industrial and commercial facilities/activities which discharge to receiving waters or to the MS4. No later than September 30, 2016, any existing agreements between the Permittees to accomplish such inspections must be updated as necessary to comply with this permit. At a minimum, the industrial and commercial facility inspection program must include:

(i) Priorities and procedures for inspections, including inspector training, and compliance assistance or education materials to inform targeted facility/activity operators of applicable requirements;

(ii) Provisions to record observations of a facility or activity;

(iii) Procedures to report findings to the inspected facility or activity, and to follow-up with the facility/activity operator as necessary;

(iv) A monitoring (or self monitoring) program for facilities that assesses the type and quantity of pollutants discharging to the MS4s;

(v) Procedures to exercise legal authorities to ensure compliance with applicable local storm water ordinances.

c) **Maintain Industrial and Commercial Facility/Activity Inventory**. The industrial and commercial facility/activity inventory must be updated at least annually. The updated inventory and a summary of the compliance assistance and inspection activities conducted, as well as any follow-up actions, must be submitted to EPA with each Annual Report.

4. Storm Water Infrastructure and Street Management. The Permittees must maintain their MS4 and related facilities to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP. All Permittee-owned and operated facilities must be properly operated and maintained. This maintenance requirement includes, but is not limited to, structural storm water treatment controls, storm sewer systems, streets, roads, parking lots, snow disposal sites, waste facilities, and street maintenance and material storage facilities. The program must include the following:

a) **Storm Sewer System Inventory and Mapping**. No later than January 30, 2018, the Permittees must update current records to develop a comprehensive inventory and map of the MS4s and associated outfall locations. The inventory must identify all areas over which each Permittee has responsibility. The inventory must include:

(i) the location of all inlets, catch basins and outfalls owned/operated by the Permittee;

(ii) the location of all MS4 collection system pipes (laterals, mains, etc.) owned/operated by the Permittee, including locations where the MS4 is physically interconnected to the MS4 of another operator ;

(iii) the location of all structural flood control devices, if different from the characteristics listed above;

(iv) the names and locations of receiving waters of the U.S. that receive discharges from the outfalls;

(v) the location of all existing structural storm water treatment controls;

(vi) identification of subwatersheds, associated land uses, and approximate acreage draining into each MS4 outfall; and

(vii) the location of Permittee-owned vehicle maintenance facilities, material storage facilities, maintenance yards, and snow disposal sites; Permittee-owned or operated parking lots and roadways.

A summary description of the Permittees' storm sewer system inventory and a map must be submitted to EPA as part of the reapplication package required by Part VI.B

b) **Catch Basin and Inlet Cleaning.** No later than September 30, 2016, the Permittees must initiate an inspection program to inspect all Permittee-owned or operated catch basins and inlets at least every two years and take appropriate maintenance action based on those inspections. Inspection records must be maintained and summarized in each Annual Report.

c) **Street and Road Maintenance.** No later than September 30, 2015, the Permittees responsible for road and street maintenance must update any standard operating procedures for storm water controls to ensure the use of BMPs that, when applied to the Permittee's activity or facility, will protect water quality, and reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP. The operating procedures must contain, for each activity or facility, inspection and maintenance schedules specific to the activity, and appropriate pollution prevention/good housekeeping procedures for all of the following types of facilities and/or activities listed below. Water conservation measures should be considered for all landscaped areas.

(i) **Streets, roads, and parking lots**. The procedures must address, but are not limited to: road deicing, anti-icing, and snow removal practices; snow disposal areas; street/road material (e.g. salt, sand, or other chemical) storage areas; maintenance of green infrastructure/low impact development practices; and BMPs to reduce road and parking lot debris and other pollutants from entering the MS4. Within four years of the effective date of this permit, the Permittees must implement all of the pollution prevention/good housekeeping practices established in the SOPs for all streets, roads, highways, and parking lots with more than 3,000 square feet of impervious surface that are owned, operated, or maintained by the Permittees.

(ii) **Inventory of Street Maintenance Materials.** Throughout the Permit term, all Permittees with street maintenance

responsibilities must maintain an inventory of street /road maintenance materials, including use of sand and salt, and document the inventory in the corresponding Annual Reports.

(iii) **Manage Sand with Salt and Salt Storage Areas.** No later than September 30, 2017, the Permittees must address any sand, salt, or sand with salt material stockpiles at each of their materials storage locations to prevent pollutants in stormwater runoff from discharging to the MS4 or into any receiving waterbody. Examples how the Permittee may choose to address runoff from their material storage areas include, but are not limited to: building covered storage areas; fully containing the material stockpile area in a manner that prevents runoff from discharging to the MS4 or a receiving waterbody; relocating and/or otherwise consolidating material storage piles to alternative locations which prevents discharges to the MS4 or a receiving waterbody. The Permittees must identify their material storage locations in the SWMP documentation submitted to EPA with the 1st year Annual Report and reference the average quantity of material stored at each location in the inventory required in Part II.B.4.c.ii. Permittees must document in the 5th Year Annual Report how their material stockpiles have been addressed to prevent runoff from discharging to the MS4 or a receiving waterbody.

d) **Street, Road and Parking Lot Sweeping**. Each Permittee with street, road, and/or public parking lot maintenance responsibilities must update their respective sweepings management plans no later than September 30, 2015. Each updated plan must designate all streets, roads, and/or public parking lots which are owned, operated or maintained by that Permittee to fit within one of the following categories for sweeping frequency based on land use, traffic volumes or other factors:

- Residential – Streets and road segments that include, but are not limited to, light traffic zones and residential zones.
- Arterial and all other – Streets and road segments with high traffic volumes serving commercial or industrial districts.
- Public Parking Lots – large lots serving schools and cultural facilities, plazas, sports and event venues or similar facilities.

(i) No later than September 30, 2014, each Permittee with street, road, and/or public parking lot maintenance responsibilities must inventory and map all of their designated streets, roads, and public parking lots for sweeping frequency. The resulting inventory and map must be submitted as part of the 2nd Year Annual Report.

(ii) No later than September 30, 2015, Permittees with street, road, and/or public parking lot maintenance responsibilities must

sweep all streets, roads, and public parking lots that are owned, operated or maintained by that Permittee according to the following schedule:

Table II.B-2

Roadway Type	Sweeping Schedule			
	Two Times Per Month	**Every Six Weeks**	**Four Times Per Year**	**One Time Per Year**
Downtown Areas of Boise and Garden City	**X**			
Arterial and Collector Roadways (non-downtown)		**X**		
Residential Roadways			**X**	
Paved Alleys and Public Parking Lots				**X**

(iii) If a Permittee's existing overall street/road/parking lot sweeping program provides equivalent or greater street sweeping frequency to the requirements above, the Permittee must continue to implement its existing street/road/parking lot sweeping program.

(iv) For areas where sweeping is technically infeasible, the Permittees with street, road, and/or public parking lot maintenance responsibilities must document in the 1st Year Annual Report each area and indicate why sweeping is infeasible. The Permittee must document what alternative sweeping schedule will be used, or how the Permittee will increase implementation of other trash/litter control procedures to minimize pollutant discharges to the MS4 and to receiving waters.

(v) The Permittees with street, road, and/or public parking lot maintenance responsibilities must estimate the effectiveness of their street sweeping activities to minimize pollutant discharges to the MS4 and receiving waters, and document the following in each Annual Report:

- Identify any significant changes to the designated road/street/parking lot inventory and map, and the basis for those changes;
- Report annually on types of sweepers used, swept curb and/or lane miles, dates of sweeping by general location and frequency category, volume or weight of materials removed and a representative sample of the particle size distribution of swept material;
- Report annually on any public outreach efforts or other means to address excess leaves and other material as well as areas that are infeasible to sweep.

e) **Implement appropriate requirements for pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer applications**. Permittees must continue to implement practices to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MS4 associated with the application, storage and disposal of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers from municipal areas and activities. Municipal areas and activities include, at a minimum, municipal facilities, public right-of-ways, parks, recreational facilities, golf courses, and landscaped areas. All employees or contractors of the Permittees applying restricted use pesticides must be registered as certified applicators.

f) **Develop and implement Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans.** No later than September 30, 2015, the Permittees must develop and implement SWPPPs for all Permittee-owned material storage facilities, and maintenance yards located within the Permit area and identified in the inventory required in Parts II.B.3.a and II.B.4.a.viii. Permittee-owned facilities discharging storm water associated with industrial activity as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) must obtain separate NPDES permit coverage as required in Part I.D.4 of this permit.

g) **Storm Water Management.** Each Permittee must ensure that any storm water management projects it undertakes after the effective date of this Permit are designed and implemented to prevent adverse impacts on water quality.

(i) Permittees must evaluate the feasibility of retrofitting existing storm water control devices to provide additional pollutant removal from collected storm water.

(ii) No later than the expiration date of this Permit, Permittees must identify and define all locations where such retrofit project opportunities are feasible, identify appropriate funding sources, and outline project timelines or schedule(s) for retrofit projects designed to better control the discharge of pollutants of concern to the Boise River and its tributaries.

h) **Litter Control.** Throughout the Permit term, each Permittee must continue to implement effective methods to reduce litter within their jurisdiction. Permittees must work with others as appropriate to control litter on a

regular basis and after major public events to reduce the discharge of pollutants to receiving waters.

i) **Training.** The Permittees must provide regular training to appropriate Permittee staff on all operations and maintenance procedures designed to prevent pollutants from entering the MS4 and receiving waters. Appropriate Permittee staff must receive training no later than September 30, 2015, and annually thereafter.

5. Illicit Discharge Management. An illicit discharge is any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of storm water. Exceptions are described in Part I.D. of this permit. The Permittees must continue to implement their illicit discharge management program to reduce to the MEP the unauthorized and illegal discharge of pollutants to the MS4. The program must include:

a) **Ordinance or other regulatory mechanisms.** Upon the effective date of this Permit, the Permittees must effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4 (except those identified in Part 1.D of this permit) through enforcement of relevant ordinances or other regulatory mechanisms. Such ordinances/regulatory mechanisms must be updated prior to the expiration date of this Permit as necessary to provide adequate controls. To be considered adequate, an ordinance or regulatory mechanism must:

(i) Authorize the Permittee to prohibit, at a minimum, the following discharges to the MS4, unless otherwise authorized in Part 1.D:

- Sewage;
- Discharges of wash water resulting from the hosing or cleaning of gas stations, auto repair garages, or other types of automotive services facilities;
- Discharges resulting from the cleaning, repair, or maintenance of any type of equipment, machinery, or facility, including motor vehicles, cement-related equipment, and port-a-potty servicing, etc.;
- Discharges of wash water from mobile operations, such as mobile automobile or truck washing, steam cleaning, power washing, and carpet cleaning, etc.;
- Discharges of wash water from the cleaning or hosing of impervious surfaces in municipal, industrial, commercial, and residential areas - including parking lots, streets, sidewalks, driveways, patios, plazas, work yards and outdoor eating or drinking areas, etc. - where no detergents are used and no spills or leaks of toxic or hazardous materials have occurred (unless all spilled material has been removed);
- Discharges of runoff from material storage areas containing chemicals, fuels, grease, oil, or other hazardous materials;

- Discharges of pool or fountain water containing chlorine, biocides, or other chemicals; discharges of pool or fountain filter backwash water;
- Discharges of sediment, pet waste, vegetation clippings, or other landscape or construction-related wastes; and
- Discharges of food-related wastes (grease, fish processing, and restaurant kitchen mat and trash bin wash water, etc.).

(ii) Prohibit and eliminate illicit connections to the MS4;

(iii) Control the discharge of spills, and prohibit dumping or disposal of materials other than storm water into the MS4.

b) **Illicit Discharge Complaint Reporting and Response Program.** At a minimum, Permittees must respond to reports of illicit discharges from the public in the following manner:

(i) **Complaint/ReportingHotline.** The Permittees must maintain the dedicated telephone number and email address, or other publicly available and accessible means in addition to the website required in Part II.B.6, for use by the public to report illicit discharges. This complaint hotline must be answered by trained staff during normal business hours. During non-business hours, a system must be in place to record incoming calls to the hotline and a system must be in place to guarantee timely response. The telephone number must be printed on appropriate education, training, and public participation materials produced under Part II.B.6, and clearly listed in the local telephone book as appropriate.

(ii) **Response to Complaints/Reports.** The Permittees must respond to all complaints or reports of illicit discharges as soon as possible, but no later than within two working days.

(iii) **Maintain log of complaints/reports received and actions taken.** The Permittees must maintain a record documenting all complaints or reports of illicit discharges and responses taken by the Permittees.

c) **Illicit Discharge Mapping.** No later than September 30, 2014, the Permittees must develop a map of reported and documented illicit discharges or illicit connections to identify priority areas. The map must identify, at a minimum, the location, type and relative quantity or severity of the known, recurrent or ongoing non-storm water discharges to the MS4. This map must be updated annually and used to target the specific outfall locations for that field screening season.

d) **Dry Weather Outfall Screening Program.** Permittees must implement, and update as necessary, a dry weather analytical and field screening monitoring program. This dry weather outfall screening program must emphasize frequent, geographically widespread monitoring to detect illicit discharges and illegal connections, and to reinvestigate potentially

problematic outfalls. At a minimum, the procedures must be based on the following guidelines and criteria:

(i) **Outfall Identification.** The Permittees must update as necessary the storm water outfall identification and screening plan, describing the reconnaissance activities that must be performed and information used to prioritize targeted outfalls and associated land uses.. The plan must discuss how chemical and microbiological analysis will be conducted on any flows identified during dry weather screening, including field screening methodologies and associated trigger thresholds to be used for determining follow-up action.

(ii) **Monitoring Illicit Discharges.** No later than September 30, 2015, dry weather analytical and field screening monitoring must be conducted at least once annually (or more often if the Permittees deem necessary). One third of the outfalls to be screened annually must be conducted within the June 1 and September 30th timeframe.

- Upon the effective date of the Permit, the Permittees must conduct visual dry weather screening of at least 20% of their total outfalls per year.
- The outfalls must be geographically dispersed across the MS4 and must represent all major land uses in the Permit area. In addition, the Permittees must ensure that dry weather screening includes, but is not limited to, screening of 20% outfalls discharging to impaired waters listed in Table II.C.
- When flows during dry weather are identified the Permittees must collect grab samples of the discharge for in-field analysis of the following indicator constituents: pH; total chlorine; detergents as surfactants; total copper; total phenols; *E. coli*; total phosphorus; turbidity; temperature; and suspended solids concentrations (to be measured in mg/L).
- Photos may be used to document conditions.
- Results of field sampling must be compared to established trigger threshold levels and/or existing state water quality standards. If the outfall is dry (no flowing or ponded runoff), the Permittees must make and record all applicable visual observations.
- All dry weather flows previously identified or documented by the Permittees to be associated with irrigation flows or ground water seepage must be sampled to assess pollutant loading associated with such flows. The results must be evaluated to identify feasible actions necessary to eliminate such flows and ensure compliance with Part I.D of this Permit. If field sample

results of such irrigation or groundwater seepage comply with Part I.D of this permit, annual sampling of that dry weather flow at that outfall is no longer required. Permittees must document in the SWMP document the specific location(s) of outfalls associated with these results as well as the Permittee's rationale for the conclusion to discontinue future dry weather screening at that location..

(iii) **Maintain Records of Dry Weather Screening.** The Permittees must keep detailed records of the dry weather screening with the following information at a minimum: time since last rain event; quantity of last rain event; site description (e.g., conveyance type, dominant watershed land uses); flow estimation (e.g., width of water surface, approximate depth of water, approximate flow velocity, flow rate); visual observations (e.g., odor, color, clarity, floatables, deposits/stains, vegetation condition, structural condition, and biology); results of any in field sampling; and recommendations for follow-up actions to address identified problems, and documentation of completed follow-up actions.

e) **Follow-up.** The Permittees must investigate recurring illicit discharges identified as a result of complaints or as a result of dry weather screening inspections and sampling within fifteen (15) days of its detection to determine the source. Permittees must take appropriate action to address the source of the ongoing illicit discharge within 45 days of its detection.

f) **Prevent and Respond to Spills to the MS4.** Throughout the Permit term, the Permittees must coordinate appropriate spill prevention, containment and response activities throughout all appropriate departments, programs and agencies to ensure maximum water quality protection at all times. The Permittees must respond to, contain and clean up all sewage and other spills that may discharge into the MS4 from any source (including private laterals and failing septic systems).

g) **Facilitate Disposal of Used Oil and Toxic Materials.** The Permittees must continue to coordinate with appropriate agencies to ensure the proper management and disposal or recycling of used oil, vehicle fluids, toxic materials, and other household hazardous wastes by their employees and the public. Such a program must include educational activities, public information activities, and establishment of collection sites operated by the Permittees or other entity. The program must be implemented throughout the Permit term.

h) **Training.** No later than September 30, 2014, and annually thereafter, the Permittees must develop and provide training to staff on identifying and eliminating illicit discharges, spill, and illicit connections to the MS4. At a minimum, the Permittee's construction inspectors, maintenance field staff, and code compliance officers must be sufficiently trained to respond to illicit discharges and spills to the MS4.

6. Education, Outreach and Public Involvement.

a) **Comply with Applicable Requirements.** The Permittees must comply with applicable State and local public notice requirements when implementing their SWMP public involvement activities.

b) **Implement an Ongoing Education Outreach and Involvement Program.** The Permittees must conduct, or contract with other entities to conduct, an ongoing joint education, outreach and public involvement program aimed at residents, businesses, industries, elected officials, policy makers, and Permittee planning staff /other employees.

The goal of the education and outreach program is to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to adverse storm water impacts. The goal of the public involvement program is to engage interested stakeholders in the development and implementation of the Permittees' SWMP activities to the extent allowable pursuant to the respective authority granted individual Permittees under Idaho law.

The Permittees' joint education and public involvement program must be designed to improve each target audience's understanding of the selected storm water issues, engage stakeholders, and help target audiences understand what they can do to positively impact water quality by preventing pollutants from entering the MS4.

(i) No later than September 30, 2014, the Permittees must implement or participate in an education, outreach and public involvement program using a variety of methods to target each of the audiences and at least one or more of the topics listed below:

1) General Public

- Watershed characteristics and subwatershed planning efforts as required in Part II.A.4;
- General impacts of storm water flows into surface water;
- Impacts from impervious surfaces;
- Source control best management practices and environmental stewardship, actions and opportunities for pet waste control/disposal, vehicle maintenance, landscaping and vegetative buffers;
- Water wise landscaping, water conservation, water efficiency.

2) General public and businesses, including home based and mobile businesses

- Best management practices for use and storage of automotive chemicals, hazardous cleaning supplies, vehicle wash soaps and other hazardous materials;

- Proper use and application of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers;
- Impacts of illicit discharges and how to report them;
- Water wise landscaping, water conservation, water efficiency.

3) Homeowners, homeowner's associations, landscapers, and property managers
   - Yard care techniques protective of water quality, such as composting;
   - Best management practices for use and storage of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers;
   - Litter and trash control and recycling programs;
   - Best management practices for power washing, carpet cleaning and auto repair and maintenance;
   - Low Impact Development techniques, including site design, pervious paving, retention of mature trees and other vegetation;
   - Storm water treatment and flow/volume control practices;
   - Water wise landscaping, water conservation, water efficiency.
4) Engineers, contractors, developers, review staff, and land use planners
   - Technical standards for storm water site plans;
   - Low Impact Development techniques, including site design, pervious paving, retention of mature trees and other vegetation;
   - Storm water treatment and flow/volume control practices;
   - Water wise landscaping, water conservation, water efficiency.
5) Urban farmers and managers of public and private community gardens
   - Water wise landscaping, water conservation, and water efficiency.

(ii) The Permittees must assess, or participate in an effort to assess understanding and adoption of behaviors by the target audiences.

The resulting assessments must be used to direct storm water education and outreach resources most effectively.

(iii) The Permittees must track and maintain records of public education, outreach and public involvement activities.

c) **Targeted Education and Training.** For the specific topics identified in the Permit sections listed below, the Permittees must develop and implement, or contract with other entities to implement, targeted training programs to educate appropriate Permittee staff or other audiences within their jurisdiction. Where joint, cooperative education efforts to address these topics are not feasible, the individual Permitttee must ensure that the necessary education and training occurs for the following topics:

(i) II.B.1.f - Construction Storm Water Management Training for construction site operators and Permittee staff;

(ii) II.B.2.g – Permanent Storm Water Control Training for project operators and Permittee staff;

(iii) II.B.4.i– Storm Water Infrastructure and Street Management/ Maintenance training for the Permittee staff; and

(iv) II.B.5.h – Illicit Discharge Management Training for Permittee staff.

d) **Storm Water Website.** The Permittees must maintain and promote at least one publicly-accessible website that identifies each Permittee's SWMP activities and seeks to educate the audiences listed in Part II.B.6.b.i. The website(s) must describe and provide relevant information regarding the activities of all Permittees. The website must be updated no later than February 1, 2014, and updated at least quarterly thereafter as new material is available. The website must incorporate the following features:

(i) All reports, plans, or documents generated by each Permittee in compliance with this Permit must be posted on the website in draft form when input from the public is being solicited, and in final form when the document is completed.

(ii) Information and/or links to key sites that provide education, training, licensing, and permitting related to construction and post-construction storm water management controls and requirements for each jurisdiction. The website must include links to all applicable ordinances, policies and/or guidance documents related to the Permittees' construction and post-construction stormwater management control programs.

(iii) Information and/or links to appropriate controls for industrial and commercial activities,

(iv) Information and/or links to assist the public to report illicit connections and illegal dumping activity;

(v) Appropriate Permittee contact information, including phone numbers for relevant staff and telephone hotline, mailing addresses, and electronic mail addresses.

C. Discharges to Water Quality Impaired Receiving Waters.

1. The Permittees must conduct a storm water discharge monitoring program as required in Part IV.
2. For the purposes of this Permit and as listed in Table II.C, the Clean Water Act §303 (d) listed water bodies are those cited in the IDEQ 2010 Integrated Report including, but not limited to the Lower Boise River, and its associated tributaries. "Pollutant(s) of concern" refer to the pollutant(s) identified as causing or contributing to the water quality impairment. Pollutants of concern for the purposes of this Permit are: total phosphorus, sediment, temperature, and *E. coli*.
3. Each Permittees' SWMP documentation must include a description of how the activities of each minimum control measure in Part II.B are implemented by the Permittee to control the discharge of pollutants of concern and ensure that the MS4 discharges will not cause or contribute to an excursion above the applicable Idaho water quality standards. This discussion must specifically identify how the Permittee evaluates and measures the effectiveness of the SWMP to control the pollutants of concern. For those activities identified in Part II.B requiring multiple years to develop and implement, the Permittee must provide interim updates on progress to date. Consistent with Part II.A.1.b, each Permittee must submit this description of the SWMP implementation to EPA and IDEQ as part of the 1st Year Annual Report required in Part IV.C, and must update its description annually in subsequent Annual Reports.

Table II.C

Clean Water Act §303 (d) listed Water Bodies and Pollutants of Concern

Receiving Water Body Assessment Unit/ Description	Pollutants of Concern Causing Impairment
ID17050114SW011a_06 ***Boise River – Diversion Dam to River Mile 50***	Temperature
ID17050114SW005_06 ***Boise River – River Mile 50 to Star Bridge***	Temperature, Sediment, *E. coli.*
ID17050114SW005_06a ***Boise River – Star to Middleton***	Temperature, Sediment, *E. coli.*
ID17050114SW005_06b ***Boise River- Middleton to Indian Creek***	Temperature, Total phosphorus, Sediment, *E. coli.*
ID17050114SW001_06 ***Boise River- Indian Creek to the mouth***	Temperature, Total phosphorus, Sediment, *E. coli.*
ID17050114SW008_03 ***Tenmile Creek - 3rd order below Blacks Creek Reservoir***	Sediment, *E. coli.*
ID17050114SW010_02 ***Fivemile Creek - 1st & 2nd order tributaries***	*E. coli.*
ID17050114SW010_03 ***Fivemile Creek - 3rd order tributaries***	Sediment, *E. coli.*

D. Reviewing and Updating the SWMP.

1. Permittees must annually review their SWMP actions and activities for compliance with this Permit as part of the preparation of the Annual Report required under Part IV.C.2.

2. Permittees may request changes to any SWMP action or activity specified in this Permit in accordance with the following procedures:
   a) Changes to delete or replace an action or activity specifically identified in this Permit with an alternate action or activity may be requested by the Permittees at any time. Modification requests to EPA must include:
      (i) An analysis of why the original action or activity is ineffective, infeasible, or cost prohibitive;
      (ii) Expectations on the effectiveness of the replacement action or activity; and
      (iii) An analysis of why the replacement action or activity is expected to better achieve the Permit requirements.
   b) Change requests must be made in writing and signed by the Permittees in accordance with Part VI.E.
   c) Documentation of any of the actions or activities required by this Permit must be submitted to EPA upon request.
   d) EPA may review Annual Reports or other such documentation and subsequently notify the Permittees that changes to the SWMP actions and activities are necessary to:
      (i) Address discharges from the MS4 that are causing or contributing to water quality impacts;
      (ii) Include more stringent requirements necessary to comply with new federal or state statutory or regulatory requirements; or
      (iii) Include other conditions deemed necessary by EPA to comply with water quality standards, and/or other goals and requirements of the CWA.
   e) If EPA notifies the Permittees that changes are necessary pursuant to Parts II.D.2.a or II.D.2.d, the notification will offer the Permittees an opportunity to propose alternative program changes to meet the objectives of the requested modification. Following this opportunity, the Permittees must implement any required changes according to the schedule set by EPA.

4. Any modifications to this Permit will be accomplished according to Part VI.A of this Permit.

E. Transfer of Ownership, Operational Authority, or Responsibility for SWMP Implementation. The Permittees must implement the actions and activities of the SWMP in all new areas added or transferred to the Permittee's MS4 (or for which a Permittee becomes responsible for implementation of storm water quality controls) as expeditiously as practicable, but not later than one year from the date upon which the new areas were added. Such additions and schedules for implementation must be documented in the next Annual Report following the transfer.

F. SWMP Resources. The Permittees must continue to provide adequate finances, staff, equipment and other support capabilities to implement their SWMP actions and activities outlined in this permit. The Permittees must report on total costs associated with SWMP implementation over the prior 12 month reporting period in each Annual Report. Permittees are encouraged to consider establishing consistent funding sources for continued program implementation.

G. Legal Authority. To the extent allowable pursuant to the respective authority granted individual Permittees under Idaho law, each Permittee must operate to, at a minimum:

- Prohibit and eliminate, through statute, ordinance, policy, permit, contract, court or administrative order or other similar means, the contribution of pollutants to the MS4 by illicit connections and discharges to the MS4. Illicit connections include pipes, drains, open channels, or other conveyances that have the potential to allow an illicit discharge to enter the MS4. Illicit discharges include all non-storm water discharges not otherwise authorized under Part I.D. of this Permit;
- Control through statute, ordinance, policy, permit, contract, court or administrative order, or other similar means, the discharge to the MS4 of spills, dumping or disposal of materials other than storm water;
- Control through interagency agreements among the Permittees the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the MS4 to another portion of the MS4;
- Require compliance with conditions in statutes, ordinances, policy, permits, contracts, or court or administrative orders; and
- Carry out all inspection, surveillance, and monitoring procedures necessary to determine compliance and noncompliance with Permit conditions including the prohibition on illicit discharges to the MS4.

No later than January 30, 2014, each Permittee must review and revise its relevant ordinances or other regulatory mechanisms, (or adopt new ordinances or regulatory mechanisms that provide it with adequate legal authority as allowed and authorized pursuant to applicable Idaho law), to control pollutant discharges into and from its MS4 and to meet the requirements of this permit. As part of the SWMP documentation that accompanies the 1st Year Annual Report, each Permittee must summarize all of its unique legal authorities which satisfy the five criteria listed above.

III. Schedule for Implementation and Required Submissions

The Permittees must complete SWMP actions, and/or submit documentation, to EPA and IDEQ as summarized below. Unless otherwise noted, Annual Reports must include the interim or completed status of required SWMP activities occurring during the corresponding reporting period as specified in Part IV.C.3, and include program summary statistics, copies of interim or final documents, and/or other supporting information.

Table III. Schedule for Implementation and Required Submissions

Permit Part	Item/Action	Due Date
I.C.3	Update intergovernmental agreement no later than July 1, 2013.	Submit updated intergovernmental agreement with the 1st Year Annual Report.
II.A.1.b, II.C.3	SWMP documentation	Submit SWMP documentation with the 1st Year Annual Report. Include updated documentation in each subsequent Annual Report.
II.A.4	Complete two subwatershed planning documents	Identify subwatersheds in 1st Year Annual Report; Submit two completed planning documents with the 4rd Year Annual Report.
II.B.1.a	Update construction runoff control ordinances/ regulatory mechanisms, if necessary	September 30, 2015; submit any updated ordinances etc w/ 3rd Year Annual Report.
II.B.1.b	Update Construction Stormwater Management Manual(s)	September 30, 2015; submit any updated documents with 3rd Year Annual Report.
II.B.1.e	Develop & Implement Enforcement Response Policy (ERP)	September 30, 2016; submit final ERPs w/ 4th Year Annual Report
II.B.2.a	Update ordinance or regulatory mechanism requiring long term onsite stormwater management controls	January 30, 2018; submit ordinance or regulatory mechanism with 5th Year Annual Report.
II.B.2.b	Update Stormwater Design Criteria Manual(s)	September 30, 2015; submit any updated ordinances etc w/ 3rd Year Annual Report
II.B.2.c	Develop & Implement Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development (LID) Incentive Strategy;	September 30, 2015;
II.B.2.c.i	Evaluate Effectiveness of LID Practices via three Pilot Projects;	Submit strategy document, identify 3 pilot projects in the 3rd Year Annual Report.
II.B.2.c.ii, IV.A.10	Identify recommendations for specific LID practices to be adopted within the Permit area	Progress report on strategy implementation/ Pilot Project evaluations w/4rd Year Annual Report. Submit final evaluations & recommendations with the 5th Year Annual Report.
II.B.2.c.iii	Develop Priority Riparian Area List	September 30, 2015; Submit priority area list with the 3rd Year Annual Report.
II.B.2.c.iii	Complete Outfall Disconnection Project	Document progress on outfall disconnection project w/3rd Year Annual Report. Complete outfall disconnection project by January 30, 2018; document completed project in 5th Year Annual Report.

Table III. Schedule for Implementation and Required Submissions, continued

Permit Part	Item/Action	Due Date
II.B.2.c.iv	Consider/install stormwater runoff reduction techniques for streets, roads & parking lot repair work entering design phase after February 1, 2013 where feasible	Document all locations of street/road/parking lot repair projects where runoff reduction techniques were installed w/5th Year Annual Report.
II.B.2.e.i	O&M Database of new permanent stormwater controls; Incorporate all existing controls into database	Include new controls beginning February 1, 2013; Existing controls, no later than January 30, 2018.
II.B.2.f.i	Identify high priority locations; annual inspections	September 30, 2017
II.B.2.f.ii	Develop inspection checklists	September 30, 2017
II.B.2.f.iii	Enforcement Response Policy for SW controls	September 30, 2017
II.B.2.g	Conduct Education/Training on Permanent SW Controls	September 30, 2015; staff training & training for local audiences, September 30, 2016.
II.B.3.a	Inventory Industrial & Commercial facilities/activities	September 30, 2016
II.B.3.a.iii	Identify two specific activities, develop BMPs, and begin compliance assistance education program	September 30, 2016
II.B.3.b	Update Permittee agreements; inspect selected industrial & commercial facilities/activities	September 30, 2016
II.B.3.c	Document industrial & commercial inspection and compliance assistance activities	Annually
II.B.4.a	Update MS4 system inventory & map	No later than January 30, 2018; include w/5th Year Annual Report
II.B.4.b	Inspect of catch basins at least every two years	September 30, 2016
II.B.4.c	Update SOPs for Street & Road Maintenance	September 30, 2015
II.B.4.c.iii	Cover storage facilities for sand/salt storage areas	September 30, 2017; Identify locations in SWMP w/1st year Annual Report; Final documentation w/5th Year Annual Report
II.B.4.d	Update Street/Road/Parking Lot Sweeping Plans	September 30, 2015
II.B.4.d.i	Inventory/map designated areas	September 30, 2014; submit w/2st Year Annual Report
II.B.4.d.ii	Sweep according to schedule	September 30, 2015
II.B.4.d.iv,	Identify infeasible sweeping areas, alternative schedule or other program	Document in 1st Year Annual Report
II.B.4.d.v	Estimate sweeping effectiveness	Document in each Annual Report
II.B.4.f	Develop facility& maintenance yards SWPPPs	September 30, 2015
II.B.4.i	Train Permittee staff	September 30, 2016; annually thereafter
II.B.4.g	Evaluate the feasibility of retrofitting existing control devices	January 30, 2018; submit evaluation with 5th Year Annual Report

Table III. Schedule for Implementation and Required Submissions, continued

Permit Part	Item/Action	Due Date
II.B.5.c	Inventory/Map Illicit Discharge Reports	September 30, 2014, update annually
II.B.5.d.ii, IV.A.11	Conduct dry weather outfall screening; update screening plan; inspect 20% of outfalls per year	September 30, 2015; inspect 20% annual ly
II.B.6.b	Conduct public education & assess understanding to specific audiences	September 30, 2014; ongoing
II.B.6.d	Maintain, Promote, and Update Storm water Website	September 30, 2014, quarterly thereafter
II.C.3, II.A.1.b	Identify how Permittee controls are implemented to reduce discharge of pollutants of concern, measure SWMP effectiveness	Include discussion in SWMP documentation submitted with 1st Year Annual Report
II.E	Implement SWMP in all geographic areas newly added or annexed by Permittee	No later than one year from date new areas are added to Permittee's jurisdiction
II.F	Report SWMP implementation costs for the corresponding 12 month reporting period	Within each Annual Report
II.G	Review & Summarize legal authorities or regulatory mechanisms used by Permittee to implement & enforce SWMP & Permit requirements	No later than January 30, 2014, summarize legal authorities within the required SWMP documentation submitted with 1st Annual Report
IV.A.1	Assess & Document Permit Compliance	Annually; submit with Annual Reports
IV.A.2	Develop & Complete Stormwater Monitoring & Evaluation Plan	September 30, 2014; Submit Completed Plan with 2nd Year Annual Report
IV.A.7.a	Update *Boise NPDES Municipal SW Monitoring Plan*	September 30, 2015
IV.A.7.b	Monitor Five Representative Outfalls During Wet Weather; sample three times per year thereafter	No later than September 30, 2014
IV.A.8	If Applicable: update SW Monitoring & Evaluation Plan to include WQ Monitoring and/or Fish Tissue Sampling	If applicable: Update SW Monitoring & Evaluation Plan by September 30, 2014 to include WQ Monitoring and/or Fish Tissue Sampling; submit with 2nd Year Annual Report
IV.A.9	Evaluate Effectiveness of 2 Structural Control Techniques Currently Required by the Permittees	Begin evaluations no later than September 30, 2015; document in Annual Report(s)
IV.C.1	Submit Stormwater Outfall Discharge Data	2nd Year Annual Report, annually thereafter
IV.C.2	Submit WQ Monitoring or Fish Tissue Sampling Data Report (if applicable)	2nd Year Annual Report, annually thereafter
IV.C.3	Submit Annual Reports	1st Year Annual Report due January 30, 2014; all subsequent Annual Reports are due annually no later than January 30th; See Table IV.C.
VI.B	Submit Permit Renewal Application	No later than 180 days prior to Permit Expiration Date; see cover page. Alternatively, Renewal Application may be submitted as part of the 4th Year Annual Report.

IV. Monitoring, Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements.

A. Monitoring

1. **Assess Permit Compliance.** At least once per year, each Permittee must individually evaluate their respective organization's compliance with these Permit conditions, and progress toward implementing each of the control measures defined in Part II. The compliance evaluation must be documented in each Annual Report required in Part IV.C.2.

2. **Stormwater Monitoring and Evaluation Program Plan and Objectives.** The Permittees must conduct a wet weather monitoring and evaluation program, or contract with another entity to implement such a program. This stormwater monitoring and evaluation program must be designed to characterize the quality of storm water discharges from the MS4, and to evaluate overall effectiveness of selected storm water management practices.

   a) No later than September 30, 2014, the Permittees must develop a stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan that includes the quality assurance requirements, outfall monitoring, in-stream and/or fish tissue monitoring (as appropriate), evaluation of permanent storm water controls and evaluation of LID pilot project effectiveness as described later in this Part. In general, the Permittees must develop and conduct a stormwater monitoring and evaluation program to:

      (i) Broadly estimate reductions in annual pollutant loads of sediment, bacteria, phosphorus and temperature discharged to impaired receiving waters from the MS4s, occurring as a result of the implementation of SWMP activities;

      (ii) Assess the effectiveness and adequacy of the permanent storm water controls and LID techniques or controls selected for evaluation by the Permittees and which are intended to reduce the total volume of storm water discharging from impervious surfaces and/or improve overall pollutant reduction in stormwater discharges; and

      (iii) Identify and prioritize those portions of each Permittee's MS4 where additional controls can be accomplished to further reduce total volume of storm water discharged and/or reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to waters of the U.S.

   b) The final, updated stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan must be submitted to EPA with the 2nd Year Annual Report.

3. **Representative Sampling.** Samples and measurements must be representative of the nature of the monitored discharge or activity**.**

4. **Analytical Methods.** Sample collection, preservation, and analysis must be conducted according to sufficiently sensitive methods/test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136, unless otherwise approved by EPA. Where an approved 40 CFR Part 136 method does not exist, and other test procedures

have not been specified, any available method may be used after approval from EPA**.**

5. **Quality Assurance Requirements.** The Permittees must develop or update a quality assurance plan (QAP) for all analytical monitoring conducted in accordance with this Part. The QAP must be developed concurrently as part of the stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan. The Permittees must submit the QAP as part of the stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan to EPA and IDEQ in the 2nd Year Annual Report. Any existing QAP may be modified for the requirements under this section**.**

   a) The QAP must be designed to assist in the collection and analysis of storm water discharges in support of this Permit and in explaining data anomalies when they occur.

   b) Throughout all sample collection, analysis and evaluation activities, Permittees must use the EPA-approved QA/QC and chain-of-custody procedures described in the most current version of the following documents:

      (i) *EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans EPA-QA/R-5* (EPA/240/B-01/003, March 2001). A copy of this document can be found electronically at: http://www.epa.gov/quality/qs-docs/r5-final.pdf;

      (ii) *Guidance for Quality Assurance Project Plans EPA-QA/G-5*, (EPA/600/R-98/018, February, 1998). A copy of this document can be found electronically at: http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/offices/oea/epaqag5.pdf ;

      (iii) *Urban Storm BMP Performance Monitoring*, (EPA-821-B-02-001, April 2002). A copy of this document can be found electronically at: http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/montcomplete.pdf

      The QAP should be prepared in the format specified in these documents.

   c) At a minimum, the QAP must include the following:

      (i) Organization chart reflecting responsibilities of key Permittee staff;

      (ii) Details on the number of samples, type of sample containers, preservation of samples, holding times, analytical methods, analytical detection and quantitation limits for each target compound, type and number of quality assurance field samples, precision and accuracy requirements, sample representativeness and completeness, sample preparation requirements, sample shipping methods, and laboratory data delivery requirements;

      (iii) Data quality objectives;

(iv) Map(s) and associated documentation reflecting the location of each sampling point and physical description including street address or latitude/longitude;

(v) Qualification and training of personnel;

(vi) Name(s), address(es) and telephone number(s) of the laboratories, used by or proposed to be used by the Permittees;

(vii) Data management;

(viii) Data review, validation and verification; and

(ix) Data reconciliation.

d) The Permittees must amend the QAP whenever there is a modification in sample collection, sample analysis, or other procedure addressed by the QAP. The amended QAP must be submitted to EPA as part of the next Annual Report.

e) Copies of any current QAP must be maintained by the Permittees and made available to EPA and/or IDEQ upon request.

6. **Additional Monitoring by Permittees.** If the Permittees monitor more frequently, or in more locations, than required by this Permit, the results of any such additional monitoring must be included and summarized with other data submitted to EPA and IDEQ as required in Part IV.C.

7. **Storm Water Outfall Monitoring**

a) No later than September 30, 2015, the Permittees must update the existing *Boise NPDES Municipal Storm Water Permit Monitoring Plan* to be consistent with the monitoring and evaluation program objectives and plan as described in Part IV.A.2. At a minimum, the plan must describe five outfall sample locations, and any additional or alternative locations, as defined by the Permittees. The outfalls selected by the Permittees to be monitored must be identified as representative of all major land uses occurring within the Permit area.

b) No later than September 30, 2014, the Permittees must begin monitoring discharges from the identified five storm water outfalls during wet weather events at least three times per year. The specific minimum monitoring requirements are outlined in Table IV.A, but may be augmented based on the Permittees' updated stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan required by Part IV.A.2. The Permittees must include any additional parameters to be sampled in an updated Table IV.A within the final updated stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan submitted to EPA with the 2nd Annual Report.

Table IV.A – Outfall Monitoring Requirements[1, 2]
PARAMETER SAMPLING
Ammonia
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) (mg/l)
Nitrate + Nitrite
Total Phosphorus (mg/l)
Dissolved Orthophosphate (mg/l)
E. coli
Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD5) (mg/l)
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) (mg/l)
Total Suspended Solids (TSS) (mg/l)
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (mg/l)
Dissolved Oxygen
Turbidity (NTU)
Temperature
pH (S.U)
Flow/Discharge, Volume, in cubic feet
Arsenic – Total
Cadmium- Total and Dissolved
Copper – Dissolved
Lead – Total and Dissolved
Mercury – Total
Zinc – Dissolved
Hardness (as CaCO3) (mg/l)

[1] Five or more outfall locations will be identified in the Permittees' updated stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan

[2] A minimum of ***three (3) samples*** must be collected during wet weather storm events in each reporting year, assuming the presence of storm events sufficient to produce a discharge.

8. **Water Quality Monitoring and/or Fish Tissue Sampling**. At the Permittees' option and to augment the storm water discharge data collection required in Part IV.A.7 above, one or more of the Permittees may conduct, or contract with others to conduct, water quality monitoring and/or fish tissue sampling within the Lower Boise River Watershed.

   a) If the Permittees elect to conduct in-stream water quality monitoring and/or fish tissue sampling within the Lower Boise River Watershed, the Permittees must revise the stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan and QAP to describe the monitoring and/or sampling effort(s) per Part IV.A.2 and IV.A.5, no later September 30, 2014.

   b) The documentation of the Permittees' intended in-stream water quality monitoring and/or fish tissue sampling activities must be included in the final updated stormwater monitoring and evaluation plan submitted with the 2nd Year Annual Report as required in Part IV.A.2.b.

   c) The Permittees are encouraged to engage in cooperative efforts with other organizations to collect reliable methylmercury fish tissue data within a specific geographic area of the Lower Boise River Watershed. The objective of the cooperative effort is to determine if fish tissue concentrations of methylmercury in the Lower Boise River are compliant with Idaho's methylmercury fish tissue criterion of 0.3 mg/kg.

      (i) In particular, the Permittees are encouraged to cooperate with other organizations to collect data through implementation of the Methylmercury Fish Tissue Sampling requirements specified in NPDES Permits # ID-002044-3 and ID-002398-1 as issued to the City of Boise. Beginning with the 2nd Year Annual Report, the Permittees' may (individually or collectively) submit documentation in each Annual Report which describes their specific involvement over the prior reporting period, and may reference fish tissue sampling plans and data reports as developed or published by others through the cooperative watershed effort.

9. **Evaluate the Effectiveness of Required Structural Controls**. Within two years of the effective date of this Permit, the Permittees must select and begin to evaluate at least two different types of permanent structural storm water management controls currently mandated by the Permittees at new development or redevelopment sites. For each selected control, this evaluation must determine whether the control is effectively treating or preventing the discharge of one or more of the pollutants of concern into waterbodies listed in Table II.C. The results of this evaluation, and any recommendations for improved treatment performance, must be submitted to EPA in subsequent Annual Reports as the evaluation projects are implemented and completed.

10. **Evaluate the Effectiveness of Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development Pilot Projects.** The Permittees must evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the three pilot projects required in Part II.B.2.c of this Permit, or contract with another entity to conduct such evaluations. An evaluation summary of the LID technique or control and any recommendations

of improved treatment performance must be submitted in subsequent Annual Reports as the evaluation projects are implemented and completed.

11. **Dry Weather Discharge Screening.** The Permittees must implement a dry weather screening program, or contract with another entity to implement such a program, as required in Part II.B.5.d.

B. Recordkeeping

1. **Retention of Records.** The Permittees must retain records and copies of all information (e.g., all monitoring, calibration, and maintenance records; all original strip chart recordings for any continuous monitoring instrumentation; copies of all reports required by this Permit; storm water discharge monitoring reports; a copy of the NPDES permit; and records of all data or information used in the development and implementation of the SWMP and to complete the application for this Permit;) for a period of at least five years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application, or for the term of this Permit, whichever is longer. This period may be extended at the request of the EPA at any time.
2. **Availability of Records.** The Permittees must submit the records referred to in Part IV.B.1 to EPA and IDEQ only when such information is requested. At a minimum, the Permittees must retain all records comprising the SWMP required by this Permit (including a copy of the Permit language and all Annual Reports) in a location and format that are accessible to EPA and IDEQ. The Permittees must make all records described above available to the public if requested to do so in writing. The public must be able to view the records during normal business hours. The Permittees may charge the public a reasonable fee for copying requests**.**

C. Reporting Requirements

1. **Storm Water Discharge Monitoring Report.** Beginning with the 2nd Year Annual Report, and in subsequent Annual Reports, all storm water discharge monitoring data collected to date must be submitted as part of the Annual Report. At a minimum, this Storm Water Discharge Monitoring Report must include:
   a) Dates of sample collection and analyses;
   b) Results of sample analyses;
   c) Location of sample collection. and
   d) Summary discussion and interpretation of the data collected, including a discussion of quality assurance issues and comparison to previously collected information, as appropriate.
2. **Water Quality Monitoring and/or Fish Tissue Sampling Report(s).** If the Permittees elect to conduct water quality monitoring and/or fish tissue sampling as specified in Part IV.A.8, all relevant monitoring data collected to date must

be submitted as part of each Annual Report beginning with the 2nd Year Annual Report. Summary data reports as prepared by other organizations with whom the Permittee(s) cooperate may be submitted to fulfill this requirement. At a minimum, this Water Quality Monitoring and/or Fish Tissue Sampling Report must include:

a) Dates of sample collection and analyses;

b) Results of sample analyses;

c) Locations of sample collection; and

d) Summary discussion and interpretation of the data collected, including discussion of quality assurance issues and comparison to previously collected information, as appropriate.

3. **Annual Report.**

a) No later than January 30th of each year beginning in 2014, and annually thereafter, each Permittee must submit an Annual Report to EPA and IDEQ. The reporting period for the 1st Year Annual Report will be from February 1, 2013, through September 30, 2013. Reporting periods for subsequent Annual Reports are specified in Table IV.C. Copies of all Annual Reports, including each Permittee's SWMP documentation, must be available to the public, through a Permittee-maintained website, and/or through other easily accessible means.

Table IV.C - Annual Report Deadlines

Annual Report	Reporting Period	Due Date
1st Year Annual Report	February 1, 2013–September 30, 2013	January 30, 2014
2nd Year Annual Report	October 1, 2013-September 30, 2014	January 30, 2015
3rd Year Annual Report	October 1, 2014-September 30, 2015	January 30, 2016
4th Year Annual Report	October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016	January 30, 2017
5th Year Annual Report	October 1, 2016-December 31, 2017	January 30, 2018

b) Preparation and submittal of the Annual Reports must be coordinated by Ada County Highway District. Each Permittee is responsible for content of their organization's SWMP documentation and Annual Report(s) relating to SWMP implementation for portions of the MS4s for which they are responsible.

c) The following information must be submitted in each Annual Report:

(i) A updated and current document describing the SWMP as implemented by the specific Permittee, in accordance with Part II.A.1.b;

(ii) A narrative assessment of the Permittee's compliance with this Permit, describing the status of implementing the control measures in Parts II and IV. The status of each control measure must be addressed, even if activity has previously been completed, has not yet been implemented, does not apply to the Permittee's jurisdiction or operation, or is conducted on the Permittee's behalf by another entity;

(iii) Discussion of any information collected and analyzed during the reporting period, including but not limited to storm water monitoring data not included with the Storm Water Discharge Monitoring Report; dry weather monitoring results; Green Infrastructure/LID pilot project evaluation results, structural control evaluation results, and any other information collected or used by the Permittee(s) to assess the success of the SWMP controls at improving receiving water quality to the maximum extent practicable;

(iv) A summary of the number and nature of public education programs; the number and nature of complaints received by the Permittee(s), and follow-up actions taken; and the number and nature of inspections, formal enforcement actions, or other similar activities as performed by the Permittee(s) during the reporting period;

(v) Electronic copies of new or updated education materials, ordinances (or other regulatory mechanisms), inventories, guidance materials, or other products produced as required by this Permit during the reporting period;

(vi) A description and schedule of the Permittee's implementation of additional controls or practices deemed necessary by the Permittee, based on monitoring or other information, to ensure compliance with applicable water quality standards;

(vii) Notice if the Permittee is relying on another entity to satisfy any of the Permit obligations, if applicable; and

(viii) Annual expenditures for the reporting period, and estimated budget for the reporting period following each Annual Report.

d) If, after the effective date of this Permit, EPA provides the Permittees with an alternative Annual Report format, the Permittees may use the alternative format in lieu of the required elements of Part IV.C.3.c.

D. Addresses

Reports and other documents required by this Permit must be signed in accordance with Part VI.E and submitted to each of the following addresses:

IDEQ: Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Boise Regional Office
Attn: Water Program Manager
1410 North Hilton
Boise, ID 83854

EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency
Attention: Storm Water MS4 Compliance Program
NPDES Compliance Unit
1200 6th Avenue, Suite 900 (OCE-133)
Seattle, WA 98101

Any documents and/or submittals requiring formal EPA approval must also be submitted to the following address:

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Attention: Storm Water MS4 Permit Program
NPDES Permits Unit
1200 6th Avenue, Suite 900 (OWW-130)
Seattle, WA 98101

V. Compliance Responsibilities.

A. Duty to Comply. The Permittees must comply with all conditions of this Permit. Any Permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Act and is grounds for enforcement action, for Permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification, or for denial of a Permit renewal application.

B. Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions

1. Civil and Administrative Penalties. Pursuant to 40 CFR Part 19 and the Act, any person who violates Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of the Act, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under sections 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the Act, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(d) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. § 2461) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. § 3701) (currently $37,500 per day for each violation).

2. Administrative Penalties. Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the Administrator for violating Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of this Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of this Act. Pursuant to 40 CFR Part 19

and the Act, administrative penalties for Class I violations are not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. § 2461) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. § 3701) (currently $16,000 per violation, with the maximum amount of any Class I penalty assessed not to exceed $37,500). Pursuant to 40 CFR Part 19 and the Act, penalties for Class II violations are not to exceed the maximum amounts authorized by Section 309(g)(2)(B) of the Act and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act (28 U.S.C. § 2461) as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act (31 U.S.C. § 3701) (currently $16,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount of any Class II penalty not to exceed $177,500).

3. Criminal Penalties

a) **Negligent Violations**. The Act provides that any person who negligently violates Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Act, or any condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under Section 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the Act, is subject to criminal penalties of $2,500 to $25,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than $50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than two years, or both.

b) **Knowing Violations**. Any person who knowingly violates such sections, or such conditions or limitations is subject to criminal penalties of $5,000 to $50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than three years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than $100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than six years, or both.

c) **Knowing Endangerment**. Any person who knowingly violates Section 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of the Act, and who knows at that time that he thereby places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than $250,000 or imprisonment of not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than $500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in Section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the Act, shall, upon conviction of violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than $1,000,000 and can be fined up to $2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions.

d) **False Statements.** The Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this Permit shall, upon conviction, be

punished by a fine of not more than $10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment is a fine of not more than $20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than four years, or both. The Act further provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this Permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or non-compliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than $10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than six months per violation, or by both.

C. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity not a Defense. It shall not be a defense for the Permittees in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with this Permit.

D. Duty to Mitigate. The Permittees must take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or disposal in violation of this Permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment**.**

E. Proper Operation and Maintenance. The Permittees must at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Permittees to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by the Permittees only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the Permit.

F. Toxic Pollutants. The Permittees must comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Act for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions, even if the Permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.

G. Planned Changes. The Permittee(s) must give notice to the Director and IDEQ as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility whenever:

1. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source as determined in 40 CFR §122.29(b); or

2. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants that are not subject to effluent limitations in the Permit.

H. Anticipated Noncompliance. The Permittee(s) must give advance notice to the Director and IDEQ of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity that may result in noncompliance with this Permit.

I. Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting

1. The Permittee(s) must report the following occurrences of noncompliance by telephone within 24 hours from the time the Permittee(s) becomes aware of the circumstances:

a) any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment;

b) any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit (See Part IV.F., "Bypass of Treatment Facilities");

c) any upset that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit (See Part IV.G., "Upset Conditions"); or

d) any overflow prior to the stormwater treatment facility over which the Permittee(s) has ownership or has operational control. An overflow is any spill, release or diversion of municipal sewage including:

(1) an overflow that results in a discharge to waters of the United States; and

(2) an overflow of wastewater, including a wastewater backup into a building (other than a backup caused solely by a blockage or other malfunction in a privately owned sewer or building lateral) that does not reach waters of the United States.

2. The Permittee(s) must also provide a written submission within five days of the time that the Permittee(s) becomes aware of any event required to be reported under subpart 1 above. The written submission must contain:

a) a description of the noncompliance and its cause;

b) the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times;

c) the estimated time noncompliance is expected to continue if it has not been corrected; and

d) steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.

e) if the noncompliance involves an overflow, the written submission must contain:

(1) The location of the overflow;

(2) The receiving water (if there is one);

(3) An estimate of the volume of the overflow;

(4) A description of the sewer system component from which the release occurred (e.g., manhole, constructed overflow pipe, crack in pipe);

(5) The estimated date and time when the overflow began and stopped or will be stopped;

(6) The cause or suspected cause of the overflow;

(7) Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the overflow and a schedule of major milestones for those steps;

(8) An estimate of the number of persons who came into contact with wastewater from the overflow; and

(9) Steps taken or planned to mitigate the impact(s) of the overflow and a schedule of major milestones for those steps.

3. The Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours by the NPDES Compliance Hotline in Seattle, Washington, by telephone, (206) 553-1846.

4. Reports must be submitted to the addresses in Part IV.D ("Addresses").

J. Bypass of Treatment Facilities

1. Bypass not exceeding limitations. The Permittee(s) may allow any bypass to occur that does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Part.

2. Notice.

a) **Anticipated bypass**. If the Permittee(s) knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it must submit prior written notice, if possible at least 10 days before the date of the bypass.

b) **Unanticipated bypass.** The Permittee(s) must submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required under Part III.G ("Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting").

3. Prohibition of bypass.

a) Bypass is prohibited, and the Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement may take enforcement action against the Permittee(s) for a bypass, unless:

(1) The bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;

(2) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass that occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and

(3) The Permittee(s) submitted notices as required under paragraph 2 of this Part.

b) The Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Director determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in paragraph 3.a. of this Part.

K. Upset Conditions

1. Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the Permittee(s) meets the requirements of paragraph 2 of this Part. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.

2. Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. To establish the affirmative defense of upset, the Permittee(s) must demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:

a) An upset occurred and that the Permittee(s) can identify the cause(s) of the upset;

b) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;

c) The Permittee(s) submitted notice of the upset as required under Part V.I, "*Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting;*" and

d) The Permittee(s) complied with any remedial measures required under Part V.D, "*Duty to Mitigate.*"

3. Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding, the Permittee(s) seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

VI. General Provisions

A. Permit Actions.

1. This Permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause as specified in 40 CFR **§§** 122.62, 122.64, or 124.5. The filing of a request by the Permittee(s) for a Permit modification, revocation and reissuance, termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any Permit condition.

2. Permit coverage may be terminated, in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR §§122.64 and 124.5, for a single Permittee without terminating coverage for the other Permittees subject to this Permit.

B. Duty to Reapply. If the Permittees intend to continue an activity regulated by this Permit after the expiration date of this Permit, the Permittees must apply for and obtain a

new permit. In accordance with 40 CFR §122.21(d), and unless permission for the application to be submitted at a later date has been granted by the Director, the Permittees must submit a new application at least 180 days before the expiration date of this Permit, or alternatively in conjunction with the 4th Year Annual Report. The reapplication package must contain the information required by 40 CFR §122.21(f), which includes: name and mailing address(es) of the Permittees(s) that operate the MS4(s), and names and titles of the primary administrative and technical contacts for the municipal Permittees(s). In addition, the Permittees must identify any previously unidentified water bodies that receive discharges from the MS4(s); a summary of any known water quality impacts on the newly identified receiving waters; a description of any changes to the number of applicants; and any changes or modifications to the Storm Water Management Program as implemented by the Permittees. The re-application package may incorporate by reference the 4th Year Annual Report when the reapplication requirements have been addressed within that report.

C. Duty to Provide Information. The Permittees must furnish to the Director and IDEQ, within the time specified in the request, any information that the Director or IDEQ may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Permit, or to determine compliance with this Permit. The Permittees must also furnish to the Director or IDEQ, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this Permit.

D. Other Information. When the Permittees become aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a Permit application, or that it submitted incorrect information in a Permit application or any report to the Director or IDEQ, the Permittees must promptly submit the omitted facts or corrected information.

E. Signatory Requirements. All applications, reports or information submitted to the Director and IDEQ must be signed and certified as follows.

1. All Permit applications must be signed as follows:
   a) For a corporation: by a responsible corporate officer.
   b) For a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
   c) For a municipality, state, federal, or other public agency: by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.

2. All reports required by the Permit and other information requested by the Director or the IDEQ must be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
   a) The authorization is made in writing by a person described above;
   b) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or

position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the organization; and

c) The written authorization is submitted to the Director and IDEQ.

3. **Changes to Authorization.** If an authorization under Part VI.E.2 is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Part VI.E.2 must be submitted to the Director and IDEQ prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.

4. **Certification.** Any person signing a document under this Part must make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

F. Availability of Reports. In accordance with 40 CFR Part 2, information submitted to EPA pursuant to this Permit may be claimed as confidential by the Permittees. In accordance with the Act, permit applications, permits and effluent data are not considered confidential. Any confidentiality claim must be asserted at the time of submission by stamping the words “confidential business information” on each page containing such information. If no claim is made at the time of submission, EPA may make the information available to the public without further notice to the Permittees. If a claim is asserted, the information will be treated in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR Part 2, Subpart B (Public Information) and 41 Fed. Reg. 36902 through 36924 (September 1, 1976), as amended.

G. Inspection and Entry. The Permittees must allow the Director, IDEQ, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the Director), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

1. Enter upon the Permittees' premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;

2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;

3. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and

4. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring Permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

H. Property Rights. The issuance of this Permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, nor any infringement of state or local laws or regulations.

I. Transfers. This Permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the Director. The Director may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the Permit to change the name of the Permittees and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Act. (See 40 CFR 122.61; in some cases, modification or revocation and reissuance is mandatory.)

J. State/Tribal Environmental Laws

1. Nothing in this Permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Permittees from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable State/Tribal law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 510 of the Act**.**
2. No condition of this Permit releases the Permittees from any responsibility or requirements under other environmental statutes or regulations.

K. Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability Nothing in this Permit shall be constructed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Permittees from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the Permittees is or may be subject under Section 311 of the CWA or Section 106 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA).

L. Severability The provisions of this Permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this Permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to the circumstances, and the remainder of this Permit shall not be affected thereby.

VII. Definitions and Acronyms

All definitions contained in Section 502 of the Act and 40 CFR Part 122 apply to this Permit and are incorporated herein by reference. For convenience, simplified explanations of some regulatory/statutory definitions have been provided but, in the event of a conflict, the definition found in the statute or regulation takes precedence.

“Administrator” means the Administrator of the EPA, or an authorized representative.

“Animal facility” see “commercial animal facility.”

“Annual Report” means the periodic self –assessment submitted by the Permittee(s) to document incremental progress towards meeting the storm water management requirements and implementation schedules as required by this Permit. See Part IV.C.

"Best Management Practices (BMPs)" means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the United States. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage. See 40 CFR § 122.2. BMP refers to operational activities, physical controls or educational measures that are applied to reduce the discharge of pollutants and minimize potential impacts upon receiving waters, and accordingly, refers to both structural and nonstructural practices that have direct impacts on the release, transport, or discharge of pollutants. See also "storm water control measure (SCM)."

"Bioretention" is the water quality and water quantity storm water management practice using the chemical, biological and physical properties of plants, microbes and soils for the removal of pollution from storm water runoff.

"Canopy Interception**"** is the interception of precipitation, by leaves and branches of trees and vegetation that does not reach the soil.

"CGP" and "Construction General Permit" means the current available version of EPA's *NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges for Construction Activities in Idaho*, Permit No. IDR12-0000. EPA's CGP is posted on EPA's website at *www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/cgp*.

"Commercial Animal Facility" as used in this Permit, means a business that boards, breeds, or grooms animals including but not limited to dogs, cats, rabbits or horses.

"Common Plan of Development**"** is a contiguous construction project or projects where multiple separate and distinct construction activities may be taking place at different times on different schedules but under one plan. The "plan" is broadly defined as any announcement or piece of documentation or physical demarcation indicating construction activities may occur on a specific plot; included in this definition are most subdivisions and industrial parks.

"Construction activity" includes, but is not limited to, clearing, grading, excavation, and other site preparation work related to the construction of residential buildings and non-residential buildings, and heavy construction (e.g., highways, streets, bridges, tunnels, pipelines, transmission lines and industrial non-building structures).

"Control Measure" as used in this Permit, refers to any action, activity, Best Management Practice or other method used to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants in stormwater to waters of the United States.

"CWA" or "The Act" means the Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) Pub.L. 92-500, as amended by Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. 96-483 and Pub. L. 97-117, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.

"Director" means the Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator, the EPA Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds, or an authorized representative.

"Discharge" when used without a qualifier, refers to "discharge of a pollutant" as defined at 40 CFR §122.2.

"Discharge of a pollutant" means (a) any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source," or (b) any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. This definition includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channelled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works. This term does not include an addition of pollutants by any "indirect discharger."

"Discharge of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity" as used in this Permit, refers to a discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff from areas where soil disturbing activities (*e.g.*, clearing, grading, or excavation), construction materials or equipment storage or maintenance (*e.g.*, fill piles, borrow areas, concrete truck washout, fueling) or other industrial storm water directly related to the construction process are located, and which are required to be managed under an NPDES permit. See the regulatory definitions of storm water discharge associated with large and small construction activity at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14)(x) and 40 CFR §122.26(b)(15), respectively

"Discharge of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activity" as used in this Permit, refers to the discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying storm water and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant included in the regulatory definition of storm water discharge associated with industrial activity at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14).

"Discharge-related Activities" include: activities which cause, contribute to, or result in storm water point source pollutant discharges and measures to control storm water discharges, including the siting, construction, and operation of best management practices to control, reduce or prevent storm water pollution.

"Disconnect" for the purposes of this permit, means the change from a direct discharge into receiving waters to one in which the discharged water flows across a vegetated surface, through a constructed water or wetlands feature, through a vegetated swale, or other attenuation or infiltration device before reaching the receiving water.

"Engineered Infiltration" is an underground device or system designed to accept storm water and slowly exfiltrates it into the underlying soil. This device or system is designed based on soil tests that define the infiltration rate.

"Erosion" means the process of carrying away soil particles by the action of water.

"Evaporation" means rainfall that is changed or converted into a vapor.

"Evapotranspiration" means the sum of evaporation and transpiration of water from the earth's surface to the atmosphere. It includes evaporation of liquid or solid water plus the transpiration from plants.

"Extended Filtration" is a structural storm water device which filters storm water runoff through a soil media and collects it in an underdrain which slowly releases it after the storm is over.

"EPA" means the Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator, the EPA Director of the Office of Water and Watersheds, or an authorized representative.

"Entity" means a governmental body, or a public or private organization.

"Existing Permanent Controls," in the context of this Permit, means post- construction or permanent storm water management controls designed to treat or control runoff on a permanent basis and that were installed prior to the effective date of this Permit.

"Facility or Activity" generally means any NPDES "point source" or any other facility or activity (including land or appurtenances thereto) that is subject to regulation under the NPDES program.

"Fish Tissue Sampling" see "Methylmercury Fish Tissue Sampling"

"Green infrastructure" means runoff management approaches and technologies that utilize, enhance and/or mimic the natural hydrologic cycle processes of infiltration, evapotranspiration and reuse.

"Hydromodification" means changes to the storm water runoff characteristics of a watershed caused by changes in land use.

"IDEQ" means the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality or its authorized representative.

"Illicit Connection" means any man-made conveyance connecting an illicit discharge directly to a municipal separate storm sewer.

"Illicit Discharge" is defined at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(2) and means any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not entirely composed of storm water, except discharges authorized under an NPDES permit (other than the NPDES Permit for discharges from the MS4) and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities.

"Impaired Water**"** (or "Water Quality Impaired Water") for purposes of this Permit means any water body identified by the State of Idaho or EPA pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act as not meeting applicable State water quality standards. Impaired waters include both waters with approved or established Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and those for which a TMDL has not yet been approved or established.

"Industrial Activity" as used in this Permit refers to the eleven categories of industrial activities included in the definition of discharges of "storm water associated with industrial activity" at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14).

"Industrial Storm Water" as used in this Permit refers to storm water runoff associated with the definition of "discharges of storm water associated with industrial activity".

"Infiltration" is the process by which storm water penetrates into soil.

"Low Impact Development" or "LID" means storm water management and land development techniques, controls and strategies applied at the parcel and subdivision scale that emphasize conservation and use of on-site natural features integrated with engineered, small scale hydrologic controls to more closely mimic pre-development hydrologic functions.

"Major outfall" is defined in 40 CFR §122.26(b)(5) and in general, means a municipal storm sewer outfall that discharges from a single pipe with an inside diameter of 36 inches or more.

"MEP" or "maximum extent practicable," means the technology-based discharge standard for municipal separate storm sewer systems to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges that was established by Section 402(p) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C §1342(p).

"Measurable Goal" means a quantitative measure of progress in implementing a component of a storm water management program.

"Methylmercury Fish Tissue Sampling" and "Methylmercury Fish Tissue Sampling Requirements" means the IDEQ-recommended cooperative data collection effort for the Lower Boise River Watershed. In particular, Methylmercury Fish Tissue Sampling requirements are otherwise specified in NPDES Permits # ID-002044-3 and ID-002398-1, as issued by EPA to the City of Boise and available online at http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/water.nsf/NPDES+Permits/Current+ID1319

"Minimize" means to reduce and/or eliminate to the extent achievable using control measures (including best management practices) that are technologically available and economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry or municipal practices.

"MS4" means "municipal separate storm sewer system," and is used to refer to either a Large, Medium, or Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b). The term, as used within the context of this Permit, refers to those portions of the municipal separate storm sewer systems within the corporate limits of the City of Boise and City of Garden City that are owned and/or operated by the Permittees, namely: Ada County Highway District, Boise State University, City of Boise, City of Garden City, Drainage District #3 and/or the Idaho Transportation Department District #3.

"Municipality" means a city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body created by or under State law and having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, or other wastes, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the CWA.

"Municipal Separate Storm Sewer" is defined in 40 CFR §122.26(b) and means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains): (i) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to

State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under Section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States; (ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water; (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; and (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR §122.2.

"National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System" or "NPDES" means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under Sections 307, 402, 318 and 405 of the CWA. The term includes an 'approved program.'

"New Permanent Controls," in the context of this Permit, means post- construction or permanent storm water management controls designed to treat or control runoff on a permanent basis that are installed after the effective date of this permit.

"Outfall" is defined at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(9) means a point source (see definition below) at the point where a municipal separate storm sewer discharges to waters of the United States, and does not include open conveyances connecting two municipal separate storm sewers or pipes, tunnels, or other conveyances which connect segments of the same stream or other waters of the United States and are used to convey waters of the United States.

"Owner or operator" means the owner or operator of any "facility or activity" subject to regulation under the NPDES program.

"Permanent storm water management controls" see "post-construction storm water management controls."

"Permitting Authority" means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

"Point Source" is defined at 40 CFR §122.2 and means any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural storm water runoff.

"Pollutant" is defined at 40 CFR §122.2. A partial listing from this definition includes: dredged spoil, solid waste, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, chemical wastes, biological materials, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, and industrial or municipal waste.

"Pollutant(s) of concern" includes any pollutant identified by IDEQ as a cause of impairment of any water body that will receive a discharge from a MS4 authorized under this Permit. See Table II.C.

"Post- construction storm water management controls" or "permanent storm water management controls" means those controls designed to treat or control runoff on a permanent basis once construction is complete. See also "new permanent controls" and "existing permanent controls."

"QA/QC" means quality assurance/quality control.

"QAP" means Quality Assurance Plan.

"Rainfall and Rainwater Harvesting**"** is the collection, conveyance, and storage of rainwater. The scope, method, technologies, system complexity, purpose, and end uses vary from rain barrels for garden irrigation in urban areas, to large-scale collection of rainwater for all domestic uses.

"Redevelopment" for the purposes of this Permit, means the alteration, renewal or restoration of any developed land or property that results in land disturbance of 5,000 square feet or more, and that has one of the following characteristics: land that currently has an existing structure, such as buildings or houses; or land that is currently covered with an impervious surface, such as a parking lot or roof; or land that is currently degraded and is covered with sand, gravel, stones, or other non-vegetative covering.

"Regional Administrator" means the Regional Administrator of Region 10 of the EPA, or the authorized representative of the Regional Administrator.

"Repair of Public Streets, Roads and Parking Lots" means repair work on Permittee-owned or Permittee-managed streets and parking lots that involves land disturbance, including asphalt removal or regrading of 5,000 square feet or more. This definition excludes the following activities: pot hole and square cut patching; overlaying existing asphalt or concrete pacing with asphalt or concrete without expanding the area of coverage; shoulder grading; reshaping or regrading drainage ditches; crack or chip sealing; and vegetative maintenance.

"Runoff Reduction Techniques" means the collective assortment of storm water practices that reduce the volume of storm water from discharging off site.

"Storm Sewershed" means, for the purposes of this Permit, all the land area that is drained by a network of municipal separate storm sewer system conveyances to a single point of discharge into a water of the United States.

"Significant contributors of pollutants" means any discharge that causes or could cause or contribute to a violation of surface water quality standards.

"Small Construction Activity" – is defined at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(15) and incorporated here by reference. A small construction activity includes clearing, grading, and excavating resulting in a land disturbance that will disturb equal to or greater than one (1) acre and less than five (5) acres of land or will disturb less than one (1) acre of total land area but is part of a larger common plan of development or sale that will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one (1) acre and less than five (5) acres. Small construction activity does not include routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the site.
"Snow management" means the plowing, relocation and collection of snow.

"Soil amendments" are components added to in situ or native soils to increase the spacing between soil particles so that the soil can absorb and hold more moisture. The amendment of soils changes

various other physical, chemical and biological characteristics so that the soils become more effective in maintaining water quality.

"Source control" storm water management means practices that control storm water *before* pollutants have been introduced into storm water

"Storm event" or "measurable storm event" for the purposes of this Permit means a precipitation event that results in an actual discharge from the outfall and which follows the preceding measurable storm event by at least 48 hours (2 days).

"Storm water" and "storm water runoff" as used in this Permit means storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage, and is defined at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(13). "Storm water" means that portion of precipitation that does not naturally percolate into the ground or evaporate, but flows via overland flow, interflow, channels, or pipes into a defined surface water channel or a constructed infiltration facility.

"Storm Water Control Measure" (SCM) or "storm water control device," means physical, structural, and/or managerial measures that, when used singly or in combination, reduce the downstream quality and quantity impacts of storm water. Also, SCM means a permit condition used in place of or in conjunction with effluent limitations to prevent or control the discharge of pollutants. This may include a schedule of activities, prohibition of practices, maintenance procedures, or other management practices. SCMs may include, but are not limited to, treatment requirements; operating procedures; practices to control plant site runoff, spillage, leaks, sludge, or waste disposal; or drainage from raw material storage. See "best management practices (BMPs)."

"Storm Water Facility" means a constructed component of a storm water drainage system, designed or constructed to perform a particular function or multiple functions. Storm water facilities include, but are not limited to, pipes, swales, ditches, culverts, street gutters, detention basins, retention basins, constructed wetlands, infiltration devices, catch basins, oil/water separators, sediment basins, and modular pavement.

"Storm Water Management Practice**"** or "Storm Water Management Control" means practices that manage storm water, including structural and vegetative components of a storm water system.

"Storm Water Management Project" means a project that takes into account the effects on the water quality of the receiving waters and whether a structural storm water control device can be retrofitted to control water quality.

"Storm Water Management Program (SWMP)" refers to a comprehensive program to manage the quality of storm water discharged from the municipal separate storm sewer system. For the purposes of this Permit, the SWMP consists of the actions and activities conducted by the Permittees as required by this Permit and described in the Permittees' SWMP documentation. A "SWMP document" is the written summary describing the unique and/or cooperative means by which an individual Permittee or entity implements the specific storm water management controls Permittee within their jurisdiction.

"Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)" means a site specific plan designed to describe the control of soil, raw materials, or other substances to prevent pollutants in storm water runoff; a SWPPP is generally developed for a construction site, or an industrial facility. For the purposes of this permit, a SWPPP means a written document that identifies potential sources of pollution, describes practices to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the site, and identifies procedures or controls that the operator will implement to reduce impacts to water quality and comply with applicable Permit requirements.

"Structural flood control device" means a device designed and installed for the purpose of storm drainage during storm events.

"Subwatershed" for the purposes of this Permit means a smaller geographic section of a larger watershed unit with a drainage area between 2 to 15 square miles and whose boundaries include all the land area draining to a point where two second order streams combine to form a third order stream. A subwatershed may be located entirely within the same political jurisdiction.

"TMDL" means Total Maximum Daily Load, an analysis of pollutant loading to a body of water detailing the sum of the individual waste load allocations for point sources and load allocations for non-point sources and natural background. See 40 CFR §130.2.

"Treatment control" storm water management means practices that 'treat' storm water after pollutants have been incorporated into the storm water.

"Urban Agriculture" and "Urban Agricultural Activities" means the growing, processing, and distribution of food and other products through intensive plant cultivation and animal husbandry in and around cities. For the purposes of this Permit, the term includes activities allowed and/or acknowledged by the Permittees through a local comprehensive plan ordinance, or other regulatory mechanism. For example, see: *Blueprint Boise* online at *http://www.cityofboise.org/BluePrintBoise/pdf/Blueprint%20Boise/0_Blueprint_All.pdf*, and/or *City of Boise Urban Agriculture ordinance amendment, ZOA11-00006.*

"Waters of the United States," as defined in 40 CFR 122.2, means:

1. All waters which are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide;

2. All interstate waters, including interstate "wetlands";

3. All other waters such as interstate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds the use, degradation, or destruction of which would affect or could affect interstate or foreign commerce including any such waters:

a. Which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes;
b. From which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or

c. Which are used or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce;

4. All impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States under this definition;

5. Tributaries of waters identified in paragraphs 1 through 4 of this definition;

6. The territorial sea; and

7. Wetlands adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in paragraphs 1 through 6 of this definition.

Waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of the CWA (other than cooling ponds for steam electric generation stations per 40 CFR Part 423) which also meet the criteria of this definition are not waters of the United States. Waters of the United States do not include prior converted cropland. Notwithstanding the determination of an area's status as prior converted cropland by any other federal agency, for the purposes of the Clean Water Act, the final authority regarding Clean Water Act jurisdiction remains with EPA.

“Watershed” is defined as all the land area that is drained by a waterbody and its tributaries.

“Wetlands” means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

Exhibit 4

Washington, D.C. – District of Columbia MS4 Permit (Permit No. DC0000221)

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PERMIT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM

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1. DISCHARGES AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS PERMIT

1.1 Permit Area

This permit covers all areas within the jurisdictional boundary of the District of Columbia served by, or otherwise contributing to discharges from, the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) owned or operated by the District of Columbia. This permit also covers all areas served by or contributing to discharges from MS4s owned or operated by other entities within the jurisdictional boundaries of the District of Columbia unless those areas have separate NPDES MS4 permit coverage or are specifically excluded herein from authorization under the District's stormwater program. Hereinafter these areas collectively are referred to as "MS4 Permit Area".

1.2 Authorized Discharges

This permit authorizes all stormwater point source discharges to waters of the United States from the District of Columbia's MS4 that comply with the requirements of this permit. This permit also authorizes the discharge of stormwater commingled with flows contributed by process wastewater, non-process wastewater, or stormwater associated with industrial activity provided such discharges are authorized under separate NPDES permits.

This permit authorizes the following non-stormwater discharges to the MS4 when appropriate stormwater activities and controls required through this permit have been applied and which are: (1) discharges resulting from clear water flows, roof drainage, dechlorinated water line flushing, landscape irrigation, ornamental fountains, diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, uncontaminated ground water infiltration to separate storm sewers, uncontaminated pumped ground water, discharges from potable water sources, foundation drains, air conditioning condensation, irrigation waters, springs, footing drains, lawn watering, individual resident car washing, flows from riparian habitats and wetlands, dechlorinated swimming pool discharges, wash water, fire fighting activities, and similar types of activities; and (2) which are managed so that water quality is not further impaired and that the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*, and EPA regulations are met.

1.3 Limitations to Coverage

1.3.1 Non-stormwater Discharges

The permittee, as defined herein, shall effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the MS4, except to the extent such discharges are regulated with an NPDES permit.

1.3.2 Waivers and Exemptions

This permit does not authorize the discharge of any pollutant from the MS4 which arises from or is based on any existing waivers and exemptions that may otherwise apply and are not consistent with the Federal Clean Water Act and other pertinent guidance, policies, and regulations. This narrative prohibition on the applicability of such waivers and exemptions extends to any activity that would otherwise be authorized under District law, regulations or

ordinance but which impedes the reduction or control of pollutants through the use of stormwater control measures and/or prevents compliance with the narrative /numeric effluent limits of this permit. Any such discharge not otherwise authorized may constitute a violation of this permit.

1.4 Discharge Limitations

The permittee must manage, implement and enforce a stormwater management program (SWMP) in accordance with the Clean Water Act and corresponding stormwater NPDES regulations, 40 C.F.R. Part 122, to meet the following requirements:

1.4.1. Effectively prohibit pollutants in stormwater discharges or other unauthorized discharges into the MS4 as necessary to comply with existing District of Columbia Water Quality Standards (DCWQS);

1.4.2. Attain applicable wasteload allocations (WLAs) for each established or approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for each receiving water body, consistent with 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B)(iii); 40 C.F.R. § 122.44(k)(2) and (3); and

1.4.3. Comply with all other provisions and requirements contained in this permit, and in plans and schedules developed in fulfillment of this permit.

Compliance with the provisions contained in Parts 2 through 8 of this permit, including milestones and final dates for attainment of applicable WLAs, shall constitute adequate progress toward compliance with DCWQS and WLAs for this permit term.

2. LEGAL AUTHORITY, RESOURCES AND STORMWATER PROGRAM ADMINSTRATION

2.1 Legal Authority

2.1.1 The permittee shall use its existing legal authority to control discharges to and from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System in order to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to achieve water quality objectives, including but not limited to applicable water quality standards. To the extent deficiencies can be addressed through regulation or other Executive Branch action, the permittee shall remedy such deficiencies within 120 days. Deficiencies that can only be addressed through legislative action shall be remedied within 2 years of the effective date of this permit, except where otherwise stipulated, in accordance with the District's legislative process. Any changes to or deficiencies in the legal authority shall be explained in each Annual Report.

2.1.2 No later than 18 months following the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall update and implement Chapter 5 of Title 21 of District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (Water Quality and Pollution) ("updated DC Stormwater Regulations"), to address the control of stormwater throughout the MS4 Permit Area. Such regulations shall be consistent with this

permit, and shall be at least as protective of water quality as the federal Clean Water Act and its implementing regulations require.

2.1.3 The permittee shall ensure that the above legal authority in no way restricts its ability to enter into inter-jurisdictional agreements with other District agencies and/or other jurisdictions affected through this permit.

2.1.4 Review and revise, where applicable, building, health, road and transportation, and other codes and regulations to remove barriers to, and facilitate the implementation of the following standards: (1) standards resulting from issuance of District stormwater regulations required by Section 2.1, paragraph 1 herein; and (2) performance standards required by this permit.

2.2 Fiscal Resources

The permittee, including all agencies and departments of the District as specified in section 2.3 below, shall provide adequate finances, staff, equipment and support capabilities to implement the existing Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) and the provisions of this permit. For the core program the permittee shall provide a dedicated funding source. Each annual report under Part 6 of this permit shall include a demonstration of adequate fiscal capacity to meet the requirements of this permit.

2.3 Stormwater Management Program Administration/Permittee Responsibilities

2.3.1 The Government of the District of Columbia is the permittee, and all activities of all agencies, departments, offices and authorities of the District must comply with the requirements of this permit. The permittee has designated the District Department of the Environment (DDOE) as the agency responsible for managing the MS4 Stormwater Management Program and all activities necessary to comply with the requirements of this permit and the Comprehensive Stormwater Management Enhancement Amendment Act of 2008 by coordinating and facilitating a collaborative effort among other city agencies and departments including but not limited to departments designated as "Stormwater Agencies" by the Comprehensive Stormwater Management Enhancement Amendment Act of 2008:

District Department of Transportation (DDOT);
Department of Public Works (DPW);
Office of Planning (OP);
Office of Public Education Facilities Modernization (OPEFM);
Department of Real Estate Services (DRES);
Department of Parks and Recreation; and
DC Water and Sewer Authority (also known as and hereinafter referred to as DC Water).

Each named entity is responsible for complying with those elements of the permit within its jurisdictional scope and authorities.

2.3.2 DDOE shall coordinate, and all agencies, offices, departments and authorities shall implement provisions of the existing MS4 Task Force Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated 2000, updated matrix of responsibilities (January 2008), and any subsequent updates; the MOU between DDOE and DC Water (2012) and any subsequent updates; and other institutional agreements to coordinate compliance activities among agency partners to implement the provisions of this permit. DDOE's major responsibilities under these MOUs and institutional agreements shall include:

1. Convening regular meetings and communication with MS4 Task Force agencies and other committees established to implement this permit to budget, assign and implement projects, and monitor, inspect and enforce all activities required by the MS4 permit.

2. Providing technical and administrative support for the MS4 Task Force and other committees established to implement this permit

3. Evaluating, assessing, and synthesizing results of the monitoring and assessment programs and the effectiveness of the implementation of management practices and coordinating necessary adjustments to the stormwater management program in order to ensure compliance.

4. Coordinating the completion and submission of all deliverables required by the MS4 Permit.

5. Projecting revenue needs to meet MS4 Permit requirements, overseeing the District's stormwater fees to fulfill revenue needs, and coordinating with DC Water to ensure the District's stormwater fee is collected.

6. Making available to the public and other interested and affected parties, the opportunity to comment on the MS4 stormwater management program.

2.3.3 Within 180 days of permit issuance, the permittee shall complete an assessment of additional governmental agencies and departments, non-governmental organizations, watershed groups or other community organizations in the District and adjacent states to partner with to administer required elements of the permit. Intra- and inter-agency agreements between relevant governmental and nongovernmental organizations shall be established to ensure successful coordination and implementation of stormwater management activities in accordance with the requirements of this permit. Additional government and nongovernmental organizations and programs to consider include; land use planning, brownfields redevelopment, fire department, building and safety, public health, parks and recreation, and federal departments and agencies, including but not limited to, the National Park Service, Department of Agriculture, Department of Defense, and General Services Administration, responsible for facilities in the District.

3. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (SWMP) PLAN

The permittee shall continue to implement, assess and upgrade all of the controls,

procedures and management practices, described in this permit, and in the SWMP dated February 19, 2009, and any subsequent updates. This Program has been determined to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. The Stormwater Management Program is comprised of all requirements in this permit. All existing and new strategies, elements, initiatives, schedules or programs required by this permit must be documented in the SWMP Plan, which shall be the consolidated document of all stormwater program elements. Updates to the plan shall be consistent with all compliance deadlines in this permit. A current plan shall be posted on the permittee's website at an easily accessible location at all times.

New Stormwater Management Program strategies, elements, initiatives and plans required to be submitted to EPA for review and approval are included in Table 1.

TABLE 1
Elements Requiring EPA Review and/or Approval

Element	**Submittal Date (from effective date of this permit)**
Anacostia River Watershed Trash Reduction Calculation Methodology (4.10)	1 year
Catch Basin Operation and Maintenance Plan (4.3.5.1)	18 months
Outfall Repair Schedule (4.3.5.3)	18 months
Off-site Mitigation/Payment-in-Lieu Program (4.1.3)	18 months
Retrofit Program (4.1.5)	2 years
Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan (4.10.3)	2 years
Revised Monitoring Program (5.1)	2 years
Revised Stormwater Management Program Plan (3)	4 years

No later than 3 years from the issuance date of this permit the permittee shall public notice a fully updated Plan including all of the elements required in this permit. No later than 4 years from the issuance date of this permit the permittee shall submit to EPA the fully updated plan for review and approval, as part of the application for permit renewal.

The measures required herein are terms of this permit. These permit requirements do not prohibit the use of 319(h) funds for other related activities that go beyond the requirements of this permit, nor do they prohibit other sources of funding and/or other programs where legal or contractual requirements preclude direct use for stormwater permitting activities.

TABLE 2
Legal Authority for Selected Required Program Stormwater Elements

Required Program Application Element	**Regulatory References**
Adequate Legal Authority	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(I)(C)-(F)

Green technology stormwater management practices, which incorporate technologies and practices across District activities.	Chapter 5 of Title 21 of District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (Water Quality and Pollution)
Existing Structural and Source Controls	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(1)
Roadways	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3)
Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizers Application	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6)
Municipal Waste Sites	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(5)
Spill Prevention and Response	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(4)
Infiltration of Seepage	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(7)
Stormwater Management Program for Commercial and Residential Areas	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)
Manage Critical Source Areas	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(iii)(B)(6)
Stormwater Management for Industrial Facilities	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C)
Industrial and High Risk Runoff	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C), (iv)(A)(5)
Identify Priority Industrial Facilities	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C)(1)
Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1)-(5), (iv)(B)(7)
Flood Control Projects	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(4)
Public Education and Participation	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6), (iv)(B)(5), (iv)(B)(6)

Monitoring and Assessment and Reporting	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(v)
Monitoring Program	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2), (iii), iv(A), (iv)(C)(2)
Characterization Data	40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(B)-(D), 40 C.F.R. § 122.21(g)(7)
Reporting	40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF STORMWATER CONTROL MEASURES

4.1 Standard for Long-Term Stormwater Management

The permittee shall continue to develop, implement, and enforce a program in accordance with this permit and the permittee's updated SWMP Plan that integrates stormwater management practices at the site, neighborhood and watershed levels that shall be designed to mimic pre-development site hydrology through the use of on-site stormwater retention measures (e.g., harvest and use, infiltration and evapotranspiration), through policies, regulations, ordinances and incentive programs

4.1.1 Standard for Stormwater Discharges from Development

No later than 18 months following issuance of this permit, the permittee shall, through its Updated DC Stormwater Regulations or other permitting or regulatory mechanisms, implement one or more enforceable mechanism(s) that will adopt and implement the following performance standard for all projects undertaking development that disturbs land greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet:

Require the design, construction and maintenance of stormwater controls to achieve on-site retention of 1.2" of stormwater from a 24-hour storm with a 72-hour antecedent dry period through evapotranspiration, infiltration and/or stormwater harvesting and use for all development greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet.

The permittee may allow a portion of the 1.2" volume to be compensated for in a program consistent with the terms and requirements of Part 4.1.3.

4.1.2 Code and Policy Consistency, Site Plan Review, Verification and Tracking

By the end of this permit term the permittee must review and revise, as applicable, stormwater, building, health, road and transportation, and other codes and regulations to remove barriers to, and facilitate the implementation of the retention performance standard required in

Section 4.1.1. The permittee must also establish/update and maintain a formal process for site plan reviews and a post-construction verification process (e.g., inspections, submittal of as-builts) to ensure that standards are appropriately implemented. The permittee must also track the on-site retention performance of each project subject to this regulatory requirement.

4.1.3 Off-Site Mitigation and/or Fee-in Lieu for all Facilities

Within 18 months of the effective date of this permit the permittee shall develop, public notice, and submit to EPA for review and comment an off-site mitigation and/or fee-in-lieu program to be utilized when projects will not meet stormwater management performance standard as defined in Section 4.1.1. The permittee has the option of implementing an off-site mitigation program, a fee-in-lieu program, or both. Any allowance for adjustments to the retention standard shall be defined in the permittee's regulations. The program shall include at a minimum:

1. Establishment of baseline requirements for on-site retention and for mitigation projects. On-site volume plus off-site volume (or fee-in-lieu equivalent or other relevant credits) must equal no less than the relevant volume in Section 4.1.1;
2. Specific criteria for determining when compliance with the performance standard requirement for on-site retention cannot technically be met based on physical site constraints, or a rationale for why this is not necessary;
3. For a fee-in-lieu program, establishment of a system or process to assign monetary values at least equivalent to the cost of implementation of controls to account for the difference in the performance standard, and the alternative reduced value calculated; and
4. The necessary tracking and accounting systems to implement this section, including policies and mechanisms to ensure and verify that the required stormwater practices on the original site and appropriate required off-site practices stay in place and are adequately maintained.

The program may also include incentives for achieving other important environmental objectives such as ongoing measurable carbon sequestration, energy savings, air quality reductions in green house gases, or other environmental benefits for which the program can develop methods for quantifying and documenting those outcomes. Controls implemented to achieve those outcomes are subject to the same level of site plan review, inspection, and operation and maintenance requirements as stormwater controls.

District-owned transportation right-of-way projects are subject to a similarly stringent process for determining an alternate performance volume, but for the duration of this permit term need not conduct off-site mitigation or pay into a fee-in-lieu program to compensate for the difference.

4.1.4 Green Landscaping Incentives Program

No later than one year following permit issuance, the permittee shall develop an incentive program to increase the quantity and quality of planted areas in the District while allowing flexibility for developers and designers to meet development standards. The Incentive Program

shall use such methods as a scoring system to encourage green technology practices such as larger plants, permeable paving, green roofs, vegetated walls, preservation of existing trees, and layering of vegetation along streets and other areas visible to the public.

4.1.5 Retrofit Program for Existing Discharges

4.1.5.1 Within two years of the effective date of this permit the permittee shall develop, public notice, and submit to EPA for review and approval a program that establishes performance metrics for retrofit projects. The permittee shall fully implement the program upon EPA approval. The starting point for the performance metrics shall be the standard in Section 4.1.1. Performance metrics may be established generally for all retrofit projects, or for categories of projects, e.g., roads, sidewalks, parking lots, campuses. Specific site conditions may constitute justifications for setting a performance standard at something less than the standard in Section 4.1.1, and a similar calculator or algorithm process may be used in conjunction with a specific site analysis.

4.1.5.2 The permittee, with facilitation assistance from EPA Region III, will also work with major Federal landholders, such as the General Services Administration and the Department of Defense, with the objective of identifying retrofit opportunities, documenting federal commitments, and tracking pollutant reductions from relevant federal actions.

4.1.5.3 For each retrofit project estimate the potential pollutant load and volume reductions achieved through the DC Retrofit program by major waterbody (Rock Creek, Potomac, Anacostia) for the following pollutants: Bacteria (E. coli), Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, Total Suspended Solids, Cadmium, Copper, Lead, Zinc, and Trash. These estimates shall be included in the annual report following implementation of the project.

4.1.5.4 The DC Retrofit Program shall implement retrofits for stormwater discharges from a minimum of 18,000,000 square feet of impervious surfaces during the permit term. A minimum of 1,500,000 square feet of this objective must be in transportation rights-of-way.

4.1.5.5 No later than 18 months following issuance of this permit, the permittee shall, through its Updated DC Stormwater Regulations or other permitting or regulatory mechanisms, implement an enforceable mechanism that will adopt and implement stormwater retention requirements for properties where less than 5,000 square feet of soil is being disturbed but where the buildings or structures have a footprint that is greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet and are undergoing substantial improvement. Substantial improvement, as consistent with District regulations at 12J DCMR § 202, is any repair, alteration, addition, or improvement of a building or structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the improvement or repair is started. The characteristics of these types of projects may constitute justifications for setting a performance standard at something less than the standard in Section 4.1.1.

4.1.5.6 The permittee shall ensure that every major renovation/rehabilitation project for District-owned properties within the inventory of DRES and OPEFM (e.g., schools and school administration buildings) includes on-site stormwater retention measures, including but not

limited to green roofs, stormwater harvest/reuse, and/or other practices that can achieve the retention performance standard.

4.1.6 Tree Canopy

4.1.6.1 No later than one year following issuance of this permit, the permittee shall develop and public notice a strategy to reduce the discharge of stormwater pollutants by expanding tree canopy throughout the city. The strategy shall identify locations throughout the District where tree plantings and expanded tree boxes are technically feasible and commit to specific schedules for implementation at locations throughout the District, with highest priority given to projects that offer the greatest stormwater retention potential. The strategy shall also include the necessary elements to achieve the requirements of Section 4.1.6.2.

4.1.6.2 The permittee shall achieve a minimum net annual tree planting rate of 4,150 plantings annually within the District MS4 area, with the objective of a District-wide urban tree canopy coverage of 40% by 2035. The annual total tree planting shall be calculated as a net increase, such that annual mortality is also included in the estimate. The permittee shall ensure that trees are planted and maintained, including requirements for adequately designed and sized tree boxes, to achieve optimal stormwater retention and tree survival rate. Trees shall be planted in accordance with the Planting Specifications issued by the International Society of Arboriculture as appropriate to the site conditions.

4.1.6.3 The permittee shall annually document the total trees planted and make an annual estimate of the volume of stormwater that is being removed from the MS4 (and combined system, as relevant) in a typical year of rainfall as a result of the maturing tree canopy over the life of the MS4 permit. Also report annually on the status of achieving 40% canopy District-wide.

4.1.7 Green Roof Projects

4.1.7.1 Complete a structural assessment of all District properties maintained by DRES and slated for redevelopment to determine current roof conditions and the feasibility for green roof installation. These assessments shall be performed on an ongoing basis for all properties as they are considered for redevelopment. Based on the structural assessment and other factors, identify all District-owned properties where green roof projects are technically feasible and commit to specific schedules for implementing these projects. Highest priority shall be given to projects that offer the greatest stormwater capture potential.

4.1.7.2 The permittee shall install at a minimum 350,000 square feet of green roofs on District properties during the term of the permit (including schools and school administration buildings).

4.1.7.3 Document the square footage of green roof coverage in the District, whether publicly or privately owned, report any incentive programs implemented during the permit term, and estimate the volume of stormwater that is being removed from the MS4 (and combined

system, as relevant) in a typical year of rainfall as a result of the combined total green roof facilities in the District.

4.2 Operation and Maintenance of Stormwater Capture Practices

4.2.1 District Owned and Operated Practices.

Within two years of the effective date of this permit, develop and implement operation and maintenance protocols and guidance for District-owned and operated on-site retention practices (development and retrofits) to include maintenance needs, inspection frequencies, estimated maintenance frequencies, and a tracking system to document relevant information. Provide training to all relevant municipal employees and contractors, with regular refreshers, as necessary.

4.2.2 Non-District Owned and Operated Practices.

In conjunction with updating of relevant ordinances and policies, develop accountability mechanisms to ensure maintenance of stormwater control measures on non-District property. Those mechanisms may include combinations of deed restrictions, ordinances, maintenance agreements, or other policies deemed appropriate by the permittee. The permittee must also include a long-term verification process of O&M, which may include municipal inspections, 3rd party inspections, owner/operator certification on a frequency deemed appropriate by the permittee, and/or other mechanisms. The permittee must continue to maintain an electronic inventory of practices on private property to include this information.

4.2.3 Stormwater Management Guidebook and Training

4.2.3.1 No later than 18 months from the permit issuance date, the permittee shall finalize a Stormwater Management Guidebook to be available for wide-spread use by land use planners and developers. The Stormwater Management Guidebook shall provide regular updates, as applicable, in a format that facilitates such regular updates, and shall include objectives and specifications for integration of stormwater management technologies, including on site retention practices, in the areas of:

a. Site Assessment.
b. Site Planning and Layout.
c. Vegetative Protection, Revegetation, and Maintenance.
d. Techniques to Minimize Land Disturbance.
e. Techniques to Implement Measures at Various Scales.
f. Integrated Water Resources Management Practices.
g. Designing to meet the required performance standard(s).
h. Flow Modeling Guidance.
i. Hydrologic Analysis.
j. Construction Considerations.
k. Operation and Maintenance

4.2.3.2 The permittee shall continue to provide key industry, regulatory, and other stakeholders with information regarding objectives and specifications of green infrastructure practices contained in the Stormwater Management Guidebook through a training program. The Stormwater Management training program will include at a minimum the following:

a. Stormwater management/green technology practices targeted sessions and materials for builders, design professionals, regulators, resource agencies, and stakeholders.
b. Materials and data from stormwater management/green technology practices pilot projects and demonstration projects including case studies.
c. Design and construction methods for integration of stormwater management/green technology practices measures at various project scales.
d. Guidance on performance and cost of various types of stormwater management/green technology practices measures in the District.

4.3 Management of for District Government Areas

Procedures to reduce the discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff shall include, but not be limited to:

4.3.1 Sanitary Sewage System Maintenance Overflow and Spill Prevention Response

The permittee shall implement an effective response protocol for overflows of the sanitary sewer system into the MS4. The response protocol shall clearly identify agencies responsible and telephone numbers and e-mail for any contact and shall contain at a minimum, procedures for:

1. Investigating any complaints received within 24 hours of the incident report.
2. Responding within two hours to overflows for containment.
3. Notifying appropriate sewer and public health agencies within 24 hours when the sanitary sewer overflows to the MS4.
4. Notifying the public in a timely and effective manner when SSO discharges to the MS4 may adversely affect public health.

This provision in no way authorizes sanitary sewer overflow discharges either directly or via the MS4.

4.3.2 Public Construction Activities Management

The permittee shall implement and comply with the Development and Redevelopment and the Construction requirements in Part 4.6 of this permit at all permittee-owned or operated public construction projects.

The permittee shall obtain discharge authorization under the applicable EPA Construction General permit for construction activities and comply with provisions therein.

4.3.3 Vehicle Maintenance/Material Storage Facilities/ Municipal Operations.

The permittee shall implement stormwater pollution prevention measures at all permittee-owned, leased facilities and job sites including but not limited to vehicle/ equipment maintenance facilities, and material storage facilities.

For vehicle and equipment wash areas and municipal facilities constructed, redeveloped, or replaced, the permittee shall eliminate discharges of wash waters from vehicle and equipment washing into the MS4 by implementing any of the following measures at existing facilities with vehicle or equipment wash areas:

1. Self-contain, and haul off-site for disposal;
2. Equip with a clarifier; or
3. Equip with an alternative pre-treatment device.

4.3.4 Landscape and Recreational Facilities Management, Pesticide, Herbicide, Fertilizer and Landscape Irrigation

4.3.4.1 The permittee shall further reduce pollutants and pollutant discharges associated with the storage and application of pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, the use of other toxic substances and landscape irrigation according to an integrated pest management program (IPM). The IPM shall be an ecosystem based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, use of resistant varieties, and use of low or no chemical and irrigation input landscapes, in accordance with the provisions of this permit, procedures and practices described in the SWMP and regulations.

The permittee shall further utilize IPM controls to reduce pollutants related to the storage and application of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers applied by employees or contractors, to public rights-of-way, parks, and other District property to ensure that:

a. Pesticides are used only if monitoring indicates they are needed according to established guidelines;

b. Fertilizers are used only when soil tests indicate that they are necessary, and only in minimum amounts and for needed purposes (e.g., seed germination).

c. Treatments are made with the purpose of removing only the target organism;

d. Pest controls are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, beneficial, non-target organisms, and the environment;

e. No pesticides or fertilizers are applied to an area immediately prior to an expected rain event, or during or immediately following a rain event, or when water is flowing off the area;

f. No banned or unregistered pesticides are stored or applied;

g. All staff applying pesticides are certified or are under the direct supervision of a pesticide applicator certified in the appropriate category;

h. Procedures are implemented to encourage the retention and planting of native and/or non-invasive, naturalized vegetation to reduce water, pesticide and fertilizer needs;

i. Pesticides and fertilizers are stored indoors or under cover on paved surfaces or enclosed in secondary containment and storage areas inspected regularly to reduce the potential for spills; and

j. Landscapes that maximize on-site retention of stormwater, while minimizing mowing, chemical inputs and irrigation are given preference for all new landscape installation.

4.3.4.2 The permittee shall coordinate internally among departments for the purpose of ensuring that pesticide and fertilizer use within its jurisdiction does not threaten water quality.

4.3.4.3 The permittee shall partner with other organizations to ensure that pesticide and fertilizer use within their jurisdiction does not threaten water quality.

4.3.4.4 The permittee shall continue to conduct education and outreach, as well as provide incentives, to curtail the use of turf-grass fertilizers for the purpose of reducing nitrogen and phosphorous discharges to surface waters. The program shall incentivize the use of vegetative landscapes other than turf grass and other measures to restrict the use of turf grass fertilizers.

4.3.4.5 The permittee shall use GIS layers of public land and sewersheds, as well as background data, to identify priority areas for a targeted strategy to reduce the sources of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers that contaminate the stormwater runoff, and report progress toward completing the screening characterization in the next Updated SWMP.

4.3.4.6 The permittee shall include in each Annual Report a report on the implementation of the above application procedures, a history of the improvements in the control of these materials, and an explanation on how these procedures will meet the requirements of this permit.

4.3.5 Storm Drain System Operation and Management and Solids and Floatables Reduction

4.3.5.1 Within 18 months of the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall complete, public notice and submit to EPA for review and approval a plan for optimal catch basin inspections, cleaning and repairs. The permittee shall fully implement the plan upon EPA approval.

4.3.5.2 Until such time as the catch basin maintenance study has been completed and approved, the permittee shall ensure that each catch basin within the DC MS4 Permit Area is cleaned at least once annually during the life of the permit. The permittee shall continue to use strategies for coordinated catch basin cleaning and street-sweeping that will optimize reduction of stormwater pollutants.

4.3.5.3 Within 18 months of the effective date of this permit, and consistent with the 2006 Outfall Survey, the permittee shall complete, public notice and submit to EPA for review and approval an outfall repair schedule to ensure that approximately 10% of all outfalls needing repair are repaired annually, with the overall objective of having all outfalls in good repair by 2022. This schedule may be combined with the catch basin maintenance study outlined in 4.3.5.1. The repair schedule shall be fully implemented upon EPA approval.

4.3.5.4 The permittee shall comply with the Anacostia River Trash TMDL implementation provisions in Part 4.10 of this permit and apply the technologies and other activities developed in the Anacostia River Watershed Trash TMDL throughout the entire MS4 Permit Area. The permittee shall continue to report the progress of trash reduction in the Consolidated Annual Report.

4.3.6 Streets, Alleys and Roadways

4.3.6.1 Street sweeping shall be conducted on no less than 641 acres of roadway in the MS4 area annually in accordance with the following schedule:

TABLE 3
Street Sweeping

Area/Street Classification	Frequency
Arterials-heavily developed commercial and central business districts with considerable vehicular and pedestrian traffic	At least nine (9) times per year
Industrial areas	At least six (6) times per year
Residential-residential areas with limited throughway and pedestrian traffic AND neighborhood streets which are used for local purposes only	At least four (4) times per year
Central Business District/Commercial-neighborhood business districts and main streets with moderate vehicular and pedestrian traffic	At least one (1) time every two weeks

Environmental hot spots in the Anacostia River Watershed	At least two (2) times per month March through October

4.3.6.2 Standard road repair practices shall include limiting the amount of soil disturbance to the immediate area under repair. Stormwater conveyances which are denuded shall be resodded, reseeded and mulched, or otherwise stabilized for rapid revegetation, and these areas should have effective erosion control until stabilized.

4.3.6.3 The permittee shall continue to evaluate and update the use, application and removal of anti-icers, chemical deicers, salt, sand, and/or sand/deicer mixtures in an effort to minimize the impact of these materials on water quality. The permittee shall investigate and implement techniques available for reducing pollution from deicing salts in snowmelt runoff and runoff from salt storage facilities. The permittee shall evaluate and implement the use of porous/permeable surfaces that require less use of deicing materials and activities. This evaluation shall be made a part of an overall investigation of ways to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act and reported in each Annual Report.

4.3.6.4 The permittee shall continue to implement and update a program to ensure that excessive quantities of snow and ice control materials do not enter the District's water bodies. The permittee shall report its progress in implementing the program in each Annual Report. Except during a declared Snow Emergency when the permittee determines that the foremost concern of snow removal activities is public health and safety, it shall avoid snow dumping or storage in areas adjacent to water bodies, wetlands, and areas near public or private drinking water wells which would ultimately reenter the MS4.

4.3.7 Infrastructure Maintenance/Pollution Source Control Maintenance

The permittee shall continue to implement an operation and maintenance program that incorporates good housekeeping components at all municipal facilities located in the DC MS4 Permit Area, including but not limited to; municipal waste water treatment facility, potable drinking water facility, municipal fleet operations, maintenance garages, parks and recreation, street and infrastructure maintenance, and grounds maintenance operations, libraries and schools. The permittee shall document the program in the Annual Report, as required at Section 6.2 herein. The permittee shall, at a minimum:

1. Continue to implement maintenance standards at all municipal facilities that will protect the physical, chemical and biological integrity of receiving waters.

2. Continue to implement an inspection schedule in which to perform inspections to determine if maintenance standards are being met. Inspections shall be performed no less than once per calendar year and shall provide guidance in Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan development and implementation, where needed.

3. Continue to implement procedures for record keeping and tracking inspections and maintenance at all municipal facilities.

4. Continue to implement an inspection and maintenance program for all permittee-owned management practices, including post-construction measures.

5. Continue to ensure proper operation of all treatment management practices and maintain them as necessary for proper operation, including all post-construction measures.

6. Ensure that any residual water following infrastructure maintenance shall be self-contained and disposed of legally in accordance with the Clean Water Act.

4.3.8 Public Industrial Activities Management/Municipal and Hazardous Facilities

For any municipal activity associated with industrial activity, as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.26, which discharges stormwater to, from and through the DC MS4, the permittee shall obtain separate coverage under either: (1) the EPA Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP) (As modified May 27, 2009); or (2) an individual permit.

4.3.9 Emergency Procedures

The permittee may conduct repairs of essential public service systems and infrastructure in emergency situations. An emergency includes only those situations included as conditions necessary for demonstration of an upset at 40 C.F.R. 122.41(n). For each claimed emergency, the permittee shall submit to the Permitting Authority a statement of the occurrence of the emergency, an explanation of the circumstances, and the measures that were implemented to reduce the threat to water quality, no later than required by applicable Clean Water Act regulations.

4.3.10 Municipal Official Training

The permittee shall continue to implement an on-going training program for those employees specified below, and any other employees whose job functions may impact stormwater program implementation. The training program shall address the importance of protecting water quality, the requirements of this permit, design, performance, operation and maintenance standards, inspection procedures, selecting appropriate management practices, ways to perform their job activities to prevent or minimize impacts to receiving waters, and procedures for tracking, inspecting and reporting, including potential illicit discharges. The permittee shall provide follow-up and refresher training at a minimum of once every twelve months, and shall include any changes in procedures, techniques or requirements.

The training program shall include, but is not limited to, those employees who work in the following areas:

1. Municipal Planning
2. Site plan review
3. Design
4. Construction
5. Transportation planning and engineering
6. Street/sewer and right-of-way construction and maintenance
7. Water and sewer departments
8. Parks and recreation department
9. Municipal water treatment and waste water treatment
10. Fleet maintenance
11. Fire and police departments
12. Building maintenance and janitorial
13. Garage and mechanic crew
14. Contractors and subcontractors who may be contracted to work in the above described
15. areas
16. Personnel responsible for answering questions about the permittee's stormwater program,
17. including persons who may take phone calls about the program
18. Any other department of the permittee that may impact stormwater runoff

4.4 Management of Commercial and Institutional Areas

The permittee shall establish and implement policies and procedures to reduce the discharge of pollutants in stormwater runoff from all commercial and institutional (including federal) areas covered by this permit.

The permittee shall ensure maintenance of all stormwater management controls in commercial and institutional land areas in accordance with the following provisions:

1. Tracking all controls;
2. Inspecting all controls on a regular basis, according to an inspection schedule;
3. Ensure compliance with the MS4 permit and municipal ordinances at commercial and institutional facilities.

4.4.1 Inventory of Critical Sources and Source Controls

4.4.1.1 The permittee shall continue to maintain a watershed-based inventory or database of all facilities within its jurisdiction that are critical sources of stormwater pollution. Critical sources to be tracked shall include the following:

a. Automotive service facilities, *e.g.*, service, fueling and salvage facilities;
b. Industrial activities, as defined at 40 C.F.R. §§ 122.26(b)(14); and
c. Construction sites exceeding one acre, or sites under one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development.
d. Dry cleaners

e. Any other facility the permittee has identified as a Critical Source

4.4.1.2 The permittee shall include the following minimum fields of information for each industrial and commercial facility identified as a critical source:

a. Name of facility and name of owner/ operator;
b. Address of facility;
c. Size of facility; and
d. Activities conducted at the facility that could impact stormwater.
e. Practices and/or measures to control pollutants.
f. Inspection and maintenance schedules, dates and findings.

4.4.1.3 The permittee shall update its inventory of critical sources at least annually. The update may be accomplished through collection of new information obtained through field activities or through other readily available inter and intra-agency informational databases (*e.g.*, business licenses, pretreatment permits, sanitary sewer hook-up permits, and similar information).

4.4.2 Inspection of Critical Sources

The permittee shall continue to inspect all commercial facilities identified in Part 4.4.1. herein and any others found to be critical sources twice during the five-year term of the permit. A minimum interval of six months between the first and the second mandatory compliance inspection is required, unless a follow-up inspection to ensure compliance must occur sooner.

4.4.3 Compliance Assurance.

At each facility identified as a critical source, the permittee's inspector(s) shall verify that the operator is implementing a control strategy necessary to protect water quality. Where the permittee determines that existing measures are not adequate to protect water quality, the permittee shall require additional site-specific controls sufficient to protect water quality.

4.5 <u>Management of Industrial Facilities and Spill Prevention</u>

4.5.1 The permittee shall continue to implement a program to monitor and control pollutants in stormwater discharged from Industrial Facilities located within the MS4 Permit Area, as defined herein, pursuant to the requirements in 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C). These facilities shall include, but are not limited to:

a. Private Solid Waste Transfer Stations
b. Hazardous Waste Treatment, Disposal, and/or Recovery Plants
c. Industrial Facilities subject to SARA or EPCRA Title III
d. Industrial Facilities with NPDES Permits
e. Industrial facilities with a discharge to the MS4

4.5.2 The permittee shall continue to maintain and update the industrial facilities database.

4.5.3 The permittee shall continue to perform or provide on-site assistance/inspections and outreach focused on the development of stormwater pollution prevention plans and NPDES permit compliance.

4.5.4 The permittee shall continue to refine and implement procedures to govern the investigation of facilities suspected of contributing pollutants to the MS4, including at a minimum: (i) a review, if applicable, of monitoring data collected by the facility pursuant to its NPDES permit; and (ii) wet weather screening as required by Part 5.2.1 herein (including collecting data on discharges from industrial sites). These procedures shall be submitted as part of each Annual Report required by Part 6.2 herein.

4.5.5 The permittee shall continue to implement the prohibition against illicit discharges, control spills, and prohibit dumping. Continue to implement a program to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge to the MS4, and report on such implementation submitted in each Annual Report. The spill response program may include a combination of spill response actions by the permittee and/or another public or private entity.

4.5.6 The permittee shall report progress in developing and carrying out industrial-related programs in each Annual Report required by Section 6 herein. Provide an explanation as to how the implementation of these procedures will meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act.

4.6 Stormwater Management for Construction Sites

4.6.1 Continue implementation of the Program that reduces the discharge of pollutants from construction sites. In each Annual Report, the permittee shall evaluate and report to determine if the existing practices meet the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) and (D).

4.6.2 Continue the review and approval process of the sediment and erosion control plans under this program. Also, the permittee shall ensure that all construction projects impacting one acre or greater, or less than one acre when part of a larger common plan of development or sale equal to or larger than one acre, are not authorized until documentation is provided that they have received EPA NPDES Construction General Permit Coverage.

4.6.3 Continue to implement inspection and enforcement procedures, including but not limited to inspection of permitted construction sites that disturb more than 5,000 square feet of soil as follows:

1. First inspection prior to ground disturbing activities to review planned sediment and erosion control measures;
2. Second inspection to verify proper installation and maintenance of sediment and erosion control measures;

3. Third inspection to review planned installation and maintenance of stormwater management practices;
4. Fourth inspection to verify proper installation of stormwater management practices following final stabilization of the project site; and
5. Other inspections as necessary to ensure compliance with relevant standards and requirements.

4.6.4 When a violation of local erosion and sediment control ordinances occurs, the permittee shall follow existing enforcement procedures and practices using standardized reports as part of the inspection process to provide accurate record keeping of inspections of construction sites. The permittee shall use a listing of all violations and enforcement actions to assess the effectiveness of the Enforcement Program in each Annual Report.

4.6.5 Continue with educational measures for construction site operators (Section 4.9 of this permit) that consist, at a minimum, of providing guidance manuals and technical publications.

4.6.6 Report progress in developing and carrying out the above construction-related programs in each Annual Report required by Parts 6.2 herein, including: (i) an explanation as to how the implementation of these procedures will meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act; (ii) an explanation as to how the implementation of these procedures, particularly with regard to District "waivers and exemptions", will meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act; and (iii) discussion of progress toward meeting TMDL and the District Watershed Implementation Plan deadlines.

4.7 Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal.

4.7.1 The permittee shall continue to implement an ongoing program to detect illicit discharges, pursuant to the SWMP, and Part 4 of this permit, and to prevent improper disposal into the storm sewer system, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1). Such program shall include, at a minimum the following:

a. An updated schedule of procedures and practices to prevent illicit discharges, as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(b)(2), and, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1), to detect and remove illicit discharges as defined herein;

b. An updated inventory (organized by watershed) of all outfalls that discharge through the MS4 including any changes to the identification and mapping of existing permitted outfalls. Such inventory shall include, but not be limited to, the name and address, and a description (such as SIC code) which best reflects the principal products or services provided by each facility which may discharge to the MS4;

c. Continue to implement an illicit connection detection and enforcement program to perform dry weather flow inspections in target areas;

d. Visual inspections of targeted areas;

e. Issuance of fines, tracking and reporting illicit discharges, and reporting progress on stopping targeted illicit discharges, and in appropriate cases, chemical testing immediately after discovery of an illicit discharge;

f. Enforcement procedures for illicit discharges set forth in Part 4 herein;

g. All necessary inspection, surveillance, and monitoring procedures to remedy and prevent illicit discharges. The permittee shall submit an inspection schedule, inspection criteria, documentation regarding protocols and parameters of field screening, and allocation of resources as a part of each Annual Report.

h. The permittee shall continue to implement procedures to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into the MS4. The permittee shall provide for the training of appropriate personnel in spill prevention and response procedures.

i. The permittee shall report the accomplishments of this program in each Annual Report.

4.7.2 The permittee shall continue to ensure the implementation of a program to further reduce the discharge of floatables (e.g. litter and other human-generated solid refuse). The floatables program shall include source controls and, where necessary, structural controls.

4.7.3 The permittee shall continue to implement the prohibition against the discharge or disposal of used motor vehicle fluids, household hazardous wastes, grass clippings, leaf litter, and animal waste into separate storm sewers. The permittee shall ensure the implementation of programs to collect used motor vehicle fluids (at a minimum oil and anti-freeze) for recycle, reuse, and proper disposal and to collect household hazardous waste materials (including paint, solvents, pesticides, herbicides, and other hazardous materials) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal. The permittee shall ensure that such programs are readily available within the District, and that they are publicized and promoted on a regular basis, pursuant to Public Education provisions in this permit at Part 4.9 herein.

4.7.4 The permittee shall continue to work with members of the Metropolitan Police Department to enhance illegal dumping enforcement.

4.7.5 The permittee shall implement the District's ban on coal tar pavement products, including conducting outreach and enforcement activities.

4.7.6 The permittee shall implement the Anacostia Clean Up and Protection Act of 2009, to ban the use of disposable non-recyclable plastic carryout bags and restrict the use on disposable carryout bags in certain food establishments.

4.8 Flood Control Projects

4.8.1 The permittee shall update the impervious surface analysis of floodplains six months after the approval of the revised Flood Insurance Rate Maps by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

4.8.2 The permittee shall assess potential impacts on the water quality and the ability of the receiving water to support beneficial uses for all flood management projects. Evaluate the feasibility of retrofitting existing flood control devices to provide additional pollutant and volume removal from stormwater. Report results of such assessment, mapping program, and feasibility studies in the Annual Report (Part 6.2 herein).

4.8.3 The permittee shall review all development proposed in flood plain areas to ensure that the impacts on the water quality of receiving water bodies have been properly addressed. Information regarding impervious surface area located in the flood plains shall be used (in conjunction with other environmental indicators) as a planning tool. The permittee shall collect data on the percentage of impervious surface area located in flood plain boundaries for all proposed development beginning six months after the effective date of this permit. The permittee shall collect similar data for existing development in flood plain areas, in accordance with the mapping program and other activities designed to improve water quality. Critical unmapped areas shall be prioritized by the permittee with an emphasis on developed and developing acreage. Reports of this work shall be summarized in the Annual Report.

4.9 Public Education and Public Participation

The permittee shall continue to implement a public education program including but not limited to an education program aimed at residents, businesses, industries, elected officials, policy makers, planning staff and other employees of the permittee. The purpose of education is to reduce or eliminate behaviors and practices that cause or contribute to adverse stormwater impacts. Education initiatives may be developed locally or regionally.

4.9.1 Education and Outreach.

4.9.1.1 The permittee shall continue to implement its education and outreach program for the area served by the MS4 that was established during the previous permit cycle. The outreach program shall be designed to achieve measurable improvements in the target audience's understanding of stormwater pollution and steps they can take to reduce their impacts.

4.9.1.2 The permittee shall assess current education and outreach efforts and identify areas where additional outreach and education are needed. Audiences and subject areas to be considered include:

a. General public

1) General impacts of stormwater flows into surface waters
2) Impacts from impervious surfaces
3) Source control practices and environmental stewardship actions and opportunities in the areas of pet waste, vehicle maintenance, landscaping, and rain water reuse.

4) A household hazardous waste educational and outreach program to control illicit discharges to the MS4 as required herein
5) Information and education on proper management and disposal of used oil, other automotive fluids, and household chemicals
6) Businesses, including home-based and mobile businesses
7) Management practices for use and storage of automotive chemicals, hazardous cleaning supplies, carwash soaps and other hazardous materials
8) Impacts of illicit discharges and how to report them including information for industries about stormwater permitting and pollution prevention plans and the requirement that they develop structural and non-structural control systems

b. Homeowners, landscapers and property managers

1) Use of low or no phosphorus fertilizers, alternatives to fertilizers, alternative landscaping requiring no fertilizers
2) Landscape designs to reduce runoff and pollutant loadings
3) Car washing alternatives with the objective of eliminating phosphorus detergent discharges
4) Yard care techniques that protect water quality
5) Management practices for use and storage of pesticides and fertilizers
6) Management practices for carpet cleaning and auto repair and maintenance
7) Runoff Reduction techniques, including site design, on-site retention, pervious paving, retention of forests and mature trees
8) Stormwater pond maintenance

c. Engineers, contractors, developers, review staff and land use planners

1) Technical standards for construction site sediment and erosion control
2) Runoff Reduction techniques, including site design, on-site reduction, pervious pavement, alternative parking lot design, retention of forests and mature trees
3) Stormwater treatment and flow control controls
4) Impacts of increased stormwater flows into receiving water bodies

4.9.2 Measurement of Impacts.

The permittee shall continue to measure the understanding and adoption of selected targeted behaviors among the targeted audiences. The resulting measurements shall be used to direct education and outreach resources most effectively, as well as to evaluate changes in adoption of the targeted behaviors.

4.9.3 Recordkeeping.

The permittee shall track and maintain records of public education and outreach activities.

4.9.4 Public Involvement and Participation.

The permittee shall continue to include ongoing opportunities for public involvement through advisory councils, watershed associations and/or committees, participation in developing updates to the stormwater fee system, stewardship programs, environmental activities or other similar activities. The permittee shall facilitate opportunities for direct action, educational, and volunteer programs such as riparian planting, volunteer monitoring programs, storm drain marking or stream clean up programs.

4.9.4.1 The permittee shall continue to create opportunities for the public to participate in the decision making processes involving the implementation and update of the permittee's SWMP. In particular, the permittee shall provide meaningful opportunity for the public to participate in the development of the permittee's Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan. The permittee shall continue to implement its process for consideration of public comments on their SWMP.

4.9.4.2 The permittee shall continue to establish a method of routine communication to groups such as watershed associations and environmental organizations that are located in the same watershed(s) as the permittee, or organizations that conduct environmental stewardship projects located in the same watershed(s) or in close proximity to the permittee. This is to make these groups aware of opportunities for their direct involvement and assistance in stormwater activities that are in their watershed.

4.9.4.3 The permittee shall make all draft and approved MS4 documents required under this permit available to the public for comment. The current draft and approved SWMP and the MS4 annual reports deliverable documents required under this permit shall be posted on the permittee's website.

4.9.4.4 The permittee shall continue to develop public educational and participation materials in cooperation and coordination with other agencies and organizations in the District with similar responsibilities and objectives. Progress reports on public education shall be included in the Annual Report. An explanation shall be provided as to how this effort will reduce pollution loadings to meet the requirements of this permit.

4.9.4.5 The permittee shall periodically, and at least annually, update its website.

4.10 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Wasteload Allocation (WLA) Planning and Implementation

4.10.1 Anacostia River Watershed Trash TMDL Implementation

The permittee shall attain removal of 103,188 pounds of trash annually, as determined in the Anacostia River Watershed Trash TMDL, as a specific single-year measure by the fifth year of this permit term.

Reductions must be made through a combination of the following approaches:

1. Direct removal from waterbodies, e.g., stream clean-ups, skimmers
2. Direct removal from the MS4, e.g., catch basin clean-out, trash racks
3. Direct removal prior to entry to the MS4, e.g., street sweeping
4. Prevention through additional disposal alternatives, e.g., public trash/recycling collection
5. Prevention through waste reduction practices, regulations and/or incentives, e.g., bag fees

At the end of the first year the permittee must submit the trash reduction calculation methodology with Annual Report to EPA for review and approval. The methodology should accurately account for trash prevention/removal methods beyond those already established when the TMDL was approved, which may mean crediting a percentage of certain approaches. The calculation methodology must be consistent with assumptions for weights and other characteristics of trash, as described in the 2010 Anacostia River Watershed Trash TMDL.

Annual reports must include the trash prevention/removal approaches utilized, as well as the overall total weight (in pounds) of trash captured for each type of approach.

The requirements of this Section, and related elements as appropriate, shall be included in the Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan (Section 4.10.3).

4.10.2 Hickey Run TMDL Implementation

The permittee shall implement and complete the proposed replacement/rehabilitation, inspection and enforcement, and public education aspects of the strategy for Hickey Run as described in the updated Plan to satisfy the requirements of the oil and grease wasteload allocations for Hickey Run. If monitoring or other assessment determine it to be necessary, the permittee shall install or implement appropriate controls to address oil & grease in Hickey Run no later than the end of this permit term. As appropriate, any requirement of this Section not completed prior to finalization of the Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan (Section 4.10.3) shall be included in that Plan.

4.10.3 Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan

For all TMDL wasteload allocations assigned to District MS4 discharges, the permittee shall develop, public notice and submit to EPA for review and approval a consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan within 30 months of the effective date of this permit provision. This Plan shall include, at a minimum, the following TMDLs and any subsequent updates:

1. TMDL for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in the Upper and Lower Anacostia River (2001)
2. TMDL for Fecal Coliform Bacteria in the Upper and Lower Anacostia River (2003)
3. TMDL for Organics and Metals in the Anacostia River and Tributaries (2003)
4. TMDL for Fecal Coliform Bacteria in Kingman Lake (2003)
5. TMDL for Total Suspended Solids, Oil and Grease and Biochemical Oxygen Demand in Kingman Lake (2003)

6. TMDL for Fecal Coliform Bacteria in Rock Creek (2004)
7. TMDL for Organics and Metals in the Tributaries to Rock Creek (2004)
8. TMDL for Fecal Coliform Bacteria in the Upper, Middle and Lower Potomac River and Tributaries (2004)
9. TMDL for Organics, Metals and Bacteria in Oxon Run (2004)
10. TMDL for Organics in the Tidal Basin and Washington Ship Channel (2004)
11. TMDL for Sediment/Total Suspended Solids for the Anacostia River Basin in Maryland and the District (2007) [pending resolution of court vacature, Anacostia Riverkeeper, Inc. v. Jackson, No. 09-cv-97 (RCL)]
12. TMDL for PCBs for Tidal Portions of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia (2007)
13. TMDL for Nutrients/Biochemical Oxygen Demand for the Anacostia River Basin in Maryland and the District (2008)
14. TMDL for Trash for the Anacostia River Watershed, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland and the District of Columbia (2010)
15. TMDL for Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Sediment for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (2010)

This Plan shall place particular emphasis on the pollutants in Table 4, but shall also evaluate other pollutants of concern for which relevant WLAs exist. EPA will incorporate elements of the Consolidate TMDL Implementation Plan as enforceable permit provisions, including milestones and final dates for attainment of applicable WLAs. The permittee shall fully implement the Plan upon EPA approval. This Plan shall preempt any existing TMDL implementation plans for the relevant WLAs. To account for any new or revised TMDL established or approved by EPA with wasteload allocations assigned to District MS4 discharges, the permittee shall submit an updated Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan annually, as necessary. Such updates will account for any actions taken in the 12-month period preceding the date 6 months before the revision is due. If necessary, the first such update will be due 18 months after the submittal of the initial Plan, with subsequent updates due on the anniversary of the submittal date.

The Plan shall include:

1. A specified schedule for attainment of WLAs that includes final attainment dates and, where applicable, interim milestones and numeric benchmarks.
    a. Numeric benchmarks will specify annual pollutant load reductions and the extent of control actions to achieve these numeric benchmarks.
    b. Interim milestones will be included where final attainment of applicable WLAs requires more than five years. Milestone intervals will be as frequent as possible but will in no case be greater than five (5) years.
2. Demonstration using modeling of how each applicable WLA will be attained using the chosen controls, by the date for ultimate attainment.
3. An associated narrative providing an explanation for the schedules and controls included in the Plan.

4. Unless and until an applicable TMDL is no longer in effect (e.g., withdrawn, reissued or the water delisted), the Plan must include the elements in 1-3 above for each TMDL as approved or established.
5. The current version of the Plan will be posted on the permittee's website.

4.10.4 Adjustments to TMDL Implementation Strategies

If evaluation data, as outlined in the monitoring strategy being developed per Part 5.1, indicate insufficient progress towards attaining any WLA covered in 4.10.1, 4.10.2 or 4.10.3, the permittee shall make the appropriate adjustements within six (6) months to address the insufficient progress and document those adjustments in the Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan. The Plan modification shall include a reasonable assurance demonstration of the additional controls to achieve the incorporated milestones. Annual reports must include a description of progress as evaluated against all implementation objectives, milestones and benchmarks, as relevant, outlined in Part 4.10.

4.11 Additional Pollutant Sources

For any additional pollutant sources not addressed in sections 4.1 through 4.9, the permittee shall continue to compile pertinent information on known or potential pollution sources, including significant changes in:

1. land use activities,
2. population estimates,
3. runoff characteristics,
4. major structural controls,
5. landfills,
6. publicly owned lands, and
7. industries impacting the MS4.

For purposes of this section, “significant changes” are changes that have the potential to revise, enhance, modify or otherwise affect the physical, legal, institutional, or administrative characteristics of the above-listed potential pollution sources. This information shall be submitted in each of the Annual Reports submitted to EPA pursuant to the procedures in Part 6.2 herein. For the Stormwater Model, analysis of data for these pollution sources shall be reported according to Part 7 herein.

The permittee shall implement controls to minimize and prevent discharges of pollutants from additional pollutant sources, including but not limited to Bacteria (*E. coli*), Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, Total Suspended Solids, Cadmium, Copper, Lead, Zinc, and Trash, to receiving waters. Controls shall be designed to prevent and restrict priority pollutants from coming into contact with stormwater, *e.g.*, restricting the use of lawn fertilizers rather than end-of-pipe treatment. These strategies shall include program priorities and a schedule of activities to address those priorities and an outline of which agencies will be responsible for implementing those strategies. The strategies used to reduce or eliminate these pollutants shall be documented in updates to the Stormwater Management Program Plan.

5. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF CONTROLS

5.1 Revised monitoring program

5.1.1 Design of the Revised Monitoring Program

Within 30 months of the effective date of Part 4.10.3 of this permit the permittee shall develop, public notice and submit to EPA for review and approval a revised monitoring program. The permittee shall fully implement the program upon EPA approval. The revised monitoring program shall meet the following objectives:

1. Make wet weather loading estimates of the parameters in Table 4 from the MS4 to receiving waters. Number of samples, sampling frequencies and number and locations of sampling stations must be adequate to ensure data are statistically significant and interpretable.

2. Evaluate the health of the receiving waters, to include biological and physical indicators such as macroinvertebrates and geomorphologic factors. Number of samples, frequencies and locations must be adequate to ensure data are statistically significant and interpretable for long-term trend purposes (not variation among individual years or seasons).

3. Include any additional necessary monitoring for purposes of source identification and wasteload allocation tracking. This strategy must align with the Consolidated TMDL Implementation Plan required in Part 4.10.3 For all pollutants in Table 4 monitoring must be adequate to determine if relevant WLAs are being attained within specified timeframes in order to make modifications to relevant management programs, as necessary.

Table 4
Monitoring Parameters

Parameter
E. coli
Total nitrogen
Total phosphorus
Total Suspended Solids
Cadmium
Copper
Lead
Zinc
Trash

4. All chemical analyses shall be performed in accordance with analytical methods approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136. When there is not an approved analytical method, the applicant may use any suitable method as described in Section 5.7 herein, but must provide a description of the method.

5.1.2 Utilization of the Revised Monitoring Program

The permittee must use the information to evaluate the quality of the stormwater program and the health of the receiving waters at a minimum to include:

1. The permittee shall estimate annual cumulative pollutant loadings for pollutants listed in Table 4. Pollutant loadings and, as appropriate, event mean concentrations, will be reported in DMRs and annual reports on TMDL implementation for pollutants listed in Table 4 in discharges from the monitoring stations in Table 5.

2. The permittee shall perform the following activities at least once during the permit term, but no later than the fourth year of this permit:

   a. Identify and prioritize additional efforts needed to address water quality exceedances, and receiving stream impairments and threats;

   b. Identify water quality improvements or degradation

Upon approval of the Revised Monitoring Program by EPA Region III, or 2 years from the effective date of this permit, whichever comes first, the permittee shall begin implementation of the Revised Monitoring Program.

5.2 Interim Monitoring

Until such time as EPA has approved the Revised Monitoring Program, the permittee shall implement the following monitoring program:

5.2.1 Wet Weather Discharge Monitoring

The permittee shall monitor for the parameters identified in Table 4 herein, at the locations listed in Table 5 herein. Monitoring frequency for chemical/physical parameters shall be taken by at least three times per year at a minimum. This does not include a geomorphologic assessment and/or physical habitat assessment. The permittee shall conduct sampling as provided in 40 C.F.R. § 122.21(g)(7).

The permittee shall monitor and provide an annual Discharge Monitoring Report for the period of interim monitoring.

TABLE 5
Monitoring Stations

A. Anacostia River Sub Watershed Monitoring Sites
1. Gallatin Street & 14th Street N.E. across from the intersection of 14th St. and Gallatin St. in an outfall (MS-2)
2. Anacostia High School/Anacostia Recreation Center – Corner of 17th St and Minnesota Ave SE
B. Rock Creek Subwatershed Monitoring Sites
1. Walter Reed -- Fort Stevens Drive -- 16th Street and Fort Stevens Road, N.W. at an outfall (MS-6)
2. Soapstone Creek -- Connecticut Avenue and Ablemarle Street N.W. at an outfall (MS-5)
C. Potomac River Subwatershed Monitoring Sites
1. Battery Kemble Creek-49th and Hawthorne Streets, N.W. at an outfall (MS-4)
2. Oxon Run-Mississippi Avenue and 15th Street, S.E. into Oxon Run via an outfall (MS-1)

The permittee may revise this list of sites in accordance with its revised monitoring program in Section 5.1 herein. Otherwise, changes to the above MS4 monitoring stations and/or sites for any reason shall be considered a major modification to the permit subject to the reopener clause.

During the interim monitoring period for the pollutants listed in Table 4, demonstration of compliance will be calculated using the procedures identified in the SWMP, the approved Anacostia River TMDL Implementation Plan, and/or other appropriate modeling tools and data on management practices efficiencies. The annual report will provide all monitoring data, and a brief synthesis of whether the data indicate that relevant wasteload allocations and other relevant targets are being achieved.

5.2.2 Storm Event Data

In addition to the parameters listed above, the permittee shall continue to maintain records of the date and duration (in hours) of the storm events sampled; rainfall measurements or estimates (in inches) of the storm event which generated the sampled runoff; the duration (in hours) between the storm event sampled and the end of the previous measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event; and a calculated flow estimate of the total volume (in gallons) and nature of the discharge sampled.

5.2.3 Sample Type, Collection, and Analysis

The following requirements apply only to samples collected for Part 5.2.1, Representative Monitoring.

1. For discharges from holding ponds or other impoundments with a retention period greater than 24 hours, (estimated by dividing the volume of the detention pond by the estimated volume of water discharged during the 24 hours previous to the time that the sample is collected) a minimum of one sample shall be taken for pollutants listed in Table 4 including temperature, DO, pH and specific conductivity. For all parameters, data shall be reported for the entire event of the discharge pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iii).

2. All such samples shall be collected from the discharge resulting from a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event. Samples may be taken with a continuous sampler or as a combination of a minimum of three sample aliquots taken in each hour of discharge for the entire discharge, with each aliquot being separated by a minimum period of fifteen minutes.

3. Analysis and collection of samples shall be done in accordance with the most recent EPA approved laboratory methods and procedures specified at 40 C.F.R. Part 136 and its subsequent amendments.

5.2.4 Sampling Waiver

When a discharger is unable to collect samples due to adverse climatic conditions, the discharger must submit in lieu of sampling data a description of why samples could not be collected, including available documentation of the event.

Adverse climatic conditions which may prohibit the collection of samples includes weather conditions that create dangerous conditions for personnel (such as local flooding, high winds, hurricane, tornadoes, electrical storms, etc.).

5.3 Dry Weather Monitoring

5.3.1 Dry Weather Screening Program

The permittee shall continue with ongoing efforts to detect the presence of illicit connections and improper discharges to the MS4 pursuant to the District SWMP. The permittee shall perform the following: (1) continue to screen known problem sewersheds within the District based on past screening activities; (2) continue to inventory all MS4 outfalls in the District and inspect all outfalls by the end of the permit term; and (3) ensure that the dry weather screening program has addressed all watersheds within the permit term. The screening shall be

sufficient to estimate the frequency and volume of dry weather discharges and their environmental impact.

5.3.2 Screening Procedures

Screening may be developed and/or modified based on experience gained during actual field screening activities. The permittee shall establish a protocol which requires screening to ensure that such procedures are occurring, but such protocol need not conform to the procedures published at 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D). The permittee shall describe the protocol actually used in each Annual Report with a justification for its use. The procedures described in the SWMP shall be used as guidance.

5.3.3 Follow-up on Dry Weather Screening Results

The permittee shall continue to implement its enforcement program for locating and ensuring elimination of all suspected sources of illicit connections and improper disposal identified during dry weather screening activities. The permittee shall report the results of such implementation in each Annual Report.

5.4. Area and/or Source Identification Program

The permittee shall continue to implement a program to identify, investigate, and address areas and/or sources within its jurisdiction that may be contributing excessive levels of pollutants to the MS4 and receiving waters, including but not limited to those pollutants identified in Table 4 herein.

5.5 Flow Measurements

The permittee shall continue to select and use appropriate flow measurement devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices to ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements of the volume of monitored discharges. The devices shall be installed, calibrated, and maintained to insure that the accuracy of the measurements is consistent with the accepted capability of that type of device.

5.6 Monitoring and Analysis Procedures

5.6.1 Monitoring must be conducted according to laboratory and test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 and subsequent amendments, unless other test procedures have been specified in the permit.

5.6.2 The permittee is authorized to use a more current or sensitive (i.e., lower) detection method than the one identified in 40 C.F.R. Part 136 exists for a particular parameter, including but not limited to PCBs (Method 1668B) and mercury (Method 1631E). If used, the permittee shall report using the more current and/or more sensitive method for compliance reporting and monitoring purposes.

5.6.3 EPA reserves the right to modify the permit in order to require a more sensitive method for measuring compliance with any pollutant contamination levels, consistent with 40 CFR, Part 136, should it become necessary.

5.7 Reporting of Monitoring Results

The permittee shall continue to report monitoring results annually in a Discharge Monitoring Report. If NetDMR (http://www.epa.gov/netdmr/) is unavailable to any of the following then the original and one copy of the Report are to be submitted at the following addresses:

NPDES Permits Branch
U.S. EPA Region III (3WP41)
Water Protection Division
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

National Marine Fisheries Service/Northeast Region
Protected Resource Division
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930-2276

Monitoring results obtained during the previous year shall be summarized and reported in the Annual Report.

5.8 Additional Monitoring by the Permittee

If the permittee monitors (for the purposes of this permit) any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit, using laboratory and test procedures approved under 40 C.F.R. Part 136 and subsequent amendments or as specified in this permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the annual Discharge Monitoring Report. Such frequency shall also be indicated.

5.9 Retention of Monitoring Information

The permittee shall continue to retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation for a period of at least five(5) years from the date of the sample, measurement or report. This period may be extended by request of EPA at any time.

5.10 Record Content

Records of monitoring information shall include:

1. The date, exact location, time and methods of sampling or measurements;
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;

3. The date(s) analyses were performed;
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
5. The analytical techniques or methods used; and
6. The results of such analyses.

6. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The permittee shall comply with the reporting requirements identified in this section, including but not limited to the deliverables identified in Table 6 below.

TABLE 6
Reporting Requirements

Submittal	Deadline
Discharge Monitoring Report	Each year on the anniversary of the effective date of the permit (AEDOP)
Annual Report	Each year on the AEDOP.
MS4 Permit Application	Six months prior to the permit expiration date.

6.1 Discharge Monitoring Reports

The permittee shall provide discharge monitoring reports per Part 5.7 of this permit on the quality of stormwater discharges from the MS4 for all analytical chemical monitoring stipulated in Part 5 of this permit.

6.2 Annual Reporting

The permittee shall submit an Annual Report to EPA on or by the effective yearly date of the permit for the duration of the permitting cycle. At the same time the Annual Report it submitted to EPA it shall also be posted on the permittee's website at an easily accessible location. If the annual report is subsequently modified per EPA approval (part 6.2.3 of this permit) the updated report shall be posted on the permittee's website.

6.2.1 Annual Report.

The Annual Report shall follow the format of the permit as written, address each permit requirement, and also include the following elements:

a. A review of the status of program implementation and compliance (or non-compliance) with all provisions and schedules of compliance contained in this

permit, including documentation as to compliance with performance standards and other provisions and deliverables contained in Section 4 herein;

b. A review of monitoring data and any trends in estimated cumulative annual pollutant loadings, including TMDL WLAs and TMDL implementation activities;

c. An assessment of the effectiveness of controls established by the SWMP;

d. An assessment of the projected cost of SWMP implementation for the upcoming year (or longer) and a description of the permittee's budget for existing stormwater programs, including: (i) an overview of the permittee's financial resources and budget, (ii) overall indebtedness and assets, (iii) sources for funds for stormwater programs; and (iv) a demonstration of adequate fiscal capacity to meet the requirements of this permit, subject to the (a) the federal Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1342, 1349, 1351, (b) the District of Columbia Anti-Deficiency Act, D.C. Official Code §§ 47-355.01-355.08 (2001), (c) D.C. Official Code § 47-105 (2001), and (d) D.C. Official Code § 1-204.46 (2006 Supp.), as the foregoing statutes may be amended from time to time;

e. A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs and installation of control systems;

f. Identification of water quality improvements or degradation through application of a measurable performance standard as stated throughout this permit;

g. Results of storm and water quality modeling and its use in planning installation of control systems and maintenance and other activities;

h. An assessment of any SWMP modifications needed to meet the requirements of this permit;

i. Revisions, if necessary, to the assessments of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (v);

j. Methodology to assess the effects of the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP);

k. Annual expenditures and budget for the year following each annual report;

l. A summary of commitments for the next year and evaluation of the commitments from the previous year;

m. A summary of the monitoring data for stormwater and ambient sampling that is collected in the previous year and the plan, including identification of monitoring locations, to collect additional data for the next year;

n. The amount of impervious cover within the District, and within the three major watersheds in the District (Anacostia, Potomac and Rock Creek);

o. The percentage of effective impervious cover reduced annually, including but not limited to the number and square footage of green roofs installed in the District, including the square footage of drainage managed by practices that meet the performance standard in 4.1.1; and

p. An analysis of the work to be performed in the next successive year, including performance measures for those tasks. In the following year, progress with those performance measures shall be part of the Annual Report. The basis for each of the performance standards, which will be used as tools for evaluating environmental results and determining the success of each MS4 activity, shall be described incorporating an integrated program approach that considers all programs and projects which have a direct as well as an indirect affect on

stormwater management quantity and quality within the District. The report shall also provide an update of the fiscal analysis for each year of the permit as required by 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(vi).

6.2.2 Annual Report Meeting

Within 12 months of the effective date of this permit the permittee shall convene an annual report meeting with EPA to present annual progress and plans for the following year. In conjunction with this meeting the annual written report may consist of presentation materials summarizing all required elements of the annual report rather than a lengthy written report, as long as all required elements are included. Following this first annual reporting meeting EPA and the permittee shall determine if the meeting and associated presentation materials constitute an effective reporting mechanism. With the agreement of both EPA and the permittee the annual reporting meeting and the use of summarized presentation materials in lieu of a lengthy written report may be extended for the remainder of the permit term.

6.2.3 Annual Report Revisions

Each Annual Report may be revised with written approval by EPA. The revised Report will become effective after its approval.

6.2.4 Signature and Certification

The permittee shall sign and certify the Annual Report in accordance with 40 C.F.R §122.22(b), and include a statement or resolution that the permittee's governing body or agency (or delegated representative) has reviewed or been appraised of the content of such submissions. The permittee shall provide a description of the procedure used to meet the above requirement.

6.2.5 EPA Approval

In reviewing any submittal identified in Table 1 or 6, EPA may approve or disapprove each submittal. If EPA disapproves any submittal, EPA shall provide comments to the permittee. The permittee shall address such comments in writing within thirty (30) days of receipt of the disapproval from EPA. If EPA determines that the permittee has not adequately addressed the disapproval/comments, EPA may revise that submittal or portions of that submittal. Such revision by EPA is effective thirty (30) days from receipt by the permittee. Once approved by EPA, or in the event of EPA disapproval, as revised by EPA, each submission shall be an enforceable element of this permit.

6.3 MS4 Permit Application

The permittee develop a permit Application based on the findings presented in each of the Annual SWMP Reports submitted during the permitting cycle to be submitted six months prior to the expiration date of the permit. The permit application shall define the next iterative set of objectives for the program and provide an analysis to demonstrate that these objectives will be achieved in the subsequent permit term.

7. STORMWATER MODEL

The permittee shall continue to update and report all progress made in developing a Stormwater Model and Geographical Information System (GIS) to EPA on an annual basis as an attachment to each Annual Report required herein.

On an annual basis, the permittee shall report on pollutant load reductions throughout the area covered by this permit using the statistical model developed by DDOE or other appropriate model. In the annual update, the permittee shall include, at a minimum, other applicable components which are not only limited to those activities identified in Section 6 herein, but which are necessary to demonstrate the effectiveness of the permittee's Stormwater Management Program toward implementing a sustainable strategy for reducing stormwater pollution runoff to the impaired waters of the District of Columbia.

Assess performance of stormwater on-site retention projects through monitoring, modeling and/or estimating storm retention capacity to determine the volume of stormwater removed from the MS4 in a typical year of rainfall as a result of implementing stormwater controls. This provision does not require all practices to be individually monitored, only that a reasonable evaluation strategy must provide estimates of overall volume reductions by sewershed.

8. STANDARD PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR NPDES PERMITS

8.1 Duty to Comply

The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act and may result in an enforcement action; permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; and denial of a permit renewal application.

8.2 Inspection and Entry

The permittee shall allow EPA, or an authorized representative, and/or the permittee’s contractor(s)/subcontractor(s), upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

1. Enter upon the permittee's premises at reasonable times where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;

2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be maintained under the conditions of this permit;

3. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), processes, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and

4. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

8.3 Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance.

The Clean Water Act provides that any person who violates Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Clean Water Act, or any permit condition or limitation implementing such section, or any requirement imposed in an approved pretreatment program and any person who violates any Order issued by EPA under Section 301(a) of the Act, shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $25,000 per day for each violation, Pursuant to the Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule, EPA has raised the statutory maximum penalty for such violations to $37,500 per day for each such violation. 74 Fed. Reg. 626 (Jan. 7, 2009). The Clean Water Act also provides for an action for appropriate relief including a permanent or temporary injunction.

Any person who negligently violates Section 301, 302, 305, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Clean Water Act, any permit condition or limitation implementation any such section, shall be punished by a criminal fine of not less than $5,000 nor more than $50,000 per day of such violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or by both. Any person who knowingly violates any permit condition or limitation implementing Section 301, 302, 305, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the Clean Water Act, and who knows at the time that he thereby places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than $250,000, or by imprisonment of not more than 15 years, or by both.

8.4 Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or correct any adverse impact on the environment resulting from noncompliance with this permit.

In the event that the permittee or permitting authority determines that discharges are causing or contributing to a violation of applicable WQS, the permittee shall take corrective action to eliminate the WQS exceedance or correct the issues and/or problems by requiring the party or parties responsible for the alleged violation(s) comply with Part I.C.1 (Limitations to Coverage) of this permit. The methods used to correct the WQS exceedances shall be documented in subsequent annual reports and in revisions to the Stormwater Management Program Plan.

8.5 Permit Actions

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Violation of any terms or conditions of this permit;

2. Obtaining this permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts;

3. A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge;

4. Information newly acquired by the Agency, including but not limited to the results of the studies, planning, or monitoring described and/or required by this permit;

5. Material and substantial facility modifications, additions, and/or expansions;

6. Any anticipated change in the facility discharge, including any new significant industrial discharge or changes in the quantity or quality of existing industrial discharges that will result in new or increased discharges of pollutants; or

7. A determination that the permitted activity endangers human health or the environment and that it can only be regulated to acceptable levels by permit modification or termination.

The effluent limitations expressed in this permit are based on compliance with the District of Columbia's water quality standards in accordance with the Clean Water Act. In the event of a revision of the District of Columbia's water quality standards, this document may be modified by EPA to reflect this revision.

The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition. When a permit is modified, only conditions subject to modification are reopened.

8.6 Retention of Records

The permittee shall continue to retain records of all documents pertinent to this permit not otherwise required herein, including but not limited copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least five (5) years from the expiration date of this permit. This period may be extended by request of EPA at any time.

8.7 Signatory Requirements

All Discharge Monitoring Reports, plans, annual reports, certifications or information either submitted to EPA or that this permit requires be maintained by the permittee shall be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official, or a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if: (i) the authorization is made in writing by a person described above and submitted to EPA; and (ii) the authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of manager, operator, superintendent, or position of equivalent responsibility or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for an agency. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position).

If an authorization is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new notice satisfying the requirements of this paragraph must be submitted to EPA prior or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.

8.8 Oil and Hazardous Substance Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under Section 311 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321.

8.9 District Laws, Regulations and Ordinances

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable District law, regulation or ordinance identified in the SWMP. In the case of "exemptions and waivers" under District law, regulation or ordinance, Federal law and regulation shall be controlling.

8.10 Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of Federal, State or local laws or regulations.

8.11 Severability

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provisions of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstances is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.

8.12 Transfer of Permit

In the event of any change in ownership or control of facilities from which the authorized discharge emanates, the permit may be transferred to another person if:

1. The current permittee notifies the EPA, in writing of the proposed transfer at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date;

2. The notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new permittee containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between them; and

3. The EPA does not notify the current permittee and the new permittee of intent to modify, revoke and reissue, or terminate the permit and require that a new application be submitted.

8.13 Construction Authorization

This permit does not authorize or approve the construction of any onshore or offshore physical structures or facilities or the undertaking of any work in any navigable waters.

8.14 Historic Preservation

During the design stage of any project by the Government of the District of Columbia within the scope of this permit that may include ground disturbance, new and existing or retrofit construction, or demolition of a structure, the permittee shall notify the Historic Preservation liaison and provide the liaison planning documents for the proposed undertaking. The documents shall include project location; scope of work or conditions; photograph of the area/areas to be impacted and the methods and techniques for accomplishing the undertaking. Depending on the complexity of the undertaking, sketches, plans and specifications shall also be submitted for review. The documentation will enable the liaison to assess the applicability of compliance procedures associated with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Among the steps in the process are included:

1. The determination of the presence or absence of significant historic properties (architectural, historic or prehistoric). This can include the evaluation of standing structures and the determination of the need for an archaeological survey of the project area.

2. The evaluation of these properties in terms of their eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

3. The determination of the effect that the proposed undertaking will have on these properties.

4. The development of mitigating measures in conjunction with any anticipated effects.

All such evaluations and determinations will be presented to the permittee for its concurrence.

If an alternate Historic Preservation procedure is approved by EPA in writing during the term of this permit, the alternate procedure will become effective after its approval.

8.15 Endangered Species

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has indicated that Hay's Spring Amphipod, a Federally listed endangered species, occurs at several locations in the District of Columbia. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) has indicated that the endangered shortnose sturgeon occurs in the Potomac River drainage and may occur within the District of Columbia. The FWS and NOAA Fisheries indicate that at the present time there is no evidence that the ongoing stormwater discharges covered by this permit are adversely affecting these Federally-listed species. Stormwater discharges, construction, or any other activity that adversely affects a Federally-listed endangered or threatened species are not authorized under the terms and conditions of this permit.

The monitoring required by this permit will allow further evaluation of potential effects on these threatened and endangered species once monitoring data has been collected and analyzed. EPA requires that the permittee submit to NOAA Fisheries, at the same time it submits to EPA, the Annual Outfall Discharge Monitoring Report of the monitoring data which will be used by EPA and NOAA Fisheries to further assess effects on endangered or threatened species. If this data indicates that it is appropriate, requirements of this NPDES permit may be modified to prevent adverse impacts on habitats of endangered and threatened species.

The above-referenced Report of monitoring data is required under this permit to be sent on an annual basis to:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region III (3WP41)
Water Protection Division
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

National Marine Fisheries Service/Northeast Region
Protected Resource Division
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930-2276

8.16 Toxic Pollutants

If a toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is established under section 307(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1317(a), for a toxic pollutant which is present in the discharge and such standard or prohibition

is more stringent than any limitation for such pollutant in this permit, the permittee shall comply with such standard or prohibition even if the permit has not yet been modified to comply with the requirement.

8.17 Bypass

8.17.1 Bypass not exceeding limitations. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m), the permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation.

8.17.2 Notice

1. Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it must submit prior notice at least ten days before the date of the bypass. See 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(i).

2. Unanticipated bypass. The permittee must submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required by 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(l)6) (24-hour notice). See 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(3)(ii).

8.17.3 Prohibition of bypass. See 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(4).

1. Bypass is prohibited, and EPA may take enforcement action against the permittee for bypass, unless:

    a. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage as defined herein;

    b. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and

    c. The permittee submitted notices as required herein.

2. EPA may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if EPA determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above.

8.18 Upset

Effect of an upset: An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology-based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n) are met.

8.19 Reopener Clause for Permits

The permit shall be modified or revoked and reissued, including but not limited to, for any of the following reasons:

1. To incorporate any applicable effluent standard or limitation issued or approved under Sections 301, 304, or 307 of the Clean Water Act, and any other applicable provision, such as provided for in the Chesapeake Bay Agreements based on water quality considerations, and if the effluent standard or limitation so issued or approved:

   a. Contains different conditions or is otherwise more stringent than any effluent limitation in the permit; or

   b. Controls any pollutant not limited in the permit. The permit, as modified or reissued under this paragraph, shall also contain any other requirements of the Act then applicable; or

2. To incorporate additional controls that are necessary to ensure that the permit effluent limits are consistent with any applicable TMDL WLA allocated to the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 or to incorporate milestones and schedules of a TMDL Implementation Plan; or

3. As specified in 40 C.F.R. §§ 122.44(c), 122.62, 122.63, 122.64, and 124.5.

8.20 Duty to Reapply

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, it must apply for and obtain a new permit. The application shall be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit. EPA may grant permission to submit an application less than 180 days in advance but no longer than the permit expiration date. In the event that a timely and complete reapplication has been submitted and EPA is unable through no fault of he permittee, to issue a new permit before the expiration date of this permit, the terms and conditions of this permit are automatically continued and remain fully effective and enforceable.

9. PERMIT DEFINITIONS

Terms that are not defined herein shall have the meaning accorded them under section 502 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*, or its implementing regulations, 40 C.F.R. Part 122.

"Annual Report" refers to the consolidated Annual Report that the permittee is required to submit annually.

"Benchmark" as used in this permit is a quantifiable goal or target to be used to assess progress toward "milestones" (see separate definition) and WLAs, such as a numeric goal for BMP implementation. If a benchmark is not met, the permittee should take appropriate corrective action to improve progress toward meeting milestones or other objectives. Benchmarks are intended as an adaptive management aid and generally are not considered to be enforceable.

"Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. See 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(i).

"CWA" means Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) Pub.L. 92-500, as amended Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. (6-483 and Pub. L. 97-117, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*

"Development" is the undertaking of any activity that disturbs a surface area greater than or equal to 5,000 square feet, including new development projects and redevelopment projects. For purposes of Parts 4.1.1 through 4.1.4 of the permit the requirements apply to discharges from sites for which design or construction commenced after 18 months from the effective date of this permit or as required by District of Columbia law, whichever is sooner. The permittee may exempt development projects receiving site plan approval prior to this date from these requirements.

"Director" means the Regional Administrator of USEPA Region 3 or an authorized representative.

"Discharge" for the purpose of this permit, unless indicated otherwise, refers to discharges from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).

"Discharge Monitoring Report", "DMR" or "Outfall Discharge Monitoring Report" includes the monitoring and assessment of controls identified in Section 5 herein.

"EPA" means USEPA Region 3.

"Green Roof" is a low-maintenance roof system that stores rainwater where the water is taken up by plants and/or transpired into the air.

"Green Technology Practices" means stormwater management practices that are used to mimic pre-development site hydrology by using site design techniques that retain stormwater on-site through infiltration, evapotranspiration, harvest and use.

"Guidance" means assistance in achieving a particular outcome or objective.

"Illicit connection" means any man-made conveyance connecting an illicit discharge directly to a municipal separate storm sewer.

"Illicit discharge" means any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of stormwater except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer) and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(b)(2).

“Impaired Water” (or “Water Quality Impaired Water” or “Water Quality Limited Segment”): A water is impaired for purposes of this permit if it has been identified by the District or EPA pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act as not meeting applicable State water quality standards (these waters are called “water quality limited segments” under 40 C.F.R. 30.2(j)). Impaired waters include both waters with approved or established TMDLs, and those for which a TMDL has not yet been approved or established.

"Landfill" means an area of land or an excavation in which wastes are placed for permanent disposal, and which is not a land application unit (i.e., an area where wastes are applied onto or incorporated into the soil surface [excluding manure spreading operations] for treatment or disposal), surface impoundment, injection well, or waste pile.

"Large or Medium municipal separate storm sewer system" means all municipal separate storm sewers that are either: (1) located in an incorporated place (city) with a population of 100,000 or more as determined by the latest Decennial Census by the Bureau of Census (these cities are listed in Appendices F and G of 40 C.F.R. Part 122); or (2) located in the counties with unincorporated urbanized populations of 100,000 or more, except municipal separate storm sewers that are located in the incorporated places, townships or towns within such counties (these counties are listed in Appendices H and I of 40 C.F.R. Part 122); or (3) owned or operated by a municipality other than those described in paragraph (i) or (ii) and that are designated by the Director as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system.

"Milestone" as used in this permit is an interim step toward attainment of a WLA that upon incorporation into the permit will become an enforceable limit or requirement to be achieved by a stated date. A milestone should be expressed in numeric terms, i.e. as a volume reduction, pollutant load, specified implementation action or set of actions or other objective metric, when possible and appropriate.

"MS4" refers to either a Large or Medium Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.

"Municipal Separate Storm Sewer" means a conveyance, or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains): (1) owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State Law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes; (2) Designed or used to collect or convey stormwater (including storm drains, pipes, ditches, etc.); (3) not a combined sewer; and (4) not part of a Publicly-Owned Treatment Works as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.

"Offset" means a unit of measurement, either used as monetary or non-monetary compensation, as a substitute or replacement for mitigation of a stormwater control practice that has been determined to be impracticable to implement.

"Performance measure" means for purposes of this permit, a minimum set of criteria for evaluating progress toward meeting a standard of performance.

"Performance standard" means for purposes of this permit, a cumulative measure or provision for attainment of an outcome or objective.

"Permittee" refers to the Government of the District of Columbia.

"Point Source" means any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural stormwater runoff.

"Pollutant of concern" means a pollutant in an MS4 discharge that may cause or contribute to the violation of a water quality criterion for that pollutant downstream from the discharge.

"Pre-Development Condition" means the combination of runoff, infiltration and evapotranspiration rates, volumes, durations and temperatures that typically existed on the site with natural soils and vegetation before human-induced land disturbance occurred. In the context of requirements in this permit the environmental objective is a stable, natural hydrologic site condition that protects or restores to the degree relevant for that site, stable hydrology in the receiving water, which will not necessarily be the hydrologic regime of that receiving water prior to any human disturbance in the watershed.

"Retention" means the use of soils, vegetation, water harvesting and other mechanisms and practices to retain a target volume of stormwater on a given site through the functions of: pore space and surface ponding storage; infiltration; reuse, and/or evapotranspiration.

"Retrofit" means improvement in a previously developed area that results in reduced stormwater discharge volumes and pollutant loads and/or improvement in water quality over current conditions.

"Stormwater" means the flow of surface water which results from, and which occurs immediately following, a rainfall event, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

"Stormwater management" means (1) for quantitative control, a system of vegetative or structural measures, or both, which reduces the increased volume and rate of surface runoff caused by man-made changes to the land; and (2) for qualitative control, a system of vegetative, structural, and other measures which reduce or eliminate pollutants which might otherwise be carried by surface runoff.

"SWMP" is an acronym for Stormwater Management Program. For purposes of this permit, the term includes all stormwater activities described in the District's SWMP Plan updated February 19, 2009, or any subsequent update, and all other strategies, plans, documents, reports, studies, agreements and related correspondences developed and used pursuant to the requirements of this permit.

"Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. See 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m)(1)(ii).

"Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Units" means for purposes of this permit, the sum of individual waste load allocations (WLAs) and natural background. Unless specifically permitted otherwise in an EPA-approved TMDL report covered under the permit, TMDLs are expressed in terms of mass per time, toxicity or other appropriate measure such as pollutant pounds of a total average annual load.

"TMDL Implementation Plan" means for purposes of this permit, a plan and subsequent revisions/updates to that plan that are designed to demonstrate how to achieve compliance with applicable waste load allocations as set forth in the permit requirements described in Section 4.10.3.

"Stormwater Management Program (SWMP)" is a modified and improved SWMP based on the existing SWMP and on information in each of the Annual Reports/Discharge Monitoring Reports. The purpose of the SWMP is to describe the list of activities that need to be done to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act, an explanation as to why these activities will meet the Clean Water Act requirements, and a schedule for those activities.

"Upset" means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond reasonable control. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. See 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(n)(1).

"Waste pile" means any non-containerized accumulation of solid, nonflowing waste.

"Water quality standards" refers to the District of Columbia's Surface and Ground Water Quality Standards codified at Code of District of Columbia Regulations §§ 21-1100 *et seq.*, which are effective on the date of issuance of the permit and any subsequent amendments which may be adopted during the life of this permit.

"Waters of the United States" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 122.2.

Exhibit 5

Boston, MA – Boston Water and Sewer Commission MS4 Permit
(Permit No. MAS010001)

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AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. §§1251 et seq., and the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, as amended, Mass. Gen. Laws. ch. 21, §§26-53, the

Boston Water and Sewer Commission

is authorized to discharge from all of its new or existing separate storm sewers: **195 identified Separate Storm Sewer Outfalls and associated receiving waters are Listed in Attachment A** to receiving waters named: **Belle Island Inlet, Boston Harbor, Boston Inner Harbor, Brook Farm Brook, Bussey Brook, Canterbury Brook, Chandler's Pond, Charles River, Chelsea River, Cow Island Pond, Dorchester Bay, Fort Point Channel, Goldsmith Brook, Jamaica Pond, Little Mystic Channel, Mill Pond, Millers River, Mother Brook, Muddy River, Mystic River, Neponset River, Old Harbor, Patten's Cove, Reserved Channel, Sprague Pond, Stony Brook, Turtle Pond and unnamed wetlands, brooks and streams.**

in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

This permit shall become effective 30 days from date of signature.

This permit and the authorization to discharge expire at midnight, five years from the effective date.

This permit consists **of 20** pages and **Attachment A** in Part I including monitoring requirements, etc., and 35 pages in Part II including General Conditions and Definitions.

Signed this 29 day of September, 1999

Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection
Environmental Protection Agency
Region I
Boston, MA

Director, Division of
Watershed Management
Department of Environmental Protection
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Boston, MA

PART I. MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM

A. DISCHARGES THROUGH THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS PERMIT

1. Permit Area. This permit covers all areas within the corporate boundary of the City of Boston or otherwise contributing to new or existing separate storm sewers owned or operated by the Boston Water and Sewer Commission, the "permittee".

2. Authorized Discharges. This permit authorizes all storm water discharges to waters of the United States from all existing or new separate storm sewer outfalls owned or operated by the permittee (existing outfalls are identified in Attachment A). This permit also authorizes the discharge of storm water commingled with flows contributed by wastewater or storm water associated with industrial activity provided such discharges are authorized under separate NPDES permits and are in compliance with applicable Federal, State and Boston Water and Sewer Commission regulations (Regulations Regarding the Use of Sanitary and Combined Sewers and Storm Drains of the Boston Water and Sewer Commission). The permittee shall provide a notification to EPA and MA DEP of all new separate storm sewer outfalls as they are activated and of all existing outfalls which are de-activated. The annual report (Part I.E.) will reflect all of the changes to the number of outfalls throughout the year.

3. Limitations on Coverage. Discharges of non-storm water or storm water associated with industrial activity through outfalls listed at Attachment A are not authorized under this permit except where such discharges are:

   a. authorized by a separate NPDES permit; or

   b. identified by and in compliance with Part I.B.2.g.2 of this permit.

B. STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

The permittee is required to develop and implement a storm water pollution prevention and management program designed to reduce, to the maximum extent practicable the discharge of pollutants from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. The permittee may implement Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) elements through participation with other public agencies or private entities in cooperative efforts satisfying the requirements of this permit in lieu of creating duplicate program elements. Either cumulatively, or separately, the permittee's storm water pollution prevention and management programs shall satisfy the requirements of Part I.B.1-7. below for all portions of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) authorized to discharge under this permit and shall reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. The storm water pollution prevention and management program requirements of this Part shall be implemented through the SWMP submitted as part of the permit application and revised as necessary.

1. POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS The permittee shall develop and implement the following pollution prevention measures as they relate to discharges to the separate storm sewer:

a. Development The permittee shall assist and coordinate with the appropriate municipal agencies with jurisdiction over land use to ensure that municipal approval of all new development and significant redevelopment projects within the City of Boston which discharge to the MS4 is conditioned on due consideration of water quality impacts. The permittee shall cooperate with appropriate municipal agencies to ensure that development activities conform to applicable state and local regulations, guidance and policies relative to storm water discharges to separate storm sewers. Such requirements shall limit increases in the discharge of pollutants in storm water as a result of new development, and reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water as a result of redevelopment.

b. Used Motor Vehicle Fluids The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies or private entities to assist in the implementation of a program to collect used motor vehicle fluids (including, at a minimum, oil and antifreeze) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal. Such program shall be readily available to all residents of the City of Boston and publicized and promoted at least annually.

c. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies or private entities to assist in the implementation of a program to collect household hazardous waste materials (including paint, solvents, pesticides, herbicides, and other hazardous materials) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal and promote proper handling and disposal. Such program shall be readily available to all private residents. This program shall be publicized and promoted at least annually.

2. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: The permittee shall continue to implement the Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) which it described in its May 17, 1993 storm water permit application and updated June 1995 and June 1998 in accordance with Section 402(p)(3)(B) of the Clean Water Act (CWA or "the Act"). This SWMP outlined in the permit application, including all updates, is approvable upon issuance of this permit.

In accordance with Part I.E. Annual Report, no later than **March 1, 2000** the permittee shall describe all the updates which it has conducted and all additional measures it will take to satisfy the requirements of this permit and the goals of the storm water management program. The Controls and activities identified in the SWMP shall clearly identify goals, a description of the controls or activities, and a description of the roles and responsibilities of other entities' areas of applicability on a system, jurisdiction, or specific area basis. The permittee will specifically address its roles and activities as they relate to portions of the SWMP which are not under its direct control (e.g. street sweeping, HHW collection, development, redevelopment). The permit may be modified to designate the agencies that administer these programs as co-permittees or require a separate permit. These entities would then be responsible for applicable permit conditions and requirements. The SWMP, and all approved updates, are hereby incorporated by reference and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with the following requirements:

a. Statutory Requirements: The SWMP shall include controls necessary to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP). Controls may consist of a combination of best management practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the permittee, Director or the State determines appropriate. The various components of the SWMP, taken as a whole (rather than individually), shall be sufficient to meet this standard. The SWMP shall be updated as necessary to ensure conformance with the requirements of CWA § 402(p)(3)(B). The permittee shall select measures or controls to satisfy the following water quality prohibitions:

No discharge of toxics in toxic amounts.

No discharge of pollutants in quantities that would cause a violation of State water quality standards.

No discharge of either a visible oil sheen, foam, or floating solids, in other than trace amounts.

b. Structural Controls: The permittee shall operate and maintain all storm water structural controls which it owns or operates in a manner so as to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP.

c. Areas of New Development and Significant Redevelopment: The permittee shall continue to implement its site plan review process and ensure compliance with its existing regulations. The permittee shall also coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies to assist in the development, implementation, and enforcement of controls to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the separate storm sewer system from areas of new development and significant re-development during and after construction. The permittee shall assist appropriate municipal agencies to ensure that development activities conform to applicable state and local regulations, guidance and policies relative to storm water discharges to separate storm sewers.

d. Roadways: The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate agencies to assist in the implementation of measures to ensure that roadways and highways are operated and maintained in a manner so as to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the separate storm sewer system (including those related to deicing or sanding activities).

e. Flood Control Projects: The permittee shall ensure that any flood management projects within its direct control are completed after consideration of impacts on the water quality of receiving waters. The permittee shall also evaluate the feasibility of retro-fitting existing structural flood control devices it owns or operates to provide additional pollutant removal from storm water.

f. Pesticide, Herbicide, and Fertilizer Application: The permittee shall cooperate with appropriate municipal agencies to evaluate existing measures to reduce the discharge of pollutants related to the application of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers applied by municipal or public agency employees or contractors to public right of ways, parks, and other municipal facilities. The permittee shall evaluate the necessity to implement controls to reduce discharge of pollutants related to the application and distribution of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers by commercial and wholesale distributors and applicators. The permittee shall require controls, within its authority, as necessary.

g. Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal: The permittee shall continue to implement its program to detect and remove illicit discharges (or require the discharger to the MS4 to remove or obtain a separate NPDES permit for the discharge) and improper disposal into the separate storm sewer.

1. The permittee shall effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, other than those authorized under this permit or a separate NPDES permit.

2. Unless identified by either the permittee, the Director, or the State as significant sources of pollutants to waters of the United States, the following non-storm water discharges are authorized to enter the MS4. As necessary, the permittee may incorporate appropriate control measures in the SWMP to ensure these discharges are not significant sources of pollutants to waters of the United States.

(a) water line flushing;
(b) landscape irrigation;
(c) diverted stream flows;
(d) rising ground waters;
(e) uncontaminated ground water infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005(20)) to separate storm sewers;

(f) uncontaminated pumped ground water;
(g) discharges from potable water sources;
(h) foundation drains;
(i) uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate;
(j) irrigation water;
(k) uncontaminated springs;
(l) water from crawl space pumps;
(m) footing drains;
(n) lawn watering;
(o) non-commercial car washing;
(p) flows from riparian habitats and wetlands;
(q) swimming pool discharges which have been dechlorinated;
(r) street wash waters;
(s) discharges or flows from emergency fire fighting activities;
(t) fire hydrant flushing; and
(u) building washdown water which does not contain detergents.

3. The permittee shall prevent unpermitted discharges of dry and wet weather overflows from sanitary sewers into the MS4. The permittee shall implement a program to identify and limit the infiltration of seepage from sanitary sewers into the MS4.

4. The permittee shall prohibit the discharge or disposal of used motor vehicle fluids, household hazardous wastes, grass clippings, leaf litter, and animal wastes into separate storm sewers. The permittee must demonstrate that the prohibition is publicized at least annually, and that the information is available for non-English speaking residents of the City.

5. The permittee shall require the elimination of illicit connections as expeditiously as possible and the immediate cessation of improper disposal practices upon identification of responsible parties. The permittee shall describe its procedure for identification and elimination of illicit discharges. This information shall be included in the annual report required under Part I.E. below. Where elimination of an illicit connection within sixty (60) days is not possible, the permittee shall establish a schedule for the expeditious removal of the discharge. In the interim, the permittee shall take all reasonable and prudent measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the MS4.

h. Spill Prevention and Response: The permittee shall cooperate with appropriate federal, state, and municipal agencies in the development and implementation of a program to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into or through the MS4. The spill response program may include a combination of spill response actions by the permittee (and/or other public or private entities), and requirements for private entities through the permittee's sewer use regulations. Except as explicitly authorized, materials from spills may not be discharged to Waters of the United States.

i. Industrial & High Risk Runoff: In cooperation with the DEP and EPA, the permittee shall implement a program to identify, monitor, and control pollutants in storm water discharges to the MS4 from municipal landfills; hazardous waste treatment, storage, disposal and recovery facilities and facilities that are subject to EPCRA Title III, Section 313; and any other industrial or commercial discharge the permittee determines is contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the MS4. The program shall include:

1. priorities and procedures for inspections and establishing and implementing control measures for such discharges;

2. a monitoring (or self-monitoring) program for facilities identified under this section, including the collection of quantitative data on the following constituents:

(a) any pollutants for which the discharger may monitor or which are limited in an existing NPDES permit for an identified facility;

(b) any information on discharges required under 40 CFR 122.21(g)(7)(iii) and (iv);

(c) any pollutant the permittee has a reasonable expectation is discharged in substantial quantity from the facility to the separate storm sewer system.

Data collected by the industrial facility to satisfy the monitoring requirements of an NPDES or State discharge permit may be used to satisfy this requirement. The permittee may require the industrial facility to conduct self-monitoring to satisfy this requirement.

j. Construction Site Runoff: The permittee shall continue to implement its site plan review process and ensure compliance with its existing regulations. The permittee shall also cooperate with appropriate municipal agencies in the development and implementation of a program to reduce the discharge of pollutants from construction sites to the MS4, including:

1. requirements for the use and maintenance of appropriate structural and non-structural best management practices to reduce pollutants discharged to the MS4 during the time construction is underway;

2. procedures for site planning which incorporate considerations for potential short term and long term water quality impacts and measures to minimize these impacts;

3. prioritized inspection of construction sites and enforcement of control measures as required by the permittee;

4. providing assistance to appropriate municipal agencies in the development of education and training measures for construction site operators; and

5. providing assistance to appropriate municipal agencies in the development of a notification to appropriate building permit applicants of their potential responsibilities under the NPDES permitting program for construction site runoff.

k. Public Education: The permittee, in coordination with other appropriate municipal agencies, shall implement a public education program including, but not limited to:

1. A program to promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or improper disposal of materials (e.g. industrial and commercial wastes, trash, used motor vehicle fluids, leaf litter, grass clippings, animal wastes, etc.) into the MS4 (e.g. curb inlet stenciling, citizen "streamwatch" groups, "hotlines" for reporting dumping, outreach materials included in billings, advertising on public access/government cable channels, etc.);

2. a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate the proper management and disposal of used oil, vehicle fluids and lubricants, and household hazardous wastes;

3. a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate the proper use, application, and disposal of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers;

4. where applicable and feasible, the permittee should publicize those best management practices (including but not limited to the use of reformulated or redesigned products, substitution of less toxic materials, and improvements in housekeeping) developed by municipal agencies or environmental organizations that facilitate better use, application, and/or disposal of materials identified in k.1 - k.3 of this section.

3. DEADLINES FOR PROGRAM COMPLIANCE: Except as provided in PART II, and Part I.B.7. the permittee shall continue to implement its Storm Water Management Program.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PERMITTEE: The Storm Water Management Program shall clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of the permittee and appropriate municipal agencies impacting its efforts to comply with this permit.

5. LEGAL AUTHORITY: The permittee has demonstrated and shall maintain legal authority to control discharges to and from those portions of the MS4 which it owns or operates. This legal authority may be a combination of statute, regulation, permit, contract, or an order to:

a. Control the contribution of pollutants to the MS4 by storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of storm water discharged from sites of industrial activity;

b. Prohibit illicit discharges to the MS4;

c. As necessary, control the discharge of spills and the dumping or disposal of materials other than storm water (e.g. industrial and commercial wastes, trash, used motor vehicle fluids, leaf litter, grass clippings, animal wastes, etc.) into the MS4;

d. Control through interagency or inter-jurisdictional agreements the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the MS4 to another;

e. Require compliance with conditions in regulations, permits, contracts or orders; and

f. Carry out all inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures necessary to determine compliance with permit conditions.

6. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM RESOURCES The permittee shall provide adequate finances, staff, equipment, and support capabilities to implement its SWMP.

7. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REVIEW AND MODIFICATION

a. Demonstration Project: Within **180** days of the effective date of the permit, the permittee shall submit a plan to assess the effectiveness of existing non-structural BMPs. This plan shall identify a drainage area or sub-area which has undergone an investigation for illicit connections and is believed to be reasonably free of sanitary sewer influence. The plan shall clearly specify activities to be conducted, responsible parties and method of assessment. The project shall commence within one year of the effective date of the permit and continue for at least one year. Within **90** days of project completion the permittee shall submit a report which identifies measures undertaken and effectiveness of those measures.

b. Program Review: The permittee shall participate in an annual review of its current SWMP in conjunction with preparation of the annual report required under Part I.E. This annual review shall include:

1. A review of the status of program implementation and compliance with program elements and other permit conditions as necessary;

2. An assessment of the effectiveness of controls established by the SWMP;

3. A review of monitoring data and any trends in estimated cumulative annual pollutant loadings;

4. An assessment of any SWMP modifications needed to comply with the CWA §402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable (MEP).

5. An assessment of staff and funding levels adequate to comply with the permit conditions.

c. Program Modification: The permittee may modify the SWMP in accordance with the following procedures:

1. The approved SWMP shall not be modified by the permittee(s) without the prior approval of the Director, unless in accordance with items c.2. or c.3. below.

2. Modifications adding (but not subtracting or replacing) components, controls, or requirements to the approved SWMP may be made by the permittee at any time upon written notification to the Director.

3. Modifications replacing or eliminating an ineffective or infeasible BMP specifically identified in the SWMP with an alternative BMP may be requested at any time. Unless the Director comments on or denies the request within 60 days from submittal, the permittee shall implement the modification and proposed schedule. Such requests must include the following:

(a) an analysis of why the BMP is ineffective or infeasible (including cost considerations),

(b) expectations on the effectiveness of the replacement BMP and proposed schedule for implementation, and

(c) an analysis of why the replacement of the BMP is expected to achieve the goals of the BMP to be replaced,

(d) in the case of an elimination of the BMP, an analysis of why the elimination is not expected to cause or contribute to a water quality impact.

4. Modification requests and/or notifications must be made in writing and signed in accordance with Part II.D.2.

d. Modifications required by the Permitting Authority: The Director or the State may require the permittee to modify the SWMP as needed to:

1. Address impacts on receiving water quality caused, or contributed to, by discharges from the MS4;

2. Include more stringent requirements necessary to comply with new State or Federal statutory or regulatory requirements; or

3. Include such other conditions deemed necessary by the Director to comply with the goals and requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Modifications required by the Director shall be made in writing and set forth a time schedule for the permittee to develop the modification(s).

C. WET WEATHER MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Storm Event Discharges. The permittee shall implement a wet-weather monitoring program for the MS4 to provide data necessary to assess the effectiveness and adequacy of control measures implemented under the SWMP; estimate annual cumulative pollutant loadings from the MS4; estimate event mean concentrations and seasonal pollutants in discharges from all outfalls; identify and prioritize portions of the MS4 requiring additional controls, and identify water quality improvements or degradation. Improvement in the quality of discharges from the MS4 will be assessed based on the monitoring information required by this section, along with any additional pertinent information. There have been no numeric effluent limits established for this permit. Further monitoring or effluent limits may be established to ensure compliance with the goals of the Clean Water Act, appropriate Water Quality Standards, or applicable technology based requirements.

a. Representative Monitoring: Within **90** days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall submit a proposed sampling plan. The permittee shall monitor a minimum of five (5) representative drainage areas to characterize the quality of storm water discharges from the MS4. The proposed sampling plan shall consider monitoring each site three (3) times a year for a period of at least two years. All five sites shall be completed within the five year permit term and may be done partially or consecutively. The permittee shall choose locations representing the different land uses or is representative of drainage areas served by the MS4. The permittee may submit an alternative plan for sampling frequency only subject to the approval of EPA and DEP. At a minimum, the monitoring program shall analyze for the following parameters: pH, Temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, Total Suspended Solids, BOD5, COD, Fecal Coliform, Total Nitrogen, Nitrate/Nitrite, Ammonia (as N), Total Phosphorous, Ortho-Phosphate, Oil and Grease, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Surfactants, Fluoride, Copper, and Zinc. Unless commented on or denied by the Director within **60** days after its submittal, the proposed sampling plan shall be deemed approved. This monitoring program shall commence no later than **180** days from the effective date of the permit unless otherwise specified by EPA and DEP. Subsequent monitoring locations and parameters for the remainder of the permit term shall be determined based upon the results of these sampling locations and other water quality information available to EPA, DEP and the permittee.

b. Receiving Water Quality Monitoring. The permittee shall monitor a minimum of four (4) receiving waters three (3) times a year throughout the permit term to characterize the water quality impacts of storm water discharges from the MS4. Sampling shall be conducted during a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (0.1 inch) storm event. Within **90** days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall submit its proposed sampling plan. At a minimum, the monitoring program shall analyze for the following parameters: pH, Temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, Total Suspended Solids, BOD5, COD, Fecal Coliform, Total Nitrogen, Nitrate/Nitrite, Ammonia (as N), Total Phosphorous, Ortho-Phosphate, Oil and Grease, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Surfactants, Fluoride, Copper, and Zinc. Unless commented on or denied by the Director within **60** days after its submittal, the proposed sampling plan shall be deemed approved. This monitoring program shall commence no later than six months after the effective date of the permit.

c. Alternate Representative Monitoring: Monitoring locations may be substituted for just cause during the term of the permit. Requests for alternate monitoring locations by the permittee shall be made to the Director in writing and include the rationale for the requested monitoring station relocation. Unless commented on or denied by the Director, use of an alternate monitoring location may commence sixty (60) days from the date of the request.

2. Storm Event Data: For Part I.C.1.a Data shall be collected to estimate pollutant loadings and event mean concentrations for each parameter sampled. The permittee shall maintain records of the date and duration (hours) of the storm event sampled; rainfall measurements or estimates (inches) of the storm event which generated the sampled runoff; the duration (hours) between the storm event sampled and the end of the previous measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event; and the total estimated volume (in gallons) of the discharge sampled. If manual sampling is employed, the permittee shall record physical observations of the discharge such as color and smell; and visible water quality impacts such as floatables, oil sheen, or evidence of sedimentation in the vicinity of the outfall (e.g. sandbars).

3. Sample Type, Collection, and Analysis: The following requirements apply to samples collected pursuant to Part I.C.1.a.

a. For discharges from holding ponds or other impoundments with a retention period greater than 24 hours, (estimated by dividing the volume of the detention pond by the estimated volume of water discharged during the 24 hours previous to the time that the sample is collected) a minimum of one grab sample may be taken.

b. Grab samples shall be used for the analysis of pH, temperature, cyanide, total phenols, residual chlorine, oil & grease, fecal coliform, and fecal streptococcus. For all other parameters, data shall be reported for flow weighted composite samples of the entire event or, at a minimum, the first three hours of discharge.

c. All such samples shall be collected from the discharge resulting from a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event. Composite samples may be taken with a continuous sampler or as a combination of a minimum of three sample aliquots taken in each hour of discharge for the entire discharge or for the first three hours of the discharge, with each aliquot being separated by a minimum period of fifteen minutes.

d. Analysis and collection of samples shall be conducted in accordance with the methods specified at 40 CFR Part 136. Where an approved Part 136 method does not exist, any available method may be used.

4. Sampling Waiver. When the permittee is unable to collect samples required by Part I.C.1.a due to adverse climatic conditions, the discharger must submit, in lieu of sampling data, a description of why samples could not be collected, including available documentation of the event. Adverse climatic conditions which may prohibit the collection of samples include weather conditions that create dangerous conditions for personnel (such as local flooding, high winds, hurricane, tornadoes, electrical storms, etc.) or otherwise make the collection of a sample impracticable (drought, extended frozen conditions, etc.).

5. Sampling Results. The permittee shall record the results of sampling and assessment of the data in a report and submit results with its Annual Report.

6. Wet Weather Screening: The permittee shall develop and implement a program to identify, investigate, and address areas within their jurisdiction that may be contributing excessive levels of pollutants to the MS4 as a result of rainfall or snow melt. Screening shall be conducted at anytime precipitation causes a flow from the storm sewer. At a minimum the wet weather screening program:

a. shall screen all major outfalls at least once during the permit term;

b. shall record the structural integrity of the outfall (if visible); physical observations of the discharge (if visible) such as color and smell; and visible water quality impacts such as floatables, oil sheen, or evidence of sedimentation in the vicinity of the outfall (e.g. sandbars).

c. shall summarize the results of the program in its Annual Report.

d. The permittee may submit an alternate wet weather screening pilot program on a watershed or sub-watershed basis. The pilot project concept must be submitted to EPA and DEP within 90 days of the effective date of the permit. The permittee shall identify reasons it believes that a system wide screening program would not be effective. The pilot project may be conducted in conjunction with Receiving Water Quality Monitoring (C.1.b.), but not Representative Monitoring(C.1.a.)

D. DRY WEATHER DISCHARGES

1. Dry Weather Screening Program: At least once during the permit term, the permittee shall inspect all major outfalls, or nearest upstream location not subject to tidal influence or backflow, during dry weather to identify those outfalls with dry weather flow. Dry weather screening shall be conducted when there has been no greater than 0.10 inches of precipitation in the 72 hours prior to screening. The permittee shall record the structural integrity of the outfall (if visible). If flow is observed, the permittee shall record physical observations such as color, visible sheen, turbidity, floatables, smell, and an estimate of flow. If sewage is suspected, the permittee shall develop a schedule for follow-up activities to eliminate the source as soon as is practicable. The permittee shall summarize the results in its Annual Report

2. Screening Procedures: Screening methodology need not conform to the protocol at 40 CFR §122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D) or sample and collection methods of 40 CFR §136.

3. Follow-up on Dry Weather Screening Results: Follow-up activities shall be prioritized on the basis of:

   a. magnitude and nature of the suspected discharge;

   b. sensitivity of the receiving water; and

   c. other factors the permittee deems appropriate.

4. The permittee shall summarize the results of dry weather screening and submit with its Annual Report.

E. ANNUAL REPORT:

The permittee shall prepare and submit an annual report to be submitted by no later than **March 1, 2000** and annually thereafter. The report shall include the following separate sections, with an overview for the entire MS4:

1. The status of implementing the storm water management program(s);

2. Proposed changes to the storm water management program(s);

3. Revisions, if necessary, to the assessments of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (d)(2)(v);

4. A summary of the data, including monitoring or screening data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year;

5. A revised list of all current separate storm sewer outfalls and their locations, reflecting changes of the previous year.

6. Annual expenditures for the reporting period, with a breakdown of the major elements of the storm water management program, and the budget for the year following each annual report as well as an assessment of adequacy of staffing and equipment;

7. A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs;

8. Identification of water quality improvements or degradation attributable to the permittee;

9. An analysis of the effectiveness and removal efficiencies of structural controls owned or operated by the permittee (such as the off-line particle separator in Fenwood Road); and,

10. An update on the illicit connection program to include the total number of identified connections with an estimate of flow for each, total number of connections found in the reporting period to include how they were found (i.e. citizen complaint, routine inspection), number of connections corrected in the reporting period to include total estimated flow, and the costs of such repairs to include how the repairs were financed (i.e. by the permittee, costs provided to the permittee by the responsible party, repairs effected and financed by the responsible party). As an attachment to the report, the permittee should submit any existing tracking system information.

F. CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE OF REPORTS

All reports required by the permit and other information requested by the Director shall be signed and certified in accordance with the General Conditions-Part II of this permit.

G. REPORT SUBMISSION

1. Original signed copies of all notifications and reports required herein, shall be submitted to the Director at the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
NPDES PROGRAMS (SPA)
P.O. Box 8127
Boston, MA 02114

2. Signed copies of all notifications and reports shall be submitted to the State at:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
1 Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108
Attn: Mr. Steve Lipman

and

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Metro Boston/Northeast Regional Office
205A Lowell Street
Wilmington, MA 01887
Attn: Mr. Sabin Lord

H. RETENTION OF RECORDS

The permittee shall retain all records of all monitoring information, copies of all reports required by this permit and records of all other data required by or used to demonstrate compliance with this permit, until at least three years after coverage under this permit terminates. This period may be modified by alternative provisions of this permit or extended by request of the Director at any time. The permittee shall retain the latest approved version of the SWMP developed in accordance with Part I of this permit until at least three years after coverage under this permit terminates.

I. STATE PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. This Discharge Permit is issued jointly by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection under Federal and State law, respectively. As such, all the terms and conditions of this permit are hereby incorporated into and constitute a discharge permit issued by the Commissioner of the Massachusetts DEP pursuant to M.G.L. Chap. 21, §43.

2. Each Agency shall have the independent right to enforce the terms and conditions of this Permit. Any modification, suspension or revocation of this Permit shall be effective only with respect to the Agency taking such action, and shall not affect the validity or status of this Permit as issued by the other Agency, unless and until each Agency has concurred in writing with such modification, suspension or revocation. In the event any portion of this Permit is declared, invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of State law such permit shall remain in full force and effect under Federal law as an NPDES Permit issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In the event this Permit is declared invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of Federal law, this Permit shall remain in full force and effect under State law as a Permit issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ATTACHMENT A
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OUTFALL NUMBER	OUTFALL TYPE	LOCATION	NEIGHBORHOOD	SIZE (INCHES)	TIDEGATES No. OF GATES / NUMBER	RECEIVING WATER
08B066	MAJOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	18		CHARLES RIVER
08B122	MAJOR	EASEMENT/NORTH OF SPRING STREET	WEST ROXBURY	30		CHARLES RIVER
08B126	MINOR	SPRING STREET EXTENDED	WEST ROXBURY	24		CHARLES RIVER
09B049	MAJOR	EASEMENT/RIVERMOOR STREET	WEST ROXBURY	30		COW ISLAND POND/ CHARLES RIVER
10B015	MAJOR	EASEMENT/CHARLES PARK ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	21		COW ISLAND POND/ CHARLES RIVER
11B123	MAJOR	EASEMENT/EAST OF BAKER ST. EXT.	WEST ROXBURY	72		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B010	MINOR	BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	15		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B014	MINOR	BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	12		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B031	MINOR	EASEMENT/BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	18		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B033	MINOR	EASEMENT/BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	18		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B124	MAJOR	EASEMENT/LaGRANGE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	120x102		BROOK FARM BROOK
13B002	MINOR	LaGRANGE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	15		UNNAMED STREAM
13B011	MINOR	LaGRANGE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	12		UNNAMED STREAM
06C110	MAJOR	EASEMENT/PLEASANTDALE ST. EXT.	WEST ROXBURY	60		NONE SHOWN
07C006	MAJOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY/BELLE AVENUE	WEST ROXBURY	126x126		CHARLES RIVER
08C318	MAJOR	WEDGEMERE ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	24		NONE SHOWN
08C319	MINOR	WEDGEMERE ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	24		UNNAMED STREAM
14C009	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WESTGATE ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	36		UNNAMED WETLANDS
21C212	MINOR	EASEMENT/LAKE SHORE ROAD	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	30		CHANDLERS POND
22C384	MAJOR	EASEMENT/LAKE SHORE ROAD	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHANDLERS POND
24C174	MINOR	EASEMENT/NEWTON STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	9x20		CHARLES RIVER
24C031	MAJOR	PARSONS STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	60X60		CHARLES RIVER
06D057	MINOR	CEDAR CREST CIRCLE	WEST ROXBURY	21		NEPONSET RIVER
06D083	MINOR	MARGARETTA DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	15		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D084	MINOR	EASEMENT/MARGARETTA DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	12		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D085	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	12		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D086	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	10		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D091	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	10		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D184	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	18		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D187	MAJOR	EASEMENT/GROVE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	36		BROOK GROVE STREET CEMETERY
13D077/078	MAJOR	WEST ROXBURY PARKWAY/VFW PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	2-60		BUSSEY BROOK
24D032	MAJOR	NORTH BEACON STREET, ABOUT 800' EAST OF PARSONS STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	119X130	1 / 24D032-18	CHARLES RIVER
24D150	MAJOR	SOLDIERS FIELD PLACE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHARLES RIVER
25D033	MAJOR	ABOUT 390' NORTH OF INTERSECTION OF SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD & WESTERN AVENUE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHARLES RIVER
01E024	MAJOR	EASEMENT/LAKESIDE	HYDE PARK	15		SPRAGUE POND/NEPONSET RIVER
03E185	MAJOR	NORTON STREET	HYDE PARK	2-18		WETLANDS/NEPONSET RIVER
03E186	MINOR	RIVER STREET	HYDE PARK	24		MILL POND/MOTHER BROOK
03E207	MINOR	RIVER STREET	HYDE PARK			MILL POND/MOTHER BROOK

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04E064	MINOR	ALVARADO AVE./RIVER STREET BRIDGE	HYDE PARK	12		MILL POND/MOTHER BROOK
04E069	MAJOR	KNIGHT STREET DAM	HYDE PARK	36		MOTHER BROOK
05E180	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	HYDE PARK	12		NONE SHOWN/CHARLES RIVER
05E181	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	HYDE PARK	12		NONE SHOWN/CHARLES RIVER
05E182	MINOR	DEDHAM STREET	HYDE PARK	21		UNNAMED STREAM/CHARLES RIVER
05E183	MINOR	GEORGETOWN PLACE/DEDHAM PARKWAY	HYDE PARK	12		UNNAMED STREAM
08E031	MINOR	TURTLE POND PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	18		TURTLE POND
08E033	MINOR	TURTLE POND PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	UNKNOWN		TURTLE POND
08E035	MINOR	WASHINGTON STREET	WEST ROXBURY	15		TURTLE POND
09E229	MINOR	GRANDVIEW STREET	WEST ROXBURY	12		NONE SHOWN
09E243	MAJOR	BLUE LEDGE TR./EASEMENT	WEST ROXBURY	30		UNNAMED STREAM
13E174	MINOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY	ROSLINDALE	24		BUSSEY BROOK
13E175	MAJOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY	ROSLINDALE	108X86		BUSSEY BROOK
13E176	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WELD STREET	ROXBURY	15		NONE SHOWN
25E037	MAJOR	EASEMENT/TELFORD STREET EXTENDED	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	66		CHARLES RIVER
01F031	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MILLSTONE ROAD	HYDE PARK	48x24		NEPONSET RIVER
02F085	MINOR	LAWTON STREET	HYDE PARK	12		NEPONSET RIVER RESERVATION
02F093	MAJOR	EASEMENT/SIERRA ROAD	HYDE PARK	15		NEPONSET RIVER
02F120	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WOLCOTT CT./HYDE PARK AVE. EXT.	HYDE PARK	54		NEPONSET RIVER
04F016	MAJOR	EASEMENT RIVER STREET	HYDE PARK	30		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
04F118	MINOR	MASON STREET EXT.	HYDE PARK	18		NEPONSET RIVER
04F119	MAJOR	EASEMENT/HYDE PARK AVE./RESERVATION RD.	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
04F189	MAJOR	RESERVATION ROAD	HYDE PARK	36		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
04F191	MINOR	FARADAY STREET	HYDE PARK	24		NONE SHOWN/NEPONSET RIVER
04F203	MINOR	GLENWOOD AVE	HYDE PARK	28		NEPONSET RIVER
04F204	MAJOR	TRUMAN HWY./CHITTICK STREET	HYDE PARK	36		NEPONSET RIVER
05F117	MAJOR	EASEMENT/TRUMAN HWY./WILLIAMS AVE.	HYDE PARK	33		NEPONSET RIVER
05F244	MINOR	HYDE PARK AVENUE BRIDGE	HYDE PARK	20		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
05F245	MINOR	HYDE PARK AVENUE	HYDE PARK	33		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
05F253	MAJOR	EASEMENT/BUSINESS ST., NEAR BUSINESS TERRACE	HYDE PARK	48x24		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
05F254	MINOR	DANA AVENUE	HYDE PARK	12		NEPONSET RIVER
05F265	MAJOR	BEHIND L.E. MASON CO.	HYDE PARK	15		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
06F233	MINOR	MOUNT ASH ROAD	HYDE PARK	UNK		WETLAND - STONY BROOK RESERVATION
12F322	MINOR	EASEMENT/WALTER STREET	ROSLINDALE	18		NONE SHOWN
13F095	MINOR	EASEMENT/BUSSEY STREET	ROSLINDALE	12		BUSSEY BROOK
14F181	MAJOR	CENTER STREET EXTENSION	ROSLINDALE	38X86		GOLDSMITH BROOK
14F185	MINOR	ALLANDALE STREET	ROSLINDALE	12		BUSSEY BROOK
15F288	MAJOR	ARNOLD ARBORETUM/MURRAY CIRCLE	JAMAICA PLAIN	54		GOLDSMITH BROOK
15F307	MAJOR	ARNOLD ARBORETUM, 100' EAST OF ARBORWAY & SAINT JOSEPH STREET	JAMAICA PLAIN	36X36		GOLDSMITH BROOK
17F012	MINOR	FRANCIS PARKMAN DRIVE	JAMAICA PLAIN	15		JAMAICA POND

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26F038	MAJOR	HARVARD STREET EXT.	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHARLES RIVER
05G112	MAJOR	EASEMENT/RR ROW/WATER ST. EXT.	HYDE PARK	30		NEPONSET RIVER
05G115	MINOR	FAIRMOUNT AVENUE BRIDGE (NORTH BANK)	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
05G116	MINOR	FAIRMOUNT AVE, BRIDGE (SOUTH BANK)	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
05G116A	MINOR	WARREN AVENUE	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
06G108	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WEST OF WOOD AVE. EXT.	HYDE PARK	69		NEPONSET RIVER
06G109	MAJOR	RIVER TERRACE EXT. NEAR ROSA STREET	HYDE PARK	48		NEPONSET RIVER
06G110	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WEST STREET EXT.	HYDE PARK	30		NEPONSET RIVER
06G111	MINOR	EASEMENT/VOSE STREET EXT., TRUMAN HWY.	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
06G165	MINOR	TRUMAN HIGHWAY/METROPOLITAN AVE	HYDE PARK	10		NEPONSET RIVER
06G166	MAJOR	ABOUT 30 FEET FROM GUARDRAIL NORTHERLY SIDE OF TRUMAN HIGHWAY NEAR MILTON LINE.	HYDE PARK	36x36		NEPONSET RIVER
11G318	MINOR	CULVERT UNDER WALK HILL STREET	ROSLINDALE	24		CANTERBURY BROOK
11G319	MINOR	CULVERT UNDER WALK HILL STREET	ROSLINDALE	18		CANTERBURY BROOK
11G344	MAJOR	CULVERT UNDER WALK HILL STREET	ROSLINDALE	162X78		CANTERBURY BROOK
18G233	MINOR	WILLOW POND ROAD	JAMAICA PLAIN	15		MUDDY RIVER
19G043	MAJOR	HUNTINGTON AVENUE	ROXBURY/MISSION HALL	45x45		MUDDY RIVER
19G194	MINOR	HUNTINGTON AVENUE	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	24		MUDDY RIVER
19G199	MINOR	JAMAICA WAY	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	10		MUDDY RIVER
20G161	MAJOR	EASEMENT/BROOKLINE AVENUE	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	36		MUDDY RIVER
20G163	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVERWAY	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	20		MUDDY RIVER
23G132	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MASS TURNPIKE/WEST OF B.U. BRIDGE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	60		CHARLES RIVER
24G034	MAJOR	SOLDIER'S FIELD ROAD, SOUTH OF CAMBRIDGE STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36	1 / 24G034-1	CHARLES RIVER
24G035	MAJOR	SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD/BABCOCK STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	90x84		CHARLES RIVER
25G005	MINOR	FROM WESTERN AVENUE BRIDGE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	12		CHARLES RIVER
25G041	MINOR	SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD/NORTH OF WESTERN AVENUE BRIDGE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	24		CHARLES RIVER
06H106	MINOR	OSCEOLA STREET	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
06H107	MAJOR	EASEMENT/BELNEL ROAD	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
07H105	MAJOR	EASEMENT/EDGEWATER/SOUTH RIVER STREET	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	102x72		NEPONSET RIVER
07H285	MAJOR	BLUE HILL AVENUE	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	106x63		NEPONSET RIVER
07H287	MINOR	RIVER STREET/EDGEWATER DRIVE	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	12		NEPONSET RIVER
07H346	MINOR	EDGEWATER DRIVE/HOLMFIELD AVENUE	HYDE PARK	18		NEPONSET RIVER
07H347	MINOR	EDGEWATER DRIVE/BURMAH ROAD	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	21		NEPONSET RIVER
07H348	MINOR	EDGEWATER DRIVE/TOPALIAN STREET	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	24		NEPONSET RIVER
12H085	MINOR	MORTON STREET	ROSLINDALE	15		CANTERBURY BROOK
	MAJOR	AMERICAN LEGION HIGHWAY	WEST ROXBURY	24		CANTERBURY BROOK
21H047	MINOR	PALACE ROAD EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	24		MUDDY RIVER

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21H048	MINOR	EASEMENT/FENWAY/EVANS WAY	BOSTON PROPER	15		MUDDY RIVER
21H201	MINOR	PALACE ROAD EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	6		MUDDY RIVER
23H040	MINOR	RALEIGH STREET EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	24		CHARLES RIVER
23H042	MAJOR	DEERFIELD STREET	BOSTON PROPER	116x120		CHARLES RIVER
08I153	MINOR	DUXBURY ROAD	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	15		NEPONSET RIVER
08I154	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/GLADSIDE AVE	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	18		NEPONSET RIVER
08I155	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/MAMELON CIR	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	24		NEPONSET RIVER
08I156	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/MAMELON CIR	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	24		NEPONSET RIVER
08I158	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/FREMONT ST.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	18		NEPONSET RIVER
08I207	MINOR	MEADOWBANK AVENUE EXT.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	15		NEPONSET RIVER
08I209	MINOR	MEADOWBANK AVENUE EXT.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	12		NEPONSET RIVER
11I577	MAJOR	HARVARD STREET	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	102x102		CANTERBURY BROOK
08J041	MINOR	RIVER STREET	DORCHESTER	18		NEPONSET RIVER
08J102	MINOR	ADAMS STREET	DORCHESTER	15x15		NEPONSET RIVER
08J103	MAJOR	EASEMENT/CENTRAL AVENUE BRIDGE	DORCHESTER	30		NEPONSET RIVER
08J49/50	MAJOR	DESMOND ROAD	DORCHESTER	2-18&24		NEPONSET RIVER
26J052	MINOR	MONSIGNOR O'BRIEN HIGHWAY	BOSTON PROPER	12		CHARLES RIVER
26J055	MINOR	LEVERETT CIRCLE	BOSTON PROPER	12	1 / NOT MAPPED	CHARLES RIVER
27J001	MAJOR	EASEMENT/INTERSTATE 93	CHARLESTOWN	72		MILLERS RIVER
27J044	MAJOR	PRISON POINT BRIDGE	CHARLESTOWN	15		MILLERS RIVER
27J096	MAJOR	EASEMENT/INTERSTATE 93	CHARLESTOWN	54		MILLERS RIVER
29J029	MINOR	ALFORD STREET/RYAN PLGD. EXT.	CHARLESTOWN	15		MYSTIC RIVER
29J129	MINOR	ALFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	15		MYSTIC RIVER
29J212	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MEDFORD STREET (ALSO OF017)	CHARLESTOWN	72		MYSTIC RIVER
30J006	MAJOR	EASEMENT/ALFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	18		MYSTIC RIVER
30J019	MAJOR	ALFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	15		MYSTIC RIVER
30J030	MAJOR	EASEMENT/ARLINGTON AVENUE	CHARLESTOWN	42	1 / NOT MAPPED	MYSTIC RIVER
08K049	MINOR	BEARSE AVENUE	DORCHESTER	12		NEPONSET RIVER
09K016	MINOR	EASEMENT/BEARSE AVENUE EXT.	DORCHESTER	15		NEPONSET RIVER
09K100	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MELLISH ROAD	DORCHESTER	34X24		NEPONSET RIVER
09K101	MINOR	EASEMENT/HUNTOON STREET EXT.	DORCHESTER	24		NEPONSET RIVER
21K069	MAJOR	EAST BERKELEY STREET	BOSTON PROPER	48	1 / 21K069-1	FORT POINT CHANNEL
26K099	MAJOR	CHELSEA STREET EXT.	CHARLESTOWN	84		CHARLES RIVER

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26K245	MINOR	EASEMENT	CHARLESTOWN	15		CHARLES RIVER
28K018	MAJOR	OLD LANDING WAY EXT.	CHARLESTOWN	42	1 / 28K058	LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28K061	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MEDFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	42	1 / 28K062	LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28K386	MAJOR	EASEMENT/TERMINAL STREET	CHARLESTOWN	30	1 / 28K385	LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
10L094	MAJOR	EASEMENT/GALLIVAN BOULEVARD	DORCHESTER	74x93		NEPONSET RIVER VIA DAVENPORT BROOK
10L096	MAJOR	HILLTOP AND LENOXDALE STREETS	DORCHESTER	36		NEPONSET RIVER
12L092	MAJOR	PINE NECK CREEK STORM DRAIN TENEAN STREET WEST OF LAWLEY	DORCHESTER	72	2 / 12L294	NEPONSET RIVER
16L097	MAJOR	EASEMENT/OFF SAVIN HILL AVENUE	DORCHESTER	24		PATTEN'S COVE
20L081	MINOR	EAST FIRST STREET	SOUTH BOSTON	20		RESERVED CHANNEL
20L083	MINOR	EAST FIRST STREET	SOUTH BOSTON	20		RESERVED CHANNEL
21L077	MAJOR	CLAFLIN STREET EXT./EAST STREET EXT.	SOUTH BOSTON	24	1 / NOT MAPPED	RESERVED CHANNEL
23L016	MINOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	2-15&16		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L074	MINOR	SUMMER STREET BRIDGE	SOUTH BOSTON	15		FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L075	MAJOR	CONGRESS STREET BRIDGE	SOUTH BOSTON	54		FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L140	MINOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	10		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L145	MINOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	10		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L164	MAJOR	CONGRESS STREET BRIDGE	BOSTON PROPER	48	1 / 23L164 IN CHANNEL WALL	FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L195	MAJOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	36		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L196	MAJOR	NEW NORTHERN AVENUE BRIDGE	SOUTH BOSTON	36		FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L202	MAJOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	36		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
24L057	MINOR	STATE STREET EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	18x18		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
24L233	MAJOR	ROWE'S WHARF/ATLANTIC AVENUE	BOSTON PROPER	42		BOSTON HARBOR
25L058	MAJOR	CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK - WATERFRONT	BOSTON PROPER	84		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
25L144	MINOR	CLARK STREET	BOSTON PROPER	12		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
26L055	MAJOR	NEAR BATTERY WHARF	BOSTON PROPER	24X24		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
26L070	MAJOR	HANOVER STREET EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	36		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
26L84	MINOR	LEWIS STREET	EAST BOSTON	18		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
27L020	MAJOR	PIER NO. 4 EASEMENT - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	2-20&24	1 / 27K020-1	BOSTON INNER HARBOR
28L073	MINOR	EASEMENT/4TH STREET - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	6		LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28L074/075/076	MAJOR	16TH STREET/4TH AVENUE - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	3-30		LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28L077	MINOR	EASEMENT/4TH AVENUE - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	10		LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
11M093	MAJOR	NEPONSET AVENUE AT NROTHWEST END OF NEPONSET AVENUE BRIDGE	DORCHESTER	48		NEPONSET RIVER
12M091	MAJOR	ERICSSON/WALNUT ST.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	36		NEPONSET RIVER
17M033	MAJOR	HARBOR POINT PARK (RELOCATED MT. VERNON ST. DRAIN)	DORCHESTER	72		DORCHESTER BAY
21M005	MAJOR	SUMMER STREET	SOUTH BOSTON	18		RESERVED CHANNEL

ATTACHMENT A
BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
STORMWATER OUTFALLS

29M032	MINOR	CONDOR STREET	EAST BOSTON	30		CHELSEA RIVER
29M041	MAJOR	EASEMENT/CONDOR STREET	EAST BOSTON	36x30		CHELSEA RIVER
29M049	MINOR	CONDOR STREET	EAST BOSTON	24		CHELSEA RIVER
29N135	MAJOR	ADDISON STREET	EAST BOSTON	30x30		CHELSEA RIVER
28N156	MINOR	COLERIDGE STREET EXT.	EAST BOSTON	12		BOSTON HARBOR
29O001	MAJOR	BENNINGTON STREET	EAST BOSTON	66	1 / 290062	BOSTON HARBOR NEAR CONSTITUTION BEACH
31O004	MINOR	EASEMENT/WALDEMAR AVENUE	EAST BOSTON	15		CHELSEA RIVER
28P001	MINOR	EASEMENT	EAST BOSTON	12		BOSTON HARBOR NEAR CONSTITUTION BEACH
29P015	MINOR	EASEMENT/BARNES AVENUE	EAST BOSTON	12		BELLE ISLE INLET
29P044	MINOR	SHAWSHEEN STREET	EAST BOSTON	12		BOSTON HARBOR
30P062	MINOR	PALERMO AVENUE EXTENSION	EAST BOSTON	12		WETLANDS
31P084	MINOR	EASEMENT/BENNINGTON STREET	EAST BOSTON	30		BELLE ISLE INLET, REVERE

Major* : 93

Minor : 102

Total: 195

* Major outfall means : An outfall that discharges from a single pipe of 36" or larger in diameter or a non-circular pipe which is associated with drainage area of more than 50 acres; or an outfall that discharges from a single pipe of 12" or larger in diameter serving lands zoned for industrial activity or a non-circular pipe which is associated with drainage area of 2 acres or more.

ATTACHMENT A
BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
STORMWATER OUTFALLS

OUTFALL NUMBER	OUTFALL TYPE	LOCATION	NEIGHBORHOOD	SIZE (INCHES)	TIDEGATES No. OF GATES / NUMBER	RECEIVING WATER
08B066	MAJOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	18		CHARLES RIVER
08B122	MAJOR	EASEMENT/NORTH OF SPRING STREET	WEST ROXBURY	30		CHARLES RIVER
08B126	MINOR	SPRING STREET EXTENDED	WEST ROXBURY	24		CHARLES RIVER
09B049	MAJOR	EASEMENT/RIVERMOOR STREET	WEST ROXBURY	30		COW ISLAND POND/ CHARLES RIVER
10B015	MAJOR	EASEMENT/CHARLES PARK ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	21		COW ISLAND POND/ CHARLES RIVER
11B123	MAJOR	EASEMENT/EAST OF BAKER ST. EXT.	WEST ROXBURY	72		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B010	MINOR	BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	15		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B014	MINOR	BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	12		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B031	MINOR	EASEMENT/BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	18		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B033	MINOR	EASEMENT/BAKER STREET	WEST ROXBURY	18		BROOK FARM BROOK
12B124	MAJOR	EASEMENT/LaGRANGE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	120x102		BROOK FARM BROOK
13B002	MINOR	LaGRANGE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	15		UNNAMED STREAM
13B011	MINOR	LaGRANGE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	12		UNNAMED STREAM
06C110	MAJOR	EASEMENT/PLEASANTDALE ST. EXT.	WEST ROXBURY	60		NONE SHOWN
07C006	MAJOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY/BELLE AVENUE	WEST ROXBURY	126x126		CHARLES RIVER
08C318	MAJOR	WEDGEMERE ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	24		NONE SHOWN
08C319	MINOR	WEDGEMERE ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	24		UNNAMED STREAM
14C009	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WESTGATE ROAD	WEST ROXBURY	36		UNNAMED WETLANDS
21C212	MINOR	EASEMENT/LAKE SHORE ROAD	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	30		CHANDLERS POND
22C384	MAJOR	EASEMENT/LAKE SHORE ROAD	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHANDLERS POND
24C174	MINOR	EASEMENT/NEWTON STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	9x20		CHARLES RIVER
24C031	MAJOR	PARSONS STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	60X60		CHARLES RIVER
06D057	MINOR	CEDAR CREST CIRCLE	WEST ROXBURY	21		NEPONSET RIVER
06D083	MINOR	MARGARETTA DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	15		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D084	MINOR	EASEMENT/MARGARETTA DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	12		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D085	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	12		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D086	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	10		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D091	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	10		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D184	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	WEST ROXBURY	18		WETLANDS/CHARLES RIVER
06D187	MAJOR	EASEMENT/GROVE STREET	WEST ROXBURY	36		BROOK GROVE STREET CEMETERY
13D077/078	MAJOR	WEST ROXBURY PARKWAY/VFW PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	2-60		BUSSEY BROOK
24D032	MAJOR	NORTH BEACON STREET, ABOUT 800' EAST OF PARSONS STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	119X130	1 / 24D032-18	CHARLES RIVER
24D150	MAJOR	SOLDIERS FIELD PLACE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHARLES RIVER
25D033	MAJOR	ABOUT 390' NORTH OF INTERSECTION OF SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD & WESTERN AVENUE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHARLES RIVER
01E024	MAJOR	EASEMENT/LAKESIDE	HYDE PARK	15		SPRAGUE POND/NEPONSET RIVER
03E185	MAJOR	NORTON STREET	HYDE PARK	2-18		WETLANDS/NEPONSET RIVER
03E186	MINOR	RIVER STREET	HYDE PARK	24		MILL POND/MOTHER BROOK
03E207	MINOR	RIVER STREET	HYDE PARK			MILL POND/MOTHER BROOK

ATTACHMENT A
BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
STORMWATER OUTFALLS

04E064	MINOR	ALVARADO AVE./RIVER STREET BRIDGE	HYDE PARK	12		MILL POND/MOTHER BROOK
04E069	MAJOR	KNIGHT STREET DAM	HYDE PARK	36		MOTHER BROOK
05E180	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	HYDE PARK	12		NONE SHOWN/CHARLES RIVER
05E181	MINOR	GEORGETOWN DRIVE	HYDE PARK	12		NONE SHOWN/CHARLES RIVER
05E182	MINOR	DEDHAM STREET	HYDE PARK	21		UNNAMED STREAM/CHARLES RIVER
05E183	MINOR	GEORGETOWN PLACE/DEDHAM PARKWAY	HYDE PARK	12		UNNAMED STREAM
08E031	MINOR	TURTLE POND PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	18		TURTLE POND
08E033	MINOR	TURTLE POND PARKWAY	WEST ROXBURY	UNKNOWN		TURTLE POND
08E035	MINOR	WASHINGTON STREET	WEST ROXBURY	15		TURTLE POND
09E229	MINOR	GRANDVIEW STREET	WEST ROXBURY	12		NONE SHOWN
09E243	MAJOR	BLUE LEDGE TR./EASEMENT	WEST ROXBURY	30		UNNAMED STREAM
13E174	MINOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY	ROSLINDALE	24		BUSSEY BROOK
13E175	MAJOR	EASEMENT/VFW PARKWAY	ROSLINDALE	108X86		BUSSEY BROOK
13E176	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WELD STREET	ROXBURY	15		NONE SHOWN
2SE037	MAJOR	EASEMENT/TELFORD STREET EXTENDED	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	66		CHARLES RIVER
01F031	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MILLSTONE ROAD	HYDE PARK	48x24		NEPONSET RIVER
02F085	MINOR	LAWTON STREET	HYDE PARK	12		NEPONSET RIVER RESERVATION
02F093	MAJOR	EASEMENT/SIERRA ROAD	HYDE PARK	15		NEPONSET RIVER
02F120	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WOLCOTT CT./HYDE PARK AVE. EXT.	HYDE PARK	54		NEPONSET RIVER
04F016	MAJOR	EASEMENT RIVER STREET	HYDE PARK	30		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
04F118	MINOR	MASON STREET EXT.	HYDE PARK	18		NEPONSET RIVER
04F119	MAJOR	EASEMENT/HYDE PARK AVE./RESERVATION RD.	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
04F189	MAJOR	RESERVATION ROAD	HYDE PARK	36		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
04F191	MINOR	FARADAY STREET	HYDE PARK	24		NONE SHOWN/NEPONSET RIVER
04F203	MINOR	GLENWOOD AVE	HYDE PARK	28		NEPONSET RIVER
04F204	MAJOR	TRUMAN HWY./CHITTICK STREET	HYDE PARK	36		NEPONSET RIVER
05F117	MAJOR	EASEMENT/TRUMAN HWY./WILLIAMS AVE.	HYDE PARK	33		NEPONSET RIVER
05F244	MINOR	HYDE PARK AVENUE BRIDGE	HYDE PARK	20		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
05F245	MINOR	HYDE PARK AVENUE	HYDE PARK	33		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
05F253	MAJOR	EASEMENT/BUSINESS ST., NEAR BUSINESS TERRACE	HYDE PARK	48x24		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
05F254	MINOR	DANA AVENUE	HYDE PARK	12		NEPONSET RIVER
05F265	MAJOR	BEHIND L.E. MASON CO.	HYDE PARK	15		MOTHER BROOK/NEPONSET RIVER
06F233	MINOR	MOUNT ASH ROAD	HYDE PARK	UNK		WETLAND - STONY BROOK RESERVATION
12F322	MINOR	EASEMENT/WALTER STREET	ROSLINDALE	18		NONE SHOWN
13F095	MINOR	EASEMENT/BUSSEY STREET	ROSLINDALE	12		BUSSEY BROOK
14F181	MAJOR	CENTER STREET EXTENSION	ROSLINDALE	38X86		GOLDSMITH BROOK
14F185	MINOR	ALLANDALE STREET	ROSLINDALE	12		BUSSEY BROOK
15F288	MAJOR	ARNOLD ARBORETUM/MURRAY CIRCLE	JAMAICA PLAIN	54		GOLDSMITH BROOK
15F307	MAJOR	ARNOLD ARBORETUM, 100' EAST OF ARBORWAY & SAINT JOSEPH STREET	JAMAICA PLAIN	36X36		GOLDSMITH BROOK
17F012	MINOR	FRANCIS PARKMAN DRIVE	JAMAICA PLAIN	15		JAMAICA POND

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BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
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26F038	MAJOR	HARVARD STREET EXT.	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36		CHARLES RIVER
05G112	MAJOR	EASEMENT/RR ROW/WATER ST. EXT.	HYDE PARK	30		NEPONSET RIVER
05G115	MINOR	FAIRMOUNT AVENUE BRIDGE (NORTH BANK)	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
05G116	MINOR	FAIRMOUNT AVE, BRIDGE (SOUTH BANK)	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
05G116A	MINOR	WARREN AVENUE	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
06G108	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WEST OF WOOD AVE. EXT.	HYDE PARK	69		NEPONSET RIVER
06G109	MAJOR	RIVER TERRACE EXT. NEAR ROSA STREET	HYDE PARK	48		NEPONSET RIVER
06G110	MAJOR	EASEMENT/WEST STREET EXT.	HYDE PARK	30		NEPONSET RIVER
06G111	MINOR	EASEMENT/VOSE STREET EXT., TRUMAN HWY.	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
06G165	MINOR	TRUMAN HIGHWAY/METROPOLITAN AVE	HYDE PARK	10		NEPONSET RIVER
06G166	MAJOR	ABOUT 30 FEET FROM GUARDRAIL NORTHERLY SIDE OF TRUMAN HIGHWAY NEAR MILTON LINE.	HYDE PARK	36x36		NEPONSET RIVER
11G318	MINOR	CULVERT UNDER WALK HILL STREET	ROSLINDALE	24		CANTERBURY BROOK
11G319	MINOR	CULVERT UNDER WALK HILL STREET	ROSLINDALE	18		CANTERBURY BROOK
11G344	MAJOR	CULVERT UNDER WALK HILL STREET	ROSLINDALE	162X78		CANTERBURY BROOK
18G233	MINOR	WILLOW POND ROAD	JAMAICA PLAIN	15		MUDDY RIVER
19G043	MAJOR	HUNTINGTON AVENUE	ROXBURY/MISSION HALL	45x45		MUDDY RIVER
19G194	MINOR	HUNTINGTON AVENUE	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	24		MUDDY RIVER
19G199	MINOR	JAMAICA WAY	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	10		MUDDY RIVER
20G161	MAJOR	EASEMENT/BROOKLINE AVENUE	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	36		MUDDY RIVER
20G163	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVERWAY	ROXBURY/MISSION HILL	20		MUDDY RIVER
23G132	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MASS TURNPIKE/WEST OF B.U. BRIDGE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	60		CHARLES RIVER
24G034	MAJOR	SOLDIER'S FIELD ROAD, SOUTH OF CAMBRIDGE STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	36	1 / 24G034-1	CHARLES RIVER
24G035	MAJOR	SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD/BABCOCK STREET	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	90x84		CHARLES RIVER
25G005	MINOR	FROM WESTERN AVENUE BRIDGE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	12		CHARLES RIVER
25G041	MINOR	SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD/NORTH OF WESTERN AVENUE BRIDGE	ALLSTON/BRIGHTON	24		CHARLES RIVER
06H106	MINOR	OSCEOLA STREET	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
06H107	MAJOR	EASEMENT/BELNEL ROAD	HYDE PARK	24		NEPONSET RIVER
07H105	MAJOR	EASEMENT/EDGEWATER/SOUTH RIVER STREET	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	102x72		NEPONSET RIVER
07H285	MAJOR	BLUE HILL AVENUE	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	106x63		NEPONSET RIVER
07H287	MINOR	RIVER STREET/EDGEWATER DRIVE	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	12		NEPONSET RIVER
07H346	MINOR	EDGEWATER DRIVE/HOLMFIELD AVENUE	HYDE PARK	18		NEPONSET RIVER
07H347	MINOR	EDGEWATER DRIVE/BURMAH ROAD	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	21		NEPONSET RIVER
07H348	MINOR	EDGEWATER DRIVE/TOPALIAN STREET	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	24		NEPONSET RIVER
12H085	MINOR	MORTON STREET	ROSLINDALE	15		CANTERBURY BROOK
	MAJOR	AMERICAN LEGION HIGHWAY	WEST ROXBURY	24		CANTERBURY BROOK
21H047	MINOR	PALACE ROAD EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	24		MUDDY RIVER

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STORMWATER OUTFALLS

21H048	MINOR	EASEMENT/FENWAY/EVANS WAY	BOSTON PROPER	15		MUDDY RIVER
21H201	MINOR	PALACE ROAD EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	6		MUDDY RIVER
23H040	MINOR	RALEIGH STREET EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	24		CHARLES RIVER
23H042	MAJOR	DEERFIELD STREET	BOSTON PROPER	116x120		CHARLES RIVER
08I153	MINOR	DUXBURY ROAD	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	15		NEPONSET RIVER
08I154	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/GLADSIDE AVE	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	18		NEPONSET RIVER
08I155	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/MAMELON CIR	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	24		NEPONSET RIVER
08I156	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/MAMELON CIR	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	24		NEPONSET RIVER
08I158	MINOR	EASEMENT/RIVER STREET/FREMONT ST.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	18		NEPONSET RIVER
08I207	MINOR	MEADOWBANK AVENUE EXT.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	15		NEPONSET RIVER
08I209	MINOR	MEADOWBANK AVENUE EXT.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	12		NEPONSET RIVER
11I577	MAJOR	HARVARD STREET	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	102x102		CANTERBURY BROOK
08J041	MINOR	RIVER STREET	DORCHESTER	18		NEPONSET RIVER
08J102	MINOR	ADAMS STREET	DORCHESTER	15x15		NEPONSET RIVER
08J103	MAJOR	EASEMENT/CENTRAL AVENUE BRIDGE	DORCHESTER	30		NEPONSET RIVER
08J49/50	MAJOR	DESMOND ROAD	DORCHESTER	2-18&24		NEPONSET RIVER
26J052	MINOR	MONSIGNOR O'BRIEN HIGHWAY	BOSTON PROPER	12		CHARLES RIVER
26J055	MINOR	LEVERETT CIRCLE	BOSTON PROPER	12	1 / NOT MAPPED	CHARLES RIVER
27J001	MAJOR	EASEMENT/INTERSTATE 93	CHARLESTOWN	72		MILLERS RIVER
27J044	MAJOR	PRISON POINT BRIDGE	CHARLESTOWN	15		MILLERS RIVER
27J096	MAJOR	EASEMENT/INTERSTATE 93	CHARLESTOWN	54		MILLERS RIVER
29J029	MINOR	ALFORD STREET/RYAN PLGD. EXT.	CHARLESTOWN	15		MYSTIC RIVER
29J129	MINOR	ALFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	15		MYSTIC RIVER
29J212	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MEDFORD STREET (ALSO OF017)	CHARLESTOWN	72		MYSTIC RIVER
30J006	MAJOR	EASEMENT/ALFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	18		MYSTIC RIVER
30J019	MAJOR	ALFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	15		MYSTIC RIVER
30J030	MAJOR	EASEMENT/ARLINGTON AVENUE	CHARLESTOWN	42	1 / NOT MAPPED	MYSTIC RIVER
08K049	MINOR	BEARSE AVENUE	DORCHESTER	12		NEPONSET RIVER
09K016	MINOR	EASEMENT/BEARSE AVENUE EXT.	DORCHESTER	15		NEPONSET RIVER
09K100	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MELLISH ROAD	DORCHESTER	34X24		NEPONSET RIVER
09K101	MINOR	EASEMENT/HUNTOON STREET EXT.	DORCHESTER	24		NEPONSET RIVER
21K069	MAJOR	EAST BERKELEY STREET	BOSTON PROPER	48	1 / 21K069-1	FORT POINT CHANNEL
26K099	MAJOR	CHELSEA STREET EXT.	CHARLESTOWN	84		CHARLES RIVER

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BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
STORMWATER OUTFALLS

26K245	MINOR	EASEMENT	CHARLESTOWN	15		CHARLES RIVER
28K018	MAJOR	OLD LANDING WAY EXT.	CHARLESTOWN	42	1 / 28K058	LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28K061	MAJOR	EASEMENT/MEDFORD STREET	CHARLESTOWN	42	1 / 28K062	LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28K386	MAJOR	EASEMENT/TERMINAL STREET	CHARLESTOWN	30	1 / 28K385	LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
10L094	MAJOR	EASEMENT/GALLIVAN BOULEVARD	DORCHESTER	74x93		NEPONSET RIVER VIA DAVENPORT BROOK
10L096	MAJOR	HILLTOP AND LENOXDALE STREETS	DORCHESTER	36		NEPONSET RIVER
12L092	MAJOR	PINE NECK CREEK STORM DRAIN TENEAN STREET WEST OF LAWLEY	DORCHESTER	72	2 / 12L294	NEPONSET RIVER
16L097	MAJOR	EASEMENT/OFF SAVIN HILL AVENUE	DORCHESTER	24		PATTEN'S COVE
20L081	MINOR	EAST FIRST STREET	SOUTH BOSTON	20		RESERVED CHANNEL
20L083	MINOR	EAST FIRST STREET	SOUTH BOSTON	20		RESERVED CHANNEL
21L077	MAJOR	CLAFLIN STREET EXT./EAST STREET EXT.	SOUTH BOSTON	24	1 / NOT MAPPED	RESERVED CHANNEL
23L016	MINOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	2-15&16		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L074	MINOR	SUMMER STREET BRIDGE	SOUTH BOSTON	15		FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L075	MAJOR	CONGRESS STREET BRIDGE	SOUTH BOSTON	54		FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L140	MINOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	10		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L145	MINOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	10		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L164	MAJOR	CONGRESS STREET BRIDGE	BOSTON PROPER	48	1 / 23L164 IN CHANNEL WALL	FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L195	MAJOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	36		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
23L196	MAJOR	NEW NORTHERN AVENUE BRIDGE	SOUTH BOSTON	36		FORT POINT CHANNEL
23L202	MAJOR	NORTHERN AVENUE	SOUTH BOSTON	36		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
24L057	MINOR	STATE STREET EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	18x18		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
24L233	MAJOR	ROWE'S WHARF/ATLANTIC AVENUE	BOSTON PROPER	42		BOSTON HARBOR
25L058	MAJOR	CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS PARK - WATERFRONT	BOSTON PROPER	84		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
25L144	MINOR	CLARK STREET	BOSTON PROPER	12		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
26L055	MAJOR	NEAR BATTERY WHARF	BOSTON PROPER	24X24		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
26L070	MAJOR	HANOVER STREET EXT.	BOSTON PROPER	36		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
26L84	MINOR	LEWIS STREET	EAST BOSTON	18		BOSTON INNER HARBOR
27L020	MAJOR	PIER NO. 4 EASEMENT - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	2-20&24	1 / 27K020-1	BOSTON INNER HARBOR
28L073	MINOR	EASEMENT/4TH STREET - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	6		LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28L074/075/076	MAJOR	16TH STREET/4TH AVENUE - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	3-30		LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
28L077	MINOR	EASEMENT/4TH AVENUE - NAVY YARD	CHARLESTOWN	10		LITTLE MYSTIC CHANNEL
11M093	MAJOR	NEPONSET AVENUE AT NROTHWEST END OF NEPONSET AVENUE BRIDGE	DORCHESTER	48		NEPONSET RIVER
12M091	MAJOR	ERICSSON/WALNUT ST.	NEPONSET/MATTAPAN	36		NEPONSET RIVER
17M033	MAJOR	HARBOR POINT PARK (RELOCATED MT. VERNON ST. DRAIN)	DORCHESTER	72		DORCHESTER BAY
21M005	MAJOR	SUMMER STREET	SOUTH BOSTON	18		RESERVED CHANNEL

ATTACHMENT A
BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
STORMWATER OUTFALLS

29M032	MINOR	CONDOR STREET	EAST BOSTON	30		CHELSEA RIVER
29M041	MAJOR	EASEMENT/CONDOR STREET	EAST BOSTON	36x30		CHELSEA RIVER
29M049	MINOR	CONDOR STREET	EAST BOSTON	24		CHELSEA RIVER
29N135	MAJOR	ADDISON STREET	EAST BOSTON	30x30		CHELSEA RIVER
28N156	MINOR	COLERIDGE STREET EXT.	EAST BOSTON	12		BOSTON HARBOR
29O001	MAJOR	BENNINGTON STREET	EAST BOSTON	66	1 / 29O062	BOSTON HARBOR NEAR CONSTITUTION BEACH
31O004	MINOR	EASEMENT/WALDEMAR AVENUE	EAST BOSTON	15		CHELSEA RIVER
28P001	MINOR	EASEMENT	EAST BOSTON	12		BOSTON HARBOR NEAR CONSTITUTION BEACH
29P015	MINOR	EASEMENT/BARNES AVENUE	EAST BOSTON	12		BELLE ISLE INLET
29P044	MINOR	SHAWSHEEN STREET	EAST BOSTON	12		BOSTON HARBOR
30P062	MINOR	PALERMO AVENUE EXTENSION	EAST BOSTON	12		WETLANDS
31P084	MINOR	EASEMENT/BENNINGTON STREET	EAST BOSTON	30		BELLE ISLE INLET, REVERE

Major* : 93

Minor : 102

Total: 195

* Major outfall means : An outfall that discharges from a single pipe of 36" or larger in diameter or a non-circular pipe which is associated with drainage area of more than 50 acres; or an outfall that discharges from a single pipe of 12" or larger in diameter serving lands zoned for industrial activity or a non-circular pipe which is associated with drainage area of 2 acres or more.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203

FACT SHEET

DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

NPDES PERMIT NO.: MAS010001

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Boston Water and Sewer Commission
425 Summer Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITIES WHERE DISCHARGES OCCUR:

195 Storm water Outfalls listed in Permit Attachment A

RECEIVING WATERS:

Belle Isle Inlet, Boston Harbor, Boston Inner Harbor, Brook Farm Brook, Bussey Brook, Canterbury Brook, Chandler Pond, Charles River, Chelsea River, Dorchester Bay, Fort Point Channel, Goldsmith Brook, Jamaica Pond, Little Mystic Channel, Mill Pond, Millers River, Mother Brook, Muddy River, Mystic River, Neponset River, Old Harbor, Patten's Cove, Reserved Channel, Sprague Pond, Stony Brook, Turtle Pond, and unnamed wetlands, brooks and streams .

CLASSIFICATION: **Class SB and B**

I. Proposed Action, Type of Facility and Discharge Location.

The Boston Water and Sewer Commission(BWSC), the permittee, is empowered to promulgate rules and regulations regarding the use of its common sewers, including its sanitary sewers, combined sewers and storm drains. BWSC applied for its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System(MS4) permit, which will discharge storm water from 195 identified separate storm sewer outfalls to receiving waters listed in Attachment A.

1. Discharge Characteristics

At the time of this draft, BWSC operates 195 identified separate storm sewer outfalls. Locations, size, and receiving waters for these outfalls are identified in Attachment A. Storm water discharge sampling results from five representative outfalls are shown on Table 3-21 of the permit application (Part II) dated May 17, 1993 and are included as Attachment B. A discussion of the results of sampling can be found in Part II Chapter 3 of the application.

2. Limitations and Conditions.

Permit conditions and all other requirements described herein may be found in Part I of the draft permit. No numeric effluent limitations have been established for this draft permit.

3. Permit Basis and Explanation of Permit Conditions.

As authorized by Section 402(p) of the Act, this permit is being proposed on a system-wide basis. This permit covers all areas under the jurisdiction of BWSC or otherwise contributing to discharges from municipal separate storm sewers owned or operated by the permittee.

a. Statutory basis for permit conditions. The conditions established by this permit are based on Section §402(p)(3)(B) of the Act which mandates that a permit for discharges from MS4s must: effectively prohibit the discharge of non-storm water to the MS4 and require controls to reduce pollutants in discharges from the MS4 to the maximum extent practicable including best management practices, control techniques, and system design and engineering methods, and such other provisions determined to be appropriate. MS4s are required to achieve compliance with Water Quality Standards. Section 301(b)(1)(C) of the Act, requires that NPDES permits include limitations, including those necessary to meet water quality standards. The intent of the permit conditions is to meet the statutory mandate of the Act.

EPA has determined that under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.44(k) the permit will include Best Management Practices (BMPs). A comprehensive Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) includes BMPs to demonstrate compliance with the maximum extent practicable standard. Section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) of the Act clearly includes structural controls as a component of the maximum extent practicable requirement as necessary to achieve compliance with Water Quality Standards.

EPA encourages the permittee to explore opportunities for pollution prevention measures, while reserving the more costly structural controls for higher priority watersheds, or where pollution prevention measures prove unfeasible or ineffective in achieving water quality goals and standards.

b. Regulatory basis for permit conditions. As a result of the statutory requirements of the Act the EPA promulgated the MS4 Permit application regulations, 40 CFR 122.26(d). These regulations describe in detail the permit application requirements for operators of MS4s. The information in the application (Parts 1 and 2) and supplemental information provided in June 1995 and June 1998 was used to develop the draft permit conditions.

4. Discharges Authorized By This Permit.

a. Storm water. This permit authorizes all existing or new storm water point source discharges to waters of the United States from the MS4.

b. Non-storm water. This permit authorizes the discharge of storm water commingled with flows contributed by wastewater, or Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activity, provided such discharges are authorized by separate NPDES permits and in compliance with the permittee's regulations regarding the use of storm drains. Nothing in this draft permit conveys a right to discharge to the permittee's system without the permittee's authorization. In addition, certain types of non-storm waters identified in the draft permit at Part I.B.2.g. are authorized if appropriately addressed in the permittee's Storm Water Management Program.

The following demonstrates the difference between the Act's statutory requirements for discharges from municipal storm sewers and industrial sites:

i. Section 402(p)(3)(B) of the Act requires an effective prohibition on non-storm water discharges to a MS4 and controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP).

ii. Section 402(p)(3)(A) of the Act requires compliance with treatment technology (BAT/BCT) and Section 301 water quality requirements on discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activity.

The Act requires Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activity discharging to the MS4 to be covered by a separate NPDES permit. However, the permittee is responsible for the quality of the ultimate discharge, and has a vested interest in locating uncontrolled and unpermitted discharges to the system.

c. Spills. This permit does not authorize discharges of material resulting from a spill. If discharges from a spill are unavoidable to prevent imminent threat to human life, personal injury, or severe property damage, the permittee has the responsibility to take (or insure the party responsible for the spill takes) reasonable and prudent measures to minimize the impact of discharges on human health and the environment.

5. Receiving Stream Segments and Discharge Locations.

The permittee discharges to the receiving waters listed in Attachment A, which are classified according to the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards as Class B, B_{CSO}, SB, and SB_{CSO} water bodies. Despite variance conditions and CSO designation, storm water discharges shall achieve compliance with Class B and SB standards. Class B and SB waters shall be of such quality that they are suitable for the designated uses of protection and propagation of fish, other aquatic life and wildlife; and for primary and secondary contact recreation. Notwithstanding specific conditions of this permit, the discharges must not lower the quality of any classified water body below such classification, or lower the existing quality of any water body if the existing quality is higher than the classification, except in accordance with Massachusetts' Antidegradation Statutes and Regulations.

6. SWMP.

The following prohibitions apply to discharges from MS4s and were considered in review of the current management programs which the permittee is operating. In implementing the SWMP, the permittee is required to select measures or activities intended to achieve the following prohibitions.

No discharge of toxics in toxic amounts. The discharge of toxics in toxic amounts is prohibited (Section 101(a)(3) of the Act).

No discharge of pollutants in quantities that would cause a violation of State water quality standards. Section 301(b)(1)(C) of the Act and 40 CFR 122.44(d) require that NPDES permits include "...any more stringent limitations, including those necessary to meet water quality standards, treatment standards, or schedule of compliance, established pursuant to State law or regulations..." Implementation of the SWMP is reasonably expected to provide for protection of State water quality standards.

No discharge of non-storm water from the municipal separate storm sewer system, except in accordance with Part II.B.2. Permits issued to MS4s are specifically required by Section 402(p)(3)(B) of the Act to "...include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers..." The regulations (40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1)) allow the permittee to accept certain non-storm water discharges where they have not been identified as significant sources of pollutants. Any discharge allowed by the permittee and authorized by a separate NPDES permit is not subject to the prohibition on non-storm water discharges.

No numeric effluent limitations are proposed in the draft permit. In accordance with 40 CFR §122.44(k), the EPA has required a series of Best Management Practices, in the form of a comprehensive SWMP, in lieu of numeric limitations.

7. Storm Water Management Program.

BWSC provided updates to its SWMP in June 1995 and June 1998. The current SWMP addresses all required elements. Some of the elements of the SWMP are wholly or in part the responsibility of the City of Boston rather than BWSC. The permit requires the permittee to cooperate with appropriate municipal agencies to assure that the goals of the SWMP are achieved by building upon existing programs and procedures which address activities impacting storm water discharges to the MS4.

EPA has requested permit application information from the City of Boston. This information will be used to develop permit conditions for the City to implement the SWMP measures which are under its control. This will be effected through a permit modification identifying the City as a co-permittee and specifying its responsibilities or through the issuance of a separate permit to the City.

Table A identifies the required elements of the SWMP, the regulatory cite, and the relevant draft permit condition.

Table A - Storm Water Management Program Elements

Required Program Element	Permit Parts	Regulatory References (40 CFR 122.26...)
Structural Controls	I.B.2.b	(d)(2)(iv)(A)(1)
Areas of new development & significant redevelopment	I.B.2.c	(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2)
Roadways	I.B.2.d	(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3)
Flood Control Projects	I.B.2.e	(d)(2)(iv)(A)(4)
Pesticides, Herbicides, & Fertilizers Application	I.B.2.f	(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6)
Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal	I.B.2.g	(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1)-(3), (iv)(B)(7)
Spill Prevention and Response	I.B.2.h	(d)(2)(iv)(B)(4)
Industrial and High Risk Runoff	I.B.2.i	(d)(2)(iv)(C), (iv)(A)(5)
Construction Site Runoff	I.B.2.j	(d)(2)(iv)(D)
Public Education	I.B.2.k	(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6), (iv)(B)(5), (iv)(B)(6)
Monitoring Program	I.C	(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2), (iii), (iv)(A), (iv)(C)(2)

Attachment C provides a discussion of the permit condition and the permittee's existing SWMP.

8. Legal Authority. BWSC has demonstrated its authority to promulgate regulations regarding the use of its common sewers, including its sanitary sewers, combined sewers and storm drains. Regulations Governing the Use of Sanitary and Combined Sewers and Storm Drains of the Boston Water and Sewer Commission were adopted January 15, 1998 and effective February 27, 1998.

9. Resources. Part I.B.6 of the permit requires the permittee to provide adequate support capabilities to implement its activities under the SWMP. Compliance with this requirement will be demonstrated by the permittee's ability to fully implement the SWMP, monitoring programs, and other permit requirements. The permit does not require specific funding or staffing levels, thus providing the permittee with the ability, and incentive, to adopt the most efficient and cost effective methods to comply with the permit requirements. The draft permit also requires an Annual Report (Part I.E.) which includes an evaluation of resources to implement the plan.

10. Monitoring and Reporting.

a. Monitoring. The BWSC sampled five locations which were selected to provide representative data on the quality and quantity of discharges from the MS4 as a whole. Parameters sampled included conventional, non-conventional, organic toxics, and other toxic pollutants. The EPA reviewed this information during the permitting process. Monitoring data is intended to be used by the BWSC to assist in its determination of appropriate storm water management practices. EPA used the data to identify the minimum parameters for sampling under Part I.C of the permit.

The BWSC is required (40 CFR §122.26(d)((2)(iii)(C) and (D)) to monitor the MS4 to provide data necessary to assess the effectiveness and adequacy of SWMP control measures; estimate annual cumulative pollutant loadings from the MS4; estimate event mean concentrations and seasonal pollutants in discharges from major outfalls; identify and prioritize portions of the MS4 requiring additional controls, and identify water quality improvements or degradation. The BWSC is responsible for conducting any additional monitoring necessary to accurately characterize the quality and quantity of pollutants discharged from the MS4.

EPA will make future permitting decisions based on the monitoring data collected during the permit term and available water quality information. Where the required permit term monitoring proves insufficient to show pollutant reductions, the EPA may require more stringent Best Management Practices, or where necessary to protect water quality, establish numeric effluent limitations.

1. Representative monitoring: The monitoring of the discharge of representative outfalls during actual storm events will provide information on the quality of runoff from the MS4, a basis for estimating annual pollutant loadings, and a mechanism to evaluate reductions in pollutants discharged from the MS4. Results from the monitoring program will be submitted annually with the annual report.

2. Requirements: The BWSC shall monitor representative discharges to characterize the quality of storm water discharges from the MS4. Within **90** days after the effective date of this permit, the BWSC will submit its proposed sampling plan. The BWSC shall choose five locations representing the different land uses or drainage areas representative of the system, with a focus on what it considers priority areas, such as an outfall in the vicinity of a public beach or a shellfish bed. This submittal shall also include any related monitoring which the BWSC has done since its MS4 permit application was submitted. Unless commented on or denied by the Director within **60** days after its submittal, the proposed sampling plan shall be deemed approved.

3. Parameters: The EPA established minimum permit parameter monitoring requirements based on the information available regarding storm water discharges and potential impacts of these discharges. The basic parameter list allows satisfaction of the regulatory requirement [40 CFR §122.26(d)(2)(iii)] to provide estimates of pollutant loadings for each major outfall.

4. Frequency: The frequency of annual monitoring is based on monitoring at least one representative storm event three times a year. The plan should consider sampling events in the spring, summer, and fall (excluding January to March). Monitoring frequency is based on permit year, not a calendar year. The first complete calendar year monitoring could be less than the stated frequency.

5. Receiving Water Quality Monitoring: The draft permit is conditioned to include four sampling stations to assess the impact of storm water discharges from the MS4 to receiving waters. The permittee shall submit a plan to sample four locations three times a year for the permit term within 90 days of the effective date of the permit. The minimum parameters for analysis are consistent with the representative monitoring requirements.

b. Screening. The draft permit requires two screening programs. Part I.C.6 requires the permittee to develop a Wet Weather Screening Program. This screening shall record physical observations of wet weather flows from all major outfalls at least once during the permit term. The program will identify discharges which may be contributing to water quality impairments short of analytical monitoring. Part I.D. requires a dry weather screening program.

c. Reporting. The permittee is required (40 CFR §122.42(c)(1)) to contribute to the preparation of an annual system-wide report including the status of implementing the SWMP; proposed changes to the SWMP; revisions, if necessary, to the assessments of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application; a summary of the data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year; annual expenditures and the budget for the year following each annual report; a summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs; and identification of water quality improvements or degradation. Part I.E. of the draft permit requires the permittee to do annual evaluations on the effectiveness of the SWMP, and institute or propose modifications necessary to meet the overall permit standard of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable. In order to allow the orderly collection of budgetary and monitoring data it was determined to establish the annual report due date relative to the permittee's annual fiscal year. BWSC's fiscal year ends on **December 31** and the annual report is due on **March 1** each year commencing March 1, 1999.

11. Permit Modifications.

a. Reopener Clause. The EPA may reopen and require modifications to the permit (including the SWMP) based on the following factors: changes in the State's Water Quality Management Plan and State or Federal requirements; adding co-permittee(s); SWMP changes impacting compliance with permit requirements; other modifications deemed necessary by the EPA to adhere to the requirements of the Clean Water Act. Co-permittees may be incorporated into this permit or separate permits may be required as necessary to achieve the goals of the SWMP. Implementation of the SWMP is expected to result in the protection of water quality. The draft permit contains a reopener clause should new information indicate that the discharges from the MS4 are causing, or are significantly contributing to, a violation of the State's water quality standards.

b. SWMP Changes. The SWMP is intended to be a tool to achieve the maximum extent practicable and water quality standards. Therefore, minor changes and adjustments to the various SWMP elements are expected and encouraged where necessary. Changes may be necessary to more successfully adhere to the goals of the permit. Part I.B.7.c of the draft permit describes the allowable procedure for the permittee to make changes to the SWMP. Any changes requested by a permittee shall be reviewed by the EPA and DEP. The EPA and DEP have 60 days to respond to the permittee and inform the permittee if the suggested changes will impact or change the SWMP's compliance with a permit requirement.

c. Additions. The EPA intends to allow the permittee to annex lands, activate new outfalls, deactivate existing outfalls, and accept the transfer of operational authority over portions of the MS4 without mandating a permit modification. Implementation of appropriate SWMP elements for these additions (annexed land or transferred authority) is required. Upon notification of the additions in the Annual Report, the EPA shall review the information to determine if a modification to the permit is necessary based on changed circumstances.

The remaining conditions of the permit are based on the NPDES regulations, 40 CFR Parts 122 though 125, and consist primarily of management requirements common to all permits.

II. State Certification Requirements.

EPA may not issue a permit unless the State Water Pollution Control Agency with jurisdiction over the receiving waters certifies that the effluent limitations contained in the permit are stringent enough to assure that the discharge will not cause the receiving water to violate State Water Quality Standards. The staff of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has reviewed the draft permit and advised EPA that the limitations are adequate to protect water quality. EPA has requested permit certification by the State and expects that the draft permit will be certified.

III. Comment Period, Hearing Requests and Procedures for Final Decisions.

All persons, including applicants, who believe any condition of the draft permit is inappropriate must raise all issues and submit all available arguments and all supporting material for their arguments in full by the close of the public comment period, to the U.S. EPA, Planning and Administration (SPA), P.O. Box 8127, Boston, MA 02114. Any person, prior to such date, may submit a request in writing for a public hearing to consider the draft permit to EPA and the State Agency. Such requests shall state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. A public hearing may be held after at least thirty days public notice whenever the Regional Administrator finds that response to this notice indicates significant public interest. In reaching a final decision on the draft permit the Regional Administrator will respond to all significant comments and make those responses available to the public at EPA's Boston Office.

Following the close of the comment period, and after a public hearing, if such hearing is held, the Regional Administrator will issue a final permit decision and forward a copy of the final decision to the applicant and to each person who has submitted written comments or requested notice. Within 30 days following the notice of the final permit decision any interested person any submit a request for a formal hearing to reconsider or contest the final decision. Requests for formal hearings must satisfy the requirements of 40 CFR §124.74, 48 Fed. Reg. 14279-14280 (April 1, 1983).

IV. EPA Contact

Additional information concerning the draft permit may be obtained between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays from:

Jay Brolin
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
Office of Ecosystem Protection (CMA)
Boston, MA 02203-0001
Telephone: (617) 565-9453 Fax: (617) 565-4940

September 2, 1998
Date

Linda M. Murphy, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Attachment C

Structural Controls: The permittee shall operate the separate storm sewer system and any storm water structural controls in a manner to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the Maximum Extent Practicable. The permittee's existing SWMP includes operation and maintenance procedures to include an inspection schedule of storm water structural controls adequate to satisfy the permit condition.

Areas of New Development and Significant Redevelopment: The permittee has no authority over land use issues. The draft permit is conditioned to require the permittee to coordinate with the appropriate municipal agencies as it relates to discharges to the MS4. The permittee has its own site plan review process relating to new or modified connections for water, sewer, and drains and has the authority to require controls on discharges to the storm drain system during and after construction.

Roadways: The permittee has no authority to ensure that public streets, roads, and highways are operated and maintained in a manner to minimize discharge of pollutants, including those pollutants related to deicing or sanding activities. The draft permit is conditioned to require the permittee to coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies as it relates to discharge to the MS4.

Pesticide, Herbicide, and Fertilizer Application: The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies to evaluate existing measures to reduce the discharge of pollutants related to the storage and application of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers applied to public property.

Non-Storm Water discharges: Non-storm water discharges shall be effectively prohibited. However, the permittee may allow certain non-storm water discharges as listed in 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) and Part I.B.2 of the draft permit. The permittee has identified allowable non-storm water discharges in its regulations.

The permittee shall implement controls to prevent discharges of dry and wet weather overflows from sanitary sewers into the MS4. The permittee shall also control the infiltration of seepage from sanitary sewers into the MS4. This is presently accomplished through the permittee's illicit connection program and it's Inflow/Infiltration program.

The discharge or disposal of used motor vehicle fluids, household hazardous wastes, grass clippings, leaf litter, and animal wastes into the MS4 is prohibited in accordance with the permittee's regulations. The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate

regulations. The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate public and private agencies to ensure continued implementation of programs to collect used motor vehicle fluids (at a minimum, oil and antifreeze) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal and to collect household hazardous waste materials (including paint, solvents, pesticides, herbicides, and other hazardous materials) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal. The City of Boston has an existing program.

Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal: The BWSC shall continue to implement its program to locate and eliminate illicit discharges and improper disposal into the MS4. This program shall include dry weather screening activities to locate portions of the MS4 with suspected illicit discharges and improper disposal. Follow-up activities to eliminate illicit discharges and improper disposal may be prioritized on the basis of magnitude and nature of the suspected discharge; sensitivity of the receiving water; and/or other relevant factors. This program shall establish priorities and schedules for screening the entire MS4 at least once every five years. At present the permittee has on-going programs in Brighton (BOS 032) discharges to the Charles River, discharges to Brookline's Village and Tannery Brook drainage systems, and discharges through Dedham to Mother Brook. Facility inspections may be carried out in conjunction with other programs (e.g. pretreatment inspections of industrial users, health inspections, fire inspections, etc.).

The BWSC shall eliminate illicit discharges as expeditiously as possible and require the immediate termination of improper disposal practices upon identification of responsible parties. Where elimination of an illicit discharge within sixty (60) days is not possible, the BWSC shall establish an expeditious schedule for removal of the discharge. In the interim, the BWSC shall take all reasonable and prudent measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the MS4.

Spill Prevention and Response: The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies to implement a program to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into the MS4. The existing spill response program in the City includes a combination of spill response actions by the permittee, municipal agencies and private entities. The permittee's regulations include legal requirements for public and private entities within the permittee's jurisdiction.

Industrial & High Risk Runoff: The permittee shall coordinate with EPA and DEP to develop a program to identify and control pollutants in storm water discharges to the MS4 from municipal landfills; other treatment, storage, or disposal facilities for municipal waste (e.g. transfer stations, incinerators, etc.);

hazardous waste treatment, storage, disposal and recovery facilities and facilities that are subject to EPCRA Title III, Section 313; and any other industrial or commercial discharge which the permittee determine is contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the MS4 shall be implemented. The program shall include inspections, a monitoring program and a list of industrial storm water sources discharging to the MS4 which shall be maintained and updated as necessary. This requirement is not meant to cover all such discharges, but is intended to prioritize those discharges from this group which are believed to be contributing pollutants to the MS4 and to identify those dischargers which may require NPDES permit coverage or are not in compliance with existing permits.

Construction Site Runoff: The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies to implement a program to reduce the discharge of pollutants from construction sites to the separate storm sewer. This program shall include: requirements for the use and maintenance of appropriate structural and non-structural control measures to reduce pollutants discharged to the MS4 from construction sites; inspection of construction sites and enforcement of control measure requirements required by the permittee; appropriate education and training measures for construction site operators; and notification of appropriate building permit applicants of their potential responsibilities under the NPDES permitting program for construction site runoff and any post-construction permitting.

Public Education: The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate municipal agencies to implement a public education program with the following elements: (a) a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or improper disposal of materials into the MS4; (b) a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate the proper management and disposal of used oil and household hazardous wastes; and (c) a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate the proper use, application, and disposal of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers.

Exhibit **6**

Worcester, MA – Department of Public Works MS4 Permit
(Permit No. MAS010002)

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AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the federal Clean Water Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. §§1251 et seq., and the Massachusetts Clean Waters Act, as amended, Mass. Gen. Laws. ch. 21, §§26-53, the

City of Worcester
Department of Public Works

and is authorized to discharge from all new or existing separate storm sewers: **existing Separate Storm Sewer Outfalls which are listed in Attachment A (93 major outfalls) and all other known outfalls (170 minor outfalls)**

to receiving waters (in the BLACKSTONE RIVER BASIN) named: **Beaver Brook, Blackstone River, Broad Meadow Brook, Coal Mine Brook, Coes Pond, Curtis Pond, Fitzgerald Brook, Indian Lake, Kendrick Brook, Kettle Brook, Lake Quinsigamond, Leesville Pond, Middle River, Mill Brook, Mill Brook Tributary, Tatnuck Brook, Patch Reservoir, Poor Farm Brook, Smiths Pond, Weasel Brook and Williams Millpond** in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

This permit shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date of signature.

This permit and the authorization to discharge expire at midnight, five years from the effective date.

This permit consists of **21** pages and **Attachment A** in Part I including wet and dry weather monitoring requirements, etc., and 35 pages in Part II including General Conditions and Definitions.

Signed this 30 day of September, 1998

Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection
Environmental Protection Agency
Region I
Boston, MA

Director, Division of
Watershed Management
Department of Environmental
Protection
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Boston, MA

PART I. MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM

A. DISCHARGES THROUGH THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS PERMIT

1. Permit Area. This permit covers all areas within the corporate boundary of the City of Worcester served by, or otherwise contributing to discharges from new or existing separate storm sewers owned or operated by the Department of Public Works, the "permittee".

2. Authorized Discharges. This permit authorizes all storm water discharges to waters of the United States from all existing or new outfalls owned or operated by the permittee (existing outfalls are identified in Attachment A). This permit also authorizes the discharge of storm water commingled with flows contributed by process wastewater, non-process wastewater, or storm water associated with industrial activity provided such discharges are authorized under separate NPDES permits and in compliance with applicable Federal, State and local regulations.

   Storm water discharges related to industrial activity which are not under the jurisdiction of the storm water program are authorized. The permittee shall provide in the annual report (Part I.E.) to EPA and MA DEP a review of all new separate storm sewer outfalls that are activated and of all existing outfalls which are de-activated.

3. Limitations on Coverage. The following discharges are not authorized by this permit:

   a. Discharges of non-storm water or storm water associated with industrial activity through outfalls listed in Attachment A are not authorized under this permit except where such discharges are:

      I. authorized by a separate NPDES permit; or

      ii. identified by and in compliance with Part B.2.g of this permit.

B. STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

The permittee is required to continue to develop, implement and revise as necessary, a storm water pollution prevention and management program designed to reduce, to the maximum extent practicable, the discharge of pollutants from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The permittee may implement Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) elements through participation with other public agencies or private entities in cooperative efforts satisfying the requirements of this permit in lieu of creating duplicate program elements. Either cumulatively, or separately, the permittee's storm water pollution prevention and management programs shall satisfy the requirements of Part I.B.1-7. below for all portions of the MS4.

1. POLLUTION PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS The permittee shall develop and implement the following pollution prevention measures:

a. Development The permittee, in cooperation with the agency with jurisdiction over land use, shall include requirements to consider water quality impacts of new development and significant re-development. The permittee shall ensure that development activities conform to applicable state and local regulations, guidance and policies relative to the discharge of storm water into the MS4. The goals of these requirements shall be to limit increases in the discharge of pollutants into the MS4 from new development and to reduce the discharge of pollutants into the MS4 from existing sources due to re-development.

b. Used Motor Vehicle Fluids The permittee shall describe educational activities, public information activities and other appropriate activities to facilitate the proper management, including recycling, reuse and disposal, of used motor vehicle fluids. The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate public agencies or private agencies where necessary. Such activities shall be readily available to all private residents and be publicized and promoted on a regular basis (at least annually).

c. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) The permittee shall coordinate with the appropriate public agency or private entities to ensure the implementation of a program to collect household hazardous waste materials (including paint, solvents, pesticides, herbicides, and other hazardous materials) for recycle, reuse, or proper disposal. Such program shall be readily

available to all private residents and be publicized and promoted on a regular basis (at least annually).

2. STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: The permittee shall continue to implement the current elements of its' Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) which was described in the May 11, 1993 Part II application in accordance with Section 402(p)(3)(B) of the Clean Water Act (CWA or "the Act"), including any updates.

The current SWMP does not adequately address all the required elements described on Pages 5-11 below. The EPA sent a letter to the City of Worcester on June 6, 1997 specifying which portions of the current SWMP needed more description, effort, or clarification. The items included were the illicit connection program, a discussion of the City's indebtedness and funding for storm water programs, geographic mapping, reevaluation of wet weather sampling locations, construction area oversight, and public education. The City submitted a letter addressing these concerns on March 25, 1998. Although most issues were discussed, there is still some detail and proposed effort that is insufficient.

In particular, the sampling plan proposes grab samples at five different outfalls, three times per year. In order to get a sense of any trend and how parameter concentrations change over time during storm events, the permittee must conduct composite sampling or a series of grab samples for the summer sampling event at each of the five outfalls, as described later. In Section C. below, this permit includes minimum expectations for outfall monitoring and instream monitoring during wet weather. Instream monitoring could provide information on both the pollutant concentration peaks as well as the pollutant loading increases that occur as a result of storm events.

More detail and effort is needed for the catch basin cleaning and inspection program, as shown on Page 6. This last issue was not raised in the letter of June 6, 1997, but this program was found to be deficient upon further review.

Within **120** days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall submit a written description of all additional measures it will take, relative to items mentioned above, to satisfy the requirements of this permit and the goals of the proposed SWMP. **This submittal will include the entire SWMP effort, including all the original items as included in Worcester's Part II application.** This

shall be submitted to the EPA the MA DEP at the addresses in Section G. Unless disapproved by EPA or the MA DEP within 60 days after its submittal, the SWMP shall be deemed approved. The permittee shall respond to all written comments by EPA and the MA DEP and shall make all changes to the SWMP required for its approval. As noted later, compliance with the SWMP shall occur no later than 180 days after the effective date of the permit or no later than EPA and DEP's approval of the SWMP. This SWMP shall be displayed at a convenient location accessible to the public.

The Controls and activities identified in the SWMP shall clearly identify goals, a description of the controls or activities, and a description of the roles and responsibilities of other entities' areas of applicability on a system, jurisdiction, or specific area basis.

The permittee will specifically address how it will have input on any portions of the SWMP which may not be under its direct control (i.e. Mass Highway Department's maintenance of interstate highway) and how it will cooperate with such entities to achieve the goals of the SWMP.

If, during the life of this permit, EPA and the DEP determine that the permittee cannot substantively operate these programs to effectively reduce pollutants to the MS4, then the permit may be modified to designate one or more agencies that administer these programs as co-permittees. These entities would then be responsible for applicable permit conditions and requirements. Alternatively, one or more entities may be required to apply for and obtain an individual storm water permit for their discharges. The SWMP, and all approved updates, are hereby incorporated by reference and shall be implemented in a manner consistent with the following requirements:

a. Statutory Requirements: SWMPs shall include controls necessary to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the Maximum Extent Practicable,"MEP". Controls may consist of a combination of best management practices, control techniques, system design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the permittee, the Director or the State determines appropriate. The various components of the SWMP, taken as a whole (rather than individually), shall be sufficient to meet this "MEP" standard. The SWMPs shall be updated as necessary to ensure conformance with the requirements of CWA § 402(p)(3)(B). In implementing the SWMP, the permittee

is required to select measures or activities intended to meet these requirements:

No discharge of toxics in toxic amounts.

No discharge of pollutants in quantities that would cause a violation of State water quality standards.

No discharge of either a visible oil sheen, foam, or floating solids, in other than trace amounts, at any time.

No discharge of suspended or settleable solids in concentrations or combinations that would impair the uses of the class of receiving waters.

b. Structural Controls: The permittee shall operate and maintain any storm water structural controls, for which it is the owner or operator, in a manner so as to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP. Each catch basin shall be cleaned at least every other year as described in the SWMP.

The cleaning program must include the recording and inputting of all activities in an automated database for all catch basins, including the date of cleaning, the location of each catch basin, and an estimate of how full the catch basin was when it was cleaned. For those catch basins which are found to be more than approximately 50% full, a follow up inspection will be conducted within 3 - 6 months and cleaning schedules modified as appropriate.

During the life of this permit, the permittee shall conduct a structural control demonstration. Within 180 days after the effective date of the permit, the permittee shall submit a demonstration proposal and schedule to the EPA and MA DEP. Unless disapproved by the EPA or the MA DEP within 30 days after its submittal, the proposed demonstration project shall be deemed approved.

The permittee can reference the MA DEP document titled, Stormwater Management, Volume 1: Stormwater Policy Handbook and Stormwater Management, Volume II: Stormwater BMP Handbook. This provides an overview of storm water controls, including ranges of removal for typical storm water pollutants. This proposal shall measure the removal efficiency of a particular structural control in the MS4 area for several pollutants with influent and effluent sampling during the life of this permit.

c. Areas of New Development and Significant Redevelopment: The permittee and/or cooperating agencies shall develop, implement, and enforce controls to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the separate storm sewer system from areas of new development and significant re-development during and after construction. The permittee and/or cooperating agencies shall ensure development activities conform to applicable state and local regulations, guidance and policies. The permittee and/or cooperating agencies shall consider water quantity and water quality impacts related to development and significant redevelopment. The permittee and/or cooperating agencies shall conform to the policy of the MA DEP titled **Performance Standards and Guidelines for Stormwater Management in Massachusetts.**

d. Roadways: The permittee shall coordinate with appropriate agencies to implement measures to ensure that roadways and highways are operated and maintained in a manner so as to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the separate storm sewer system (including discharges related to deicing and sanding activities and snow removal and disposal).

The permittee shall conduct an investigation of the drainage from roadways that are owned or operated by other entities, primarily the Massachusetts Highway Department. Within 180 days after the effective date of the permit, **the permittee shall report to the EPA and the MA DEP, which of these roadway drainage systems are connected to the MS4.** The SWMP will also include a description of how the permittee will coordinate with such entities to assure that discharges to the MS4 through such drainage meets the requirements of the permit.

e. Flood Control Projects: The permittee shall ensure any flood management projects consider impacts on the water quality of receiving waters. The permittee shall also evaluate the feasibility of retro-fitting existing structural flood control devices to provide additional pollutant removal from storm water.

f. Pesticide, Herbicide, and Fertilizer Application: The permittee shall implement measures to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MS4 related to the application and storage of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers applied by municipal or public agency employees or contractors to public right of ways, parks, and other municipal facilities. The permittee, in cooperation with the entity with jurisdiction over land use (e.g. Parks Department), shall implement

controls to reduce discharge of pollutants to the MS4 related to the application and distribution of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers by commercial and wholesale distributors and applicators and its own employees.

g. Authorized Non-Storm Water Discharges: Unless identified by either the permittee, the EPA, or the State as significant sources of pollutants to waters of the United States, the following non-storm water discharges are authorized to enter the MS4. As necessary, the permittee shall incorporate appropriate control measures in the SWMP to insure that these discharges are not significant sources of pollutants to waters of the United States.

(a) water line flushing;
(b) landscape irrigation;
(c) diverted stream flows;
(d) rising ground waters;
(e) uncontaminated ground water infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005(20)) to separate storm sewers;
(f) uncontaminated pumped ground water;
(g) discharges from potable water sources;
(h) foundation drains;
(I) uncontaminated air conditioning or compressor condensate;
(j) irrigation water;
(k) uncontaminated springs;
(l) water from crawl space pumps;
(m) footing drains;
(n) lawn watering;
(o) non-commercial car washing;
(p) flows from riparian habitats and wetlands;
(q) swimming pool discharges which have been dechlorinated;
(r) street wash waters; and
(s) discharges or flows from emergency fire fighting activities.
(t) fire hydrant flushing
(u) building washdown water which does not contain detergents

h. Illicit Discharges and Improper Disposal: The permittee shall continue to implement its ongoing program to detect and remove (or require the discharger to the MS4 to remove or obtain a separate NPDES permit for) illicit discharges and improper disposal into the separate storm sewer.

1. The permittee shall effectively prohibit unpermitted, industrial storm water discharges which are required to have a federal storm water permit, to the MS4.

2. The permittee shall prohibit unpermitted discharges of dry and wet weather overflows from sanitary sewers into the MS4. The permittee shall identify and limit the infiltration of seepage from sanitary sewers into the MS4.

3. The permittee shall prohibit the discharge or disposal of used motor vehicle fluids, household hazardous wastes, grass clippings, leaf litter, and animal wastes into separate storm sewers. Public education programs for proper disposal of these materials shall be included in the SWMP and publicized at least annually and shall include material for non-English speaking residents.

4. The permittee shall require the elimination of illicit connections as expeditiously as possible and the immediate cessation of improper disposal practices upon identification of responsible parties. The permittee shall describe its procedure for the identification, costing and elimination of illicit discharges. This information shall be included in the annual report required under Part I.E. below. Where elimination of an illicit connection within thirty (30) days is not possible, the permittee shall establish a schedule for the expeditious removal of the discharge. In the interim, the permittee shall take all reasonable and prudent measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants to the MS4.

i. Spill Prevention and Response: The permittee shall implement procedures to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into the MS4. The spill response procedures may include a combination of spill response actions by the permittee (and/or other public or private entities), and requirements for private entities through the permittee's sewer use ordinances. The discharges of materials resulting from spills is prohibited.

j. Industrial & High Risk Runoff: The permittee shall implement a program to identify, monitor, and control pollutants in storm water discharges to the MS4 from municipal landfills; hazardous waste treatment,

storage, disposal and recovery facilities and facilities that are subject to EPCRA Title III, Section 313; and any other industrial or commercial discharge the permittee determines is contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the MS4. A list of these facilities which discharge to the MS4 shall be

maintained and updated as necessary. This shall include industrial activities which are listed at 40 CFR §122.26(b)(14), which are required to obtain federal storm water permit coverage. The program shall include:

1. priorities and procedures for inspections and establishing and implementing control measures for such discharges;

2. a monitoring (or self-monitoring) program for facilities identified under this section, including the collection of quantitative data on the following constituents:

(a) any pollutants which the discharger may monitor for or are limited to in an existing NPDES permit for an identified facility;

(b) any information on discharges required under 40 CFR 122.21(g)(7)(iii) and (iv).

(c) any pollutant the permittee has a reasonable expectation is discharged in substantial quantity from the facility to the separate storm sewer system

Data collected by the industrial facility to satisfy the monitoring requirements of an NPDES or State discharge permit may be used to satisfy this requirement. The permittee may require the industrial facility to conduct self-monitoring to satisfy this requirement.

3. Alternative Certification: In lieu of monitoring, the permittee may accept a certification from a facility stating that raw and waste materials, final and intermediate products, by-products, material handling equipment or activities, and/or loading/unloading operations are not expected to be exposed to storm water for the certification period. The permittee shall still reserve the right to conduct and shall consider conducting site inspections for these facilities during the life of this permit.

k. Construction Site Runoff: The permittee shall implement a program to reduce the discharge of pollutants from construction sites into the MS4, including:

1. requirements for the use and maintenance of appropriate structural and non-structural best management practices to reduce pollutants discharged to the MS4 during the time construction is underway;

2. procedures for site planning which incorporate considerations for potential short term and long term water quality impacts to the MS4 and minimizes these impacts;

3. prioritized inspections of construction sites and enforcement of control measures;

4. appropriate education and training measures for construction site operators;

5. notification to appropriate building permit applicants of their potential responsibilities under the NPDES permitting program for construction site runoff.

l. Public Education: The permittee shall implement a public education program including, but not limited to the following items. Cooperation should be sought with city and state agencies where necessary. This program shall also include material for non-English speaking residents.

1. A program to promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or improper disposal of materials (e.g. floatables, industrial and commercial wastes, trash, used motor vehicle fluids, leaf litter, grass clippings, animal wastes, etc.) into the MS4 (e.g. curb inlet stenciling, citizen "streamwatch" groups, "hotlines" for reporting dumping, outreach materials included in billings, public access/government cable channels, etc.);

2. a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate the proper management and disposal of used oil and household hazardous wastes;

3. a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate the proper use, application, and disposal of

pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers by the public and commercial and private applicators and distributors;

4. where applicable and feasible, the permittee should publicize those best management practices (including but not limited to the use of reformulated or redesigned products, substitution of less toxic materials, and improvements in housekeeping) used by the permittee that facilitate better use, application, and/or disposal of materials identified in 1.1 and 1.2 above.

2. Deadlines for Program Compliance. Except as provided in PART II, and Part I.B.7. compliance with the storm water management program shall be required within **180** days from the effective date of the permit.

3. Roles and Responsibilities of Permittee: The Storm Water Management Program shall clearly identify the roles and responsibilities of the permittee and any party impacting its efforts to comply with this permit.

4. Legal Authority: The permittee and/or cooperating agencies shall ensure that they have and maintain legal authority to control discharges to and from those portions of the MS4 which it owns or operates. This legal authority may be a combination of statute, ordinance, permit, contract, or an order to:

a. Control the contribution of pollutants to the MS4 by storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of storm water discharged from sites of industrial activity;

b. Prohibit illicit discharges to the MS4;

c. Control the discharge of spills and the dumping or disposal of materials other than storm water (e.g. industrial and commercial wastes, trash, used motor vehicle fluids, leaf litter, grass clippings, animal wastes, etc.) into the MS4;

d. Control through interagency or inter-jurisdictional agreements the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the MS4 to another;

e. Require compliance with conditions in ordinances, permits, contracts or orders; and

f. Carry out all inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures necessary to determine compliance with permit conditions.

5. Storm Water Management Program Resources The permittee shall provide adequate finances, staff, equipment, and support capabilities to implement its SWMP.

6. Storm Water Management Program Review and Modification

a. Program Review: The permittee shall participate in an annual review of its current or modified SWMP in conjunction with preparation of the annual report required under Part I.E. This annual review shall include:

1. A review of the status of program implementation and compliance with program elements and other permit conditions as necessary;

2. An assessment of the effectiveness of controls established by the SWMP;

3. A review of monitoring data and any trends in estimated cumulative annual pollutant loadings;

4. An assessment of any SWMP modifications needed to comply with the CWA §402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable (MEP).

5. An annual public informational meeting held within two months of submittal of the Annual report.

b. Program Modification: The permittee may modify the SWMP in accordance with the following procedures:

1. The approved SWMP shall not be modified by the permittee(s) without the prior approval of the Director, unless in accordance with items 2. or 3. below.

2. Modifications adding (but not subtracting or replacing) components, controls, or requirements to the approved SWMP may be made by the permittee at any time upon written notification to the Director.

3. Modifications replacing an ineffective or unfeasible BMP specifically identified in the SWMP with an alternative BMP may be requested at any time. Unless denied by the Director, the modification shall be deemed approved and shall be implemented by the permittee 60 days from submittal of the request. Such requests must include the following:

(a) an analysis of why the BMP is ineffective or infeasible (including cost prohibitive),

(b) expectations on the effectiveness of the replacement BMP, and

(c) an analysis of why the replacement BMP is expected to achieve the goals of the BMP to be replaced.

4. Modification requests and/or notifications must be made in writing and signed in accordance with Part I.F.

c. Modifications required by the Permitting Authority: The permitting authority may require the permittee to modify the SWMP as needed to:

1. Address impacts on receiving water quality caused or contributed to by discharges from the MS4;

2. Include more stringent requirements necessary to comply with new State or Federal statutory or regulatory requirements; or

3. Include such other conditions deemed necessary by the Director to comply with the goals and requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Modifications requested by the Director shall be made in writing and set forth a time schedule for the permittee to develop the modification(s).

C. WET WEATHER MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Storm Event Discharges. The permittee shall implement a wet weather monitoring program for the MS4 to provide data necessary to assess the effectiveness and adequacy of control measures implemented under the SWMP; estimate annual cumulative pollutant loadings from the MS4; estimate event mean concentrations and seasonal pollutants in discharges from all major outfalls; identify and prioritize portions of the MS4 requiring additional controls, and identify water quality improvements or degradation.

The permittee is responsible for conducting any additional monitoring necessary to accurately characterize the quality and quantity of pollutants discharged from the MS4. Improvement in the quality of discharges from the MS4 will be assessed based on the

necessary monitoring information required by this section, along with any additional monitoring which is made available. There have been no effluent limits established for this draft permit. Numeric effluent limits may be established in the next permit to control impacts on water quality, to improve aesthetics, or for other reasons as necessary.

a. Representative Monitoring: The permittee shall monitor representative outfalls, internal sampling stations, and/or instream monitoring locations to characterize the quality of storm water discharges from the MS4. Within **90** days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee will submit its proposed sampling plan to the EPA and MA DEP for review. The permittee shall choose locations representing different land uses, with a focus on what it considers priority areas, such as an outfall in the vicinity of a public beach. The plan shall outline the parameters to be sampled, the frequency of sampling and reporting of results. This submittal shall also include any related monitoring which the permittee has done since its MS4 permit application was originally submitted. Unless disapproved by the EPA or MA DEP within **30** days after its submittal, the proposed sampling plan shall be deemed approved.

The sampling locations which the permittee submitted in its letter of March 25, 1998 to EPA appear to be adequate. These locations shall be monitored at least three times per year (spring, summer and fall) for all the parameters suggested, including cadmium and replacing oil & grease with Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH). The summer sampling event shall consist of composite samples, which shall be composed of, at a minimum, samples taken at hours 0 (pre-runoff), 4, 8, 12, 16 and 20. These samples shall be flow composited.

Instream sampling: This sampling is required as a supplement to the outfall monitoring as follows:

1) The mouth of the Mill Brook Conduit shall be grab sampled for fecal coliform during the spring and summer sampling seasons;

2) the high zinc load that was found during the Blackstone River Initiative (BRI) sampling from the Mill Brook conduit shall be investigated. Findings shall be reported in the annual report;

3) the two instream locations to be sampled are:

   a. Sampling station 00 from the BRI study; and

   b. A station downstream of where Beaver Brook and Tatnuck Brook completely mix, but above the Kettle Brook confluence

These two stations will be monitored during the spring and summer sampling events. The sampling parameters will be identical to those of the outfall sampling, with the addition of flow at station 00. Similar to the outfall monitoring, the summer sampling event shall

be conducted with composite samples. At station 00, flow can be determined from measuring the distance from a fixed point on the bridge to the water surface. The EPA will provide information on the relationship between this stage measurement and stream flows. The second sampling station can be flow composited using flow data derived from Station 00. For all instream sampling events, sampling shall be conducted during wet weather.

b. Alternate representative monitoring locations may be substituted for just cause during the term of the permit. Requests for approval of alternate monitoring locations shall be made to the Director in writing and include the rationale for the requested monitoring station relocation. Unless disapproved by the Director, use of an alternate monitoring location may commence thirty (30) days from the date of the request.

2. Storm Event Data: For Part I.C.1.a - Representative Monitoring only - quantitative data shall be collected to estimate pollutant loadings and event mean concentrations for each parameter sampled. In addition to the parameters which are to be sampled for in the sampling plan to be submitted, the permittee shall maintain records of the date and duration (in hours) of the storm event(s) sampled; rainfall measurements or estimates (in inches) of the storm event which generated the sampled runoff; the duration (in hours) between the storm event sampled and the end of the previous measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event; an estimate of the total volume (in gallons) of the discharge sampled and a description of the presence and extent of floatable debris, oils, scum, foam, solids or grease in any storm water discharges or in the receiving waters.

3. Sample Type, Collection, and Analysis: The following requirements apply only to samples collected for Part C.1.a - Representative Monitoring.

a. For discharges from holding ponds or other impoundments with a retention period greater than 24 hours, (estimated by dividing the volume of the detention pond by the estimated volume of water

discharged during the 24 hours previous to the time that the sample is collected) a minimum of one grab sample may be taken.

b. Grab samples taken during the first two hours of discharge shall be used for the analysis of pH, temperature, Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH), fecal coliform and residual chlorine. For all other parameters, data shall be reported for flow weighted composite samples as described on Page 15.

c. All such samples shall be collected from the discharge resulting from a storm event that is greater than 0.25 inches in magnitude and that occurs at least 72 hours from the previously measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event. Composite samples may be taken with a continuous sampler or as a combination of a minimum of three sample aliquots taken in each hour of discharge for the entire discharge or for the first three hours of the discharge, with each aliquot being separated by a minimum period of fifteen minutes.

d. Analysis and collection of samples shall be conducted in accordance with the methods specified at 40 CFR Part 136. Where an approved Part 136 method does not exist, any available method may be used.

4. Sampling Waiver. When a discharger is unable to collect samples required by Part I.C.1.a (Representative Monitoring) due to adverse climatic conditions, the discharger must submit in lieu of sampling data a description of why samples could not be collected, including available documentation of the event. Adverse climatic conditions which may prohibit the collection of samples include weather conditions that create dangerous conditions for personnel (such as local flooding, high winds, hurricane, tornadoes, electrical storms,etc.) or otherwise make the collection of a sample impracticable (drought, extended frozen conditions, etc.).

5. Wet Weather Screening Program: The permittee shall implement a program to identify, investigate, and address areas within their jurisdiction that may be contributing excessive levels of pollutants to the MS4. The wet weather screening program:

   a. Shall screen the MS4, in accordance with the procedures specified in the SWMP, at least once during the permit term.

   b. Shall specify the sampling and non-sampling techniques (such as observations or quantitative methods), to be used for initial screening and follow-up purposes. For samples collected for screening purposes only, sample collection and analysis need not conform to the requirements of 40 CFR Part 136 and are not subject to the requirements of Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 above.

D. DRY WEATHER DISCHARGES

1. Dry Weather Screening Program: The permittee shall continue ongoing efforts to detect the presence of illicit connections and improper discharges to the MS4. All major outfalls identified in the Part I application and all other areas (but not necessarily all outfalls) of the MS4 must be screened at least once during the permit term. A schedule of inspections shall be identified to support activities undertaken in accordance with Part I.B.2.g. and may be in conjunction with any activities undertaken in accordance with Part I.C.. The schedule of inspections shall be included in the annual report Part I.E.

2. Screening Procedures: Screening methodology may be developed and/or modified based on experience gained during actual field screening activities and need not conform to the protocol at 40 CFR §122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D).

3. Follow-up on Dry Weather Screening Results: The permittee shall implement a program to locate and eliminate suspected sources of illicit connections and improper disposal identified during dry weather screening activities. Follow-up activities shall be prioritized on the basis of:

   a. magnitude and nature of the suspected discharge;

   b. sensitivity of the receiving water; and

   c. other relevant factors.

E. ANNUAL REPORT:

The permittee shall prepare an annual system-wide report to be submitted no later than April 1, 2000 and annually thereafter. The report shall include the following separate sections, with an overview for the entire MS4:

1. The status of implementing the storm water management program(s) (status of compliance with any schedules established under this permit shall be included in this section);

2. Proposed changes to the storm water management program(s);

3. Revisions, if necessary, to the assessments of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (d)(2)(v);

4. An evaluation of all the authorized non-storm water discharges at Part I.B.2.g. and whether it was determined that any controls or restrictions are necessary for any of these and descriptions of such;

5. A summary of the data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year; a portion of this data shall be compared to National Urban Runoff Program (NURP) values, as was done in the Part II application and to ambient water quality criteria.

6. A revised list of all current separate storm sewer outfalls and their locations, reflecting changes of the previous year and justification for any new outfalls.

7. Annual expenditures for the reporting period, with a breakdown of the major elements of the storm water management program, and the budget for the year following each annual report;

8. A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs;

9. Identification of water quality improvements or degradation; and,

10. Update on the illicit connection program to include the total number of identified connections with an estimate of flow for each, total number of connections found in the reporting period to include how they were found (i.e. citizen complaint, routine inspection), number of connections corrected in the reporting period to include total estimated flow, and the financing required for such to include how the repairs were financed (i.e. by the permittee, costs provided to the permittee by the responsible party, repairs effected and financed by the responsible party). As an attachment to the report, the permittee should submit any existing tracking system information. Also include updates to schedules and a summary of activities conducted under Parts I.C. and I.D.

F. CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE OF REPORTS

All reports required by the permit and other information requested by the Director shall be signed and certified in accordance with the General Conditions - Part II of this permit.

G. REPORT SUBMISSION

1. All original, signed notifications and reports required herein, shall be submitted to the Director at the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Water Technical Unit (SEW)
P.O. Box 8127
Boston, MA 02114
Attn: George Papadopoulos, Permit Writer

2. Signed copies of all other notifications and reports shall be submitted to the State at:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Watershed Management
Watershed Planning and Permitting Section
627 Main Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01608

H. RETENTION OF RECORDS

The permittee shall retain all records of all monitoring information, copies of all reports required by this permit and records of all other data required by or used to demonstrate compliance with this permit, until at least three years after coverage under this permit terminates. This period may be modified by alternative provisions of this permit or extended by request of the Director at any time. The permittee shall retain the latest approved version of the SWMP developed in accordance with Part I of this permit until at least three years after coverage under this permit terminates.

I. STATE PERMIT CONDITIONS

1. This Discharge Permit is issued jointly by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection under Federal and State law, respectively. As such, all the terms and conditions of this permit are hereby incorporated into and constitute a discharge permit issued by the Commissioner of the Massachusetts DEP pursuant to M.G.L. Chap. 21, §43.

2. Each Agency shall have the independent right to enforce the terms and conditions of this Permit. Any modification, suspension or revocation of this Permit shall be effective only with respect to the Agency taking such action, and shall not affect the validity or status of this Permit as issued by the other Agency, unless and until each Agency has concurred in writing with such modification, suspension or revocation. In the event any portion of this Permit is declared, invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of State law such permit shall remain in full force and effect under Federal law as an NPDES Permit issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In the event this Permit is declared invalid, illegal or otherwise issued in violation of Federal law, this Permit shall remain in full force and effect under State law as a Permit issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ATTACHMENT A

CITY OF WORCESTER
OUTFALL INFORMATION

OUTFALL ID	GRID	LOCATION	OUTFALL SIZE	RECEIVING
2	5F	MOUNTAIN ST WEST	48 inch storm drain	KENDRICK B
6	6F	ARARAT ST	48 inch storm drain	UNNAMED B
7	7F	BROOKS ST	24 inch storm drain	KENDRICK B
8	6D	GROVE ST	36 inch storm drain	UNNAMED B
10	8F	W BOYLSTON DR/HWY	15 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
11	7F	NEW BOND ST	24 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
12	7E	INDIAN HILL RD NEAR NASHOBA PL	18 inch storm drain	INDIAN LAK
16	7E	INDIAN LAKE RD	36 inch storm drain	INDIAN LAK
17	7E	SHOREHAM RD	42 inch storm drain	INDIAN LAK
27	10B	EDWIDGE ST	48 inch storm drain	UNNAMED B
32	10C	MOWER ST	42 inch storm drain	TATNUCK BI
38	10C	MAPLE LEAF RD	48 inch storm drain	TATNUCK BI
39	11D	CHANDLER ST	42 inch storm drain	OVERLAND
40	12D	BEAV BK PLAYGROUND	42 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
45	13D	BEAVER BROOK PKWY	60 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
46	12E	BEAVBK PLG/CHANDLER	48 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
56	12E	BEAVBK PLG/CHANDLER	15 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
58	13E	MID BEAV BK PLG	33 X 48 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
62	14D	LAKESIDE AVE	21 inch storm drain	COES POND
65	15D	STAFFORD ST	48 inch storm drain	CURTIS PON
68	14D	MILL/PARK/MAIN	21 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
69	14D	MILL/PARK/MAIN	12 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
70	14D	MAIN ST	24 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
72	13D	OLIVER ST/PARK AVE	24 X 36 inch storm drain	BEAVER BRO
74	14D	WEBSTER ST	18 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVI
75	15D	CAMBRIDGE ST	24 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVI
77	15D	LYMAN ST	24 inch storm drain	CURTIS PON
78	15C	MAIN ST/TOWN LINE	12 inch storm drain	UNNAMED P
80	16C	STAFFORD ST	39 inch storm drain	KETTLE BRO
81	16C	JAMES ST	36 inch storm drain	KETTLE BRO
84	16E	SOUTHBRIDGE ST	54 inch storm drain	OVERLAND
85	15D	HWY/RR/S OF RIVER	36 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVE

CITY OF WORCESTER
OUTFALL INFORMATION

OUTFALL ID	GRID	LOCATION	OUTFALL SIZE	RECEIVING WATER
86	16E	SOUTHBRIDGE ST	24 inch storm drain	OVERLAND FLOW TO MIDDLE RIVER
87	15E	CAMP ST	24 X 36 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVER
88	15E	SOUTHBRIDGE ST/HWY	18 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
90	16F	FALMOUTH ST NEAR RR	24 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
91	17F	WISER AVE NEAR RR	30 inch storm drain	OVERLAND FLOW TO BLACKSTONE RIVER
92	17F	AGRAND ST/WARMLAND	36 inch storm drain	OVERLAND FLOW TO BLACKSTONE RIVER
93	18F	SEWAGE TMT PLANT	36 inch storm drain	WORCESTER SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT
94	16G	MILLBURY ST	42 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
95	17G	MILLBURY ST	21 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
108	14H	JOLMA ROAD	12 inch storm drain	UNNAMED BROOK TO QUINSIGAMOND LAKE
109	14H	BRANDY LANE	36 inch storm drain	UNNAMED BROOK TO QUINSIGAMOND LAKE
110	12H	AYRSHIRE/COBURN	60 inch storm drain	UNNAMED BROOK TO QUINSIGAMOND LAKE
114	11H	BELMONT/LAKE	36 inch storm drain	QUINSIGAMOND LAKE
115	11H	SHERBROOK/LAKE AVE	36 inch storm drain	QUINSIGAMOND LAKE
119	9H	PLANT ST	36 inch storm drain	COAL MINE BROOK
124	7F	W BOYLSTON ST/BOURNE ST	36 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
125	7F	W BOYLSTON ST/SUMMERHILL ST	36 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK TRIB
128	7G	CONSTITUTION AVE	42 inch storm drain	POOR FARM BROOK
129	7H	PLANT/W BOYLSTON	30 inch storm drain	POOR FARM BROOK
130	7F	BROOKS ST	30 inch storm drain	KENDRICK BROOK
131	6G	CLARK ST	36 inch storm drain	POOR FARM BROOK
134	6F	W BOYLSTON ST	36 inch storm drain	KENDRICK BROOK
135	6F	EAMES ST	24 inch storm drain	KENDRICK BROOK
138	5F	HIGGINS ST	30 inch storm drain	KENDRICK BROOK
139	8F	NEPONSET/W BOYLSTON	12 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
140	9F	W BOYLSTON TER/GOLD STAR	18 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
141	9F	W BOYLSTON TER/GOLD STAR	24 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
142	9F	GENNIE ST/DIST CTR	36 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
143	9F	GENNIE ST/DIST CTR	66 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
144	9F	GENNIE ST	15 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
192	15F	PERRY/MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
194	15F	MAXWELL/MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER

CITY OF WORCESTER
OUTFALL INFORMATION

OUTFALL ID	GRID	LOCATION	OUTFALL SIZE	RECEIVING WATER
202	8D	SALISBURY ST	36 inch storm drain	UNNAMED BROOK TO FLAGG ST SCHOOL
1007	13C	WILLIAMSBURG DR	60 inch storm drain	UNNAMED BROOK TO WILLIAMS MILLPOND
1008	15D	JACQUES ST	15 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVER
1012	17G	MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
1013	17G	MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
1014	18G	MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
1015	18G	MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
1016	16E	HOPE AVE/HWY	24 inch storm drain	LEESVILLE POND
1019	15E	MIDDLE RIV/HWY	12 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVER
1020	15E	MIDDLE RIV/HWY	12 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVER
1021	15E	MIDDLE RIV/HWY	48 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVER
1022	15E	MIDDLE RIV/HWY	48 inch storm drain	MIDDLE RIVER
1039	7F	STORES ST/SHORE RD	24 inch storm drain	DITCH TO MILL BROOK TRIB
1040	7F	STORES ST/SHORE DR	24 inch storm drain	DITCH TO MILL BROOK TRIB
1043	17H	ROUTE 20	12 inch storm drain	BROAD MEADOW BROOK
1045	8H	LAKE AVE	36 inch storm drain	QUINSIGAMOND LAKE
1046	9H	LAKE AVE	36 inch storm drain	QUINSIGAMOND LAKE
1048	15D	STAFFORD ST	30 inch storm drain	CURTIS POND
1049	17G	MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
1050	17G	MILLBURY ST	12 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
1051	8F	RT 190/WEST OF KENWOOD AVE	18 inch storm drain	MILL BROOK
1052	6F	HIGGINS ST	12 inch storm drain	KENDRICK BROOK
2003	16C	STAFFORD ST	30 inch storm drain	KETTLE BROOK
2004	16C	JAMES ST	12 inch storm drain	KETTLE BROOK
2006	17G	MILLBURY ST	30 inch storm drain	BLACKSTONE RIVER
3000	15G	DUNKIRK AND HAMPTON	60 inch storm drain	BROAD MEADOW BROOK
3001	5F	MOUNTAIN ST WEST	3.5 X 4 inch storm drain	KENDRICK BROOK
3002	10B	BAILEY ST AT AIRPORT DR	36 inch storm drain	UNNAMED BROOK TO TATNUCK BROOK
3003	6F	ARARAT ST	18 inch storm drain	UNNAMED BROOK TO KENDRICK BROOK

DOCUMENTATION IN SUPPORT OF REBUTTAL COMMENTS OF JOINT TEST CLAIMANTS

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, SAN DIEGO REGION, ORDER NOS. R9-2015-0100 and R9-2015-0001, 15-TC-02

INDEX

Tab 1

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION

FACT SHEET / TECHNICAL REPORT

FOR

ORDER NO. R9-2009-0002
NPDES NO. CAS0108740

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

FOR

DISCHARGES OF RUNOFF FROM
THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4s)
DRAINING THE WATERSHEDS OF THE
COUNTY OF ORANGE,
THE INCORPORATED CITIES OF ORANGE COUNTY,
AND THE ORANGE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
WITHIN THE SAN DIEGO REGION

December 16, 2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADT - Average Daily Traffic
ASBS - Area of Special Biological Significance
AST – Active Sediment Treatment
BAT - Best Available Technology
BIA - Building Industry Association of San Diego County
BMP - Best Management Practice
Basin Plan - Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin
BU – Beneficial Uses
CASQA - California Stormwater Quality Association
CCC - California Coastal Commission
CDFG - California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA - California Environmental Quality Act
CFR - Code of Federal Regulations
Copermittees - County of Orange, the 11 incorporated cities within the County of Orange in the San Diego Region, and the Orange County Flood Control District
CWA - Clean Water Act
CWC - California Water Code
CZARA - Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990
DAMP – Drainage Area Management Plan
ESAs - Environmentally Sensitive Areas
FR - Federal Register
GIS - Geographic Information System
HMP – Hydromodification Management Plan
IBI – Index of Biotic Integrity
IC/ID - Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges
JRMP - Jurisdictional Runoff Management Plan
LARWQCB – California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region
LID – Low Impact Development
MEP - Maximum Extent Practicable
MRP - Receiving Waters Monitoring and Reporting Program
MS4 - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NOI - Notice of Intent
NPDES - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRDC - Natural Resources Defense Council
NURP - Nationwide Urban Runoff Program
OCVCD – Orange County Vector Control District
Regional Board – California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
RGOs - Retail Gasoline Outlets
ROWD - Orange County Copermittees' Report of Waste Discharge (application for NPDES reissuance)
RWLs - Receiving Water Limitations
SAL - Storm Water Action Level
SIC - Standard Industrial Classification Code
SSMP - Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plan
State Board - State Water Resources Control Board
SWMP - Storm Water Management Plan
SWPPP - Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWQPA - State Water Quality Protected Area
TAC - State Water Resources Control Board Urban Runoff Technical Advisory Committee
TIE - Toxicity Identification Evaluation
TMDL - Total Maximum Daily Load
USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

USACE – United States Army Corps of Engineers
WDRs - Waste Discharge Requirements
WLA - Waste Load Allocation
WQC - Water Quality Criteria
WQBEL - Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations
WQMP – Water Quality Management Plan
WSPA - Western States Petroleum Association
WRMP - Watershed Runoff Management Plan

I. FACT SHEET FORMAT

This Fact Sheet briefly sets forth the principle facts and the significant factual, legal, methodological, and policy questions that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Regional Board) considered in preparing Order No. R9-2009-0002. In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) title 40 parts 124.8 and 124.56, this Fact Sheet includes, but is not limited to, the following information:

A. Contact information
B. Public process and notification procedures
C. Background information
D. Permitting approach
E. Economic issues
F. Legal authority
G. Findings
H. Directives

Tentative Order No. R9-2008-0001 was distributed for review on February 9, 2007. A public hearing was subsequently held on April 11, 2007 in the City of Mission Viejo to receive oral comments from interested persons, and the Regional Board accepted written comments on the Tentative Order until April 25, 2007. Following review of the comments, a Revised Tentative Order was distributed on July 6, 2007 with a Response to Comments document (RTC 1). A second set of written comments were received on the revisions until August 23, 2007. Following review of the second round of written comments, the Regional Board further revised specific sections of the Order and distributed a second Response to Comments document (RTC 2). Tentative Order No. R9-2008-0001 was submitted to the Board for adoption on February 13, 2008. Upon review and comment, the Board chose not to adopt Tentative Order No. R9-2008-0001 and sent the Order back to staff with comments for changes. Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0002 was distributed for review on March 13, 2009. Written comments received on the tentative Order prior to June 19, 2009 were provided to Regional Board members for a public hearing regarding the Tentative Order held on July 1, 2009. On August 12, 2009, the sixth version of the Tentative Order was distributed for review. On November 18, 2009 an adoption hearing was held on the Tentative Order. The Regional Board directed staff to make specific changes and bring the Tentative Order back for consideration.

The Regional Board's files applicable to the issuance of Order No. R9-2009-0002 are incorporated into the administrative record in support of the findings and requirements of Order No. R9-2009-0002.

II. CONTACT INFORMATION

Regional Board

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The Order and other related documents can be downloaded from the Regional Board website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/programs/oc_stormwater.html.

All documents referenced in this Fact Sheet and in Order No. R9-2009-0002 are available for public review at the Regional Board office, located at the address listed above. Public records are available for inspection during regular business hours, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. To schedule an appointment to inspect public records, contact Sylvia Wellnitz at 858-637-5593 or DiAnne Broussard at 858-492-1763.

Copermittees

County of Orange	City of Laguna Woods
Orange County Flood Control District	City of Lake Forest
City of Aliso Viejo	City of Mission Viejo
City of Dana Point	City of Rancho Santa Margarita
City of Laguna Beach	City of San Clemente
City of Laguna Hills	City of San Juan Capistrano
City of Laguna Niguel	

III. PUBLIC PROCESS AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

The Regional Board followed the schedule listed below for the preparation of Order No. R9-2009-0002:

A. In April 2006 and July 2006, the Northern Watershed Unit of the Regional Board met with the Copermittees to discuss the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) and potential changes to the permit based on the annual reports and the tentative permit for San Diego County.
B. On August 18, 2006, the Regional Board received the ROWD for the permit renewal.
C. On October 20, 2006 the Regional Board provided written comments on the ROWD to the Copermittees.
D. On November 15, 2006, the Regional Board received the 2005-06 annual reports from the Copermittees for the existing permit.
E. On January 11, 2007, the Regional Board notified all known interested parties that an electronic email listserv had been established to provide information and notices on the reissuance of the municipal storm water NPDES permit for southern Orange County.
F. On February 9, 2007, the Regional Board released the tentative Order and notified interested parties of a planned workshop. Written comments were accepted until April 25, 2007.
G. A public workshop was held on March 12, 2007.
H. A public hearing of the tentative Order was conducted on April 11, 2007.
I. A revised tentative Order was released on July 6, 2007. Written comments were accepted until August 23, 2007.
J. A second revised tentative Order was released on December 12, 2007.
K. A public hearing was conducted on February 13, 2008. The Regional Board chose not to adopt the tentative Order, and sent it back to staff for revision.
L. On March 13, 2009 the Regional Board released a fourth version of the revised tentative Order and notified interested parties of a planned workshop.
M. On April 03, 2009 and May 06, 2009 the Regional Board held public workshops.
N. A public hearing of the tentative Order was held on July 01, 2009.
O. On August 12, 2009 the Regional Board released an additional version of the revised tentative Order for public review. Written comments were accepted until September 28, 2009.
P. An adoption hearing of the tentative Order was conducted on November 18, 2009. The Regional Board chose not to adopt the tentative Order and directed staff to make specific changes.

IV. BACKGROUND

Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0002 is the fourth iteration of the storm water permit for the municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) in the Orange County portion of the San Diego region. The first permit was adopted in 1990, and the permit was reissued in 1996 and 2002.

Municipal Storm Water Permits are required by the Federal Clean Water Act 1987 Amendments. The federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was amended in 1987 to address storm water runoff from municipal and industrial dischargers. One requirement of the amendment was that many municipalities throughout the United States were obligated for the first time to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for discharges of storm water runoff from their MS4s. In response to the CWA amendment (and the pending federal NPDES regulations which would implement the amendment), the Regional Board issued a municipal storm water permit, Order No. 90-38, in July 1990 to the Copermittees for their MS4 discharges.[1]

The First and Second Term Permits, Order Nos. 90-38 and 96-03, provided maximum flexibility. Order No. 90-38 contained the "essentials" of the 1990 regulations, but the requirements were written in very broad, generic terms. This was done in order to provide the maximum amount of flexibility to the Copermittees in implementing the new requirements (flexibility was, in fact, the stated reason for issuing the permit in advance of the final regulations). This lack of specificity was reflected in the Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP) implemented under this First Term Permit in 1993 and renewed under the Second Term Permit in 1996. From staff's perspective however, this same lack of specificity, combined with the lack of funding and political will, also provided the Copermittees with ample reasons to take few substantive steps towards permit compliance. The situation was exacerbated by the Regional Board's own lack of storm water resources.

By 2000 the Regional Board and Copermittees recognized the importance of an improved storm water program. Although renewed in 1996 as Order No. 96-03, the 1993 DAMP implemented by the Copermittees was not significantly updated until 2000. The 2000 DAMP submitted to the Regional Board for the Third-Term Permit renewal was improved over the earlier DAMP. Regional Board staff concluded, however, that it reflected only the basic requirements of the 1990 Federal Regulations and in most cases did not represent significant improvement over the 1993 DAMP. Continued implementation of the DAMP without amendment would not have adequately addressed the impacts to receiving waters resulting from the discharge of storm water runoff and would not have achieved the maximum extent practicable standard (MEP) as defined in the Order.

[1] The 1990 permit was issued to the County of Orange, the Orange County Flood Control District, and six incorporated cities. Additional municipalities have been added to the MS4 NPDES permit as they have incorporated.

In order to provide the Copermittees with the minimum requirements to meet the MEP standard for storm water of the Regional Board, a more detailed Order was adopted (Order No. R9-2002-01) that emphasized the strong jurisdictional level programs developed by the Copermittees during the First and Second Term Permits as well as the watershed-level approach embodied in the proposed DAMP.

The Third-Term Permit introduced specific requirements. The regulatory approach incorporated into Order No. R9-2002-01 was a significant departure from the regulatory approach of the First and Second-Term Permits. Where Order Nos. 90-38 and 96-03 included broad, nonspecific requirements in order to provide the Copermittees with the maximum amount of flexibility in developing their programs, Order No. R9-2002-01 used detailed, specific requirements which outlined the minimum level of implementation required for the Copermittees' programs. The shift in permitting approaches resulted from the Regional Board's conclusion that the lack of specificity in earlier Orders resulted in frequently unenforceable permit requirements, which in turn allowed some Copermittees to only make limited progress in implementing their programs.

The Third-Term Permit followed the San Diego County permit template. The shift in regulatory approaches for MS4 permits was first manifested in the 2001 MS4 permit to the owners and operators of San Diego County MS4s (Order No. R9-2001-01). The Third-Term Orange County Permit included similar requirements as the 2001 San Diego County Permit. Both the San Diego and Orange County Permits were appealed to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board).[2] Minor modifications of each were made by the State Board, but the vast majority of the requirements were upheld. The San Diego County permit was also challenged in the Superior Court of the State of California and the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District. Further litigation on the Orange County permit was held pending the precedential decisions on the San Diego Permit. The San Diego Permit was largely upheld in the Superior and Appellate Courts. The State of California Supreme Court declined to hear a final appeal from the Building Industry Association in March 2005. Thus, the Third-Term Orange County permit requirements remained as slightly modified by the State Board.

[2] Seven petitions were filed with the State Board over the Third-Term Orange County Permit. Six were placed in abeyance. Three of the petitioners sought stays. One stay request was dismissed and one was withdrawn. The active petition and stays were addressed by the State Board in Order No. WQO 2002-0014. That Order stayed provision F.5.f regarding sewage spills and modified Finding No. 26 regarding chronic toxicity.

The Third-Term Permit was adopted following substantial public participation. Public participation was extensive during the adoption process of the Third-Term Permit. The draft permit was released for public review and comment on July 2, 2001, and revised in response to comments and State Board Order WQ 2001-15 on the petition to review the San Diego Municipal Storm Water Permit. Because the proposed requirements for Orange County were similar to those that had recently been adopted and contested in San Diego County, much of the public participation dialogue echoed the discussions held during the San Diego renewal. Approximately 684 comments were received and responded to during two public workshops and a written comment period on the Tentative Order for the Third-Term Orange County permit. Following the extensive public participation process, the Regional Board adopted Order No. R9-2002-01 on February 13, 2002.

Storm water programs have improved under the Third-Term Permit. Since adoption of Order No. R9-2002-01, the Copermittees' storm water programs have expanded dramatically. Audits of the Copermittees' programs and reviews of annual reports exhibit that the Copermittees' jurisdictional programs are largely in compliance with the Order. Some of the efforts currently being conducted on a regular basis by the Copermittees that were not conducted on a widespread basis prior to adoption of Order No. R9-2002-01, include: construction site storm water inspections, industrial and commercial facility storm water inspections, municipal facility storm water inspections, management of storm water quality from new development, development of BMP requirements for existing development, interdepartmental coordination, comprehensive water quality monitoring, and assessment of storm water program effectiveness.

Significant challenges remain. When viewed relative to the magnitude of the storm water runoff problem, enormous challenges remain, particularly regarding the management of storm water runoff on a watershed scale. Today, storm and non-storm water discharges from the MS4 continue to be the leading cause of water quality impairment in the San Diego Region.[3] The Copermittees' monitoring data exhibits persistent exceedances of water quality objectives in most watersheds.[4] Many watersheds also have conditions that are frequently toxic to aquatic life. Bioassessment data from the watersheds further reflects these conditions, finding that macroinvertebrate communities in creeks have widespread Poor to Very Poor Index of Biotic Integrity ratings. Finally, the now too familiar "health advisory" or "beach closure" signs, which often result from high levels of bacteria in storm and non-storm water, exhibit the continued threat to public health by such discharges.

[3] The potential sources of impairments are identified on the CWA section 303(d) list of impaired water bodies for the San Diego Region.
[4] Data is provided in annual reports to the Regional Board. A summary of data collected during the third-term permit is provided in the Copermittees' application for permit reissuance. That summary is available on-line at: http://www.ocwatersheds.com/StormWater/documents_ROWD.asp

V. PERMITTING APPROACH (PROGRAM INTEGRATION, FLEXIBILITY, AND DETAIL)

The Order contains an increased emphasis on storm water discharge management on a watershed basis. This shift towards increased watershed management is consistent with planning efforts conducted by the Regional Board regarding reissuance of the San Diego Permit (Order No. R9-2007-0001), and it is also consistent with the Copermittees' most recent Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD).[5] This shift reflects recognition of the maturity of the storm water programs since they began implementing the Third-Term Permit. Addressing storm water discharge management on a watershed basis is only possible if effective jurisdictional programs have been established, and maintaining effective jurisdictional programs is crucial to the success of watershed-focused management.

There are several reasons for this shift in emphasis. First, the Copermittees are generally doing an effective job at implementing their jurisdictional programs; while on the other hand, an emphasis on watersheds is necessary to shift the focus of the Copermittees from program development and implementation to water quality results. After over 15 years of Copermittee program implementation, it is critical that the Copermittees link their efforts with positive impacts on water quality. Addressing storm water on a watershed scale focuses on water quality results by emphasizing the receiving waters within the watershed. The conditions of the receiving waters drive management actions, which in turn focus on the water quality problems in each watershed.

Focusing on watershed implementation does not mean that the Copermittees must expend funds outside of their jurisdictions. Rather, the Copermittees within each watershed are expected to collaborate to develop a watershed strategy to address the high priority water quality problems within each watershed. They have the option of implementing the strategy in the manner they find to be most effective. Each Copermittee can implement the strategy individually within its jurisdiction, or the Copermittees can group together to implement the strategy throughout the watershed.

While the Order includes a new emphasis on addressing storm water discharges on a watershed basis, the Order includes recognition of the importance of continued program implementation on jurisdictional and countywide levels. The Order also acknowledges that jurisdictional, watershed, and countywide efforts are not always mutually exclusive. For this reason, an attempt has been made to allow for the Copermittees' jurisdictional, watershed, and countywide programs to integrate.

[5] The Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) was submitted to the Regional Board on August 18, 2006 by the Principal Permittee (County of Orange) on behalf of all Copermittees.

In the Order, the watershed requirements serve as the mechanism for this program integration. Since jurisdictional and countywide activities can also serve watershed purposes, such activities can be integrated into the Copermittees' watershed programs, provided the activities meet certain criteria. In this manner, the Copermittees' activities do not always need to distinguish between jurisdictional, watershed, and countywide levels of implementation. Instead, they can be integrated on multiple levels.

Such opportunities for program integration inherently provide flexibility to the Copermittees in implementing their programs. Program integration can be expanded or minimized as the Copermittees see fit. For example, there is flexibility provided in determining the activities to be integrated and implemented in the watershed programs – watershed-based efforts, countywide efforts, enhanced jurisdictional efforts, or a mixture of the three. Significant flexibility is also provided throughout other portions of the Order.

Copermittees can choose the best management practices (BMPs) to be implemented, or required to be implemented, for development, construction, and existing development areas. Flexibility to determine which industrial or commercial sites are to be inspected is also provided to the Copermittees. Educational approaches are also to be determined by the Copermittees under the Order. Implementation of certain efforts on a countywide basis is largely optional for the Copermittees as well. Significant leeway is also provided to the Copermittees in using methods to assess the effectiveness of their various runoff management programs. This flexibility is further extended to the monitoring program requirements, which allow the Copermittees to develop monitoring approaches to several aspects of the monitoring program.

The challenge in drafting the Order is to provide the flexibility described above while ensuring that the Order is still enforceable. To achieve this, the Order frequently prescribes minimum measurable outcomes, while providing the Copermittees with flexibility in the approaches they use to meet those outcomes. Enforceability has been found to be a critical aspect of the Order. For example, the watershed requirements of Order No. R9-2002-01 were some of the Order's most flexible requirements. This lack of specificity in the watershed requirements resulted in inefficient watershed compliance efforts. This situation reflects a common outcome of flexible permit language. Such language can be unclear and unenforceable, and it can lead to implementation of inadequate programs.

To avoid these types of situations, a balance between flexibility and enforceability has been crafted into the Order. Minimum measurable outcomes are utilized to ensure the Order is enforceable, while the Copermittees are provided flexibility in deciding how they will implement their programs to meet the minimum measurable outcomes.

PERMITTING APPROACH

GENERAL CRITERIA

Non-storm water discharges may contain pollutants which result from various activities that occur within areas draining into the MS4. This includes, but is not limited to, illicit discharges and connections, exempted categories of discharge not a source of pollutants (40 CFR 122.26(d)), and discharges into the MS4 covered under a separate NPDES permit. As such, existing and proposed discharges of non-storm water from MS4s:

a) Result from similar activities through the MS4 system;
b) Are the same type of water;
c) Require similar effluent limitations for the protection of the Beneficial Uses of the receiving waters;
d) Require similar monitoring;
e) Are under the control of the owner and operator of the MS4 system; and
f) Are more appropriately regulated under a general permit than individual permits.

VI. ECONOMIC ISSUES

Economic discussions of storm and non-storm water management programs tend to focus on the significant costs incurred by municipalities in developing and implementing the programs. However, when considering the cost of implementing the programs, it is also important to consider the alternative costs incurred by not fully implementing the programs, as well as the benefits which result from program implementation. For instance, unhealthful coastal water quality conditions negatively affect residents, tourists, and related portions of the Orange County economy.[6]

[6] Orange County 2006 Community Indicators Project. 2006. Sponsored by the County of Orange, the Orange County Business Council, and the Children and Families Commission of Orange County. Available on-line at www.oc.ca.gov/ceocommunity.asp

It is very difficult to ascertain the true cost of implementation of the Copermittees' management programs because of inconsistencies in reporting by the Copermittees. Reported costs of compliance for the same program element can vary widely from city to city, often by a very wide margin that is not easily explained.[7] Despite these problems, efforts have been made to identify management program costs, which can be helpful in understanding the costs of program implementation. The Orange County Municipalities plan to prepare a common fiscal reporting strategy to better define the expenditure and budget line items included in annual reports.[8]

Estimates of Phase I Storm Water Program Costs.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the California Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and the State Board have attempted to evaluate the costs of implementing municipal storm water programs. The assessments demonstrate that true costs are difficult to ascertain and reported costs vary widely. Nonetheless, they provide a useful context for considering the costs of requirements within Tentative Order No. R9-2008-0001. In addition, reported fiscal analyses tend to neglect the costs incurred to municipalities when storm water runoff is not effectively managed. Such costs result from pollution, contamination, nuisance, and damage to ecosystems, property, and human health.

In 1999 USEPA reported on multiple studies it conducted to determine the cost of management programs. A study of Phase II municipalities determined that the annual cost of the Phase II program was expected to be $9.16 per household. USEPA also studied 35 Phase I municipalities, finding costs to be $9.08 per household annually, similar to those anticipated for Phase II municipalities.[9] The USEPA cost estimate for Phase I municipalities is valuable because it considers municipalities in Orange County.
A study on program cost was also conducted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (LARWQCB), where program costs reported in the municipalities' annual reports were assessed. The LARWQCB estimated that average per household cost to implement the MS4 program in Los Angeles County was $12.50.[10] Since the Los Angeles County permit is very similar to Order No. R9-2002-01, this estimate is also useful in assessing general program costs in Orange County.

[7] LARWQCB, 2003. Review and Analysis of Budget Data Submitted by the Permittees for Fiscal Years 2000-2003. P. 2.
[8] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region)
[9] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68791-68792.
[10] LARWQCB, 2003. Review and Analysis of Budget Data Submitted by the Permittees for Fiscal Years 2000-2003. P. 2.

The State Board also recently commissioned a study by the California State University, Sacramento to assess costs of the Phase I MS4 program. This study includes an assessment of costs incurred by Phase I MS4s throughout the State to implement their programs. Annual cost per household in the study ranged from $18-46, with the City of Encinitas in San Diego County representing the upper end of the range.[11] Although no Orange County municipalities were assessed, the cost of the City of Encinitas' program may be somewhat representative of the upper range of Orange County MS4 programs. Encinitas shares similarities with southern Orange County, including the similarity of the San Diego MS4 permit to the Orange County MS4 permit, the city's coastal location, and its reliance on tourism. However, the City's program cost can be considered as the high end of the spectrum for management program costs because the City has a consent decree with environmental groups regarding its program, and City of Encinitas has received recognition for implementing a superior program.

It is important to note that reported program costs are not all attributable to compliance with MS4 permits. Many program components, and their associated costs, existed before any MS4 permits were ever issued. For example, street sweeping and trash collection costs cannot be solely or even principally attributable to MS4 permit compliance, since these practices have long been implemented by municipalities. Therefore, true program cost resulting from MS4 permit requirements is some fraction of reported costs. The California State University, Sacramento study found that only 38 percent of program costs are new costs fully attributable to MS4 permits. The remainder of the program costs were either pre-existing or resulted from enhancement of pre-existing programs.[12] In 2000, the County of Orange found that even lesser amounts of program costs are solely attributable to MS4 permit compliance, reporting that the amount attributable to implement the Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP), was less than 20 percent of the total budget. The remaining 80 percent was attributable to pre-existing programs.[13]

Estimating Costs of Reissued Storm Water Permits

The vast majority of costs that will be incurred as a result of implementing Order No. R9-2009-0002 are not new. Storm water management programs have been in place in Orange County for over 15 years. Any increase in cost to the Copermittees will be incremental in nature. Moreover, since Order No. R9-2009-0002 "fine tunes" the requirements of Order No. R9-2002-01, these cost increases are expected to be modest.

[11] State Water Board, 2005. NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey. P. ii.
[12] Ibid. P. 58.
[13] County of Orange, 2000. A NPDES Annual Progress Report. P. 60. More current data from the County of Orange is not used in this discussion because the County of Orange no longer reports such information.

The anticipated costs of program changes are difficult to estimate because of the flexibility inherent within the Permit and the recognition that program modifications will vary among the municipalities in response to the specific needs of the local and watershed programs. In other words, the Permit is intended to allow each Permittee to de-emphasize some program components and strengthen others based on the experience of the jurisdictional programs.

The changes in Order No. R9-2009-0002 reflect the iterative process of BMP implementation and the necessarily adaptive nature of storm water management that is expected by the USEPA. In 1996, USEPA recognized that changes to MS4 programs would occur during the reapplication period based on new information on the relative magnitude of a problem, new data on water quality impacts of the storm water discharges, and experience gained under the prior permit. [14] Some program changes have been proposed by the Copermittees in the permit reapplication package, and others have been included because the Regional Board considers those measures necessary and feasible to protect water quality from the effects of MS4 discharges.

Other Economic Considerations.

Economic considerations of management programs cannot be limited only to program costs. Evaluation of programs requires information on the implementation costs and information on the benefits derived from environmental protection and improvement.[15] Attention is often focused on program costs, but the programs must also be viewed in terms of their value to the public.

For example, household willingness to pay for improvements in fresh water quality for fishing and boating has been estimated by USEPA to be $158-210.[16] This estimate can be considered conservative, since it does not include important considerations such as marine waters benefits, wildlife benefits, or flood control benefits. The California State University, Sacramento study corroborates USEPA's estimates, reporting annual household willingness to pay for statewide clean water to be $180.[17] When viewed in comparison to household costs of existing management programs, household willingness to pay estimates exhibit that per household costs incurred by Copermittees to implement their management programs remain reasonable.

[14] Federal Register / Vol. 61, No. 155 / Friday, August 9, 1996 / Rules and Regulations. Interpretive policy memorandum on reapplication requirements for MS4s.
[15] Ribaudo M.O. and D. Heelerstein. 1992, *Estimating Water Quality Benefits: Theoretical and Methodological Issues.* U.S. Department of Agriculture. Technical Bulletin No. 1808.
[16] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68793.
[17] State Board, 2005. NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey. P. iv.

The effect of storm and non-storm water discharges on receiving waters can also influence the value of real estate in southern Orange County. For instance, recent marketing of new developments in the region prominently features access or proximity to the ocean.[18] This demonstrates the added value of healthy aquatic environments to property values. The real estate industry recognizes that home buyers are willing to pay for access to clean water environments. The ability to market water-based recreational activities is dependent on healthy water quality conditions.

Municipalities and business groups in Orange County recognize the value of programs to prevent and treat storm water pollution in Orange County. For instance, both coastal and inland Orange County cities positively promote their access to the Pacific Ocean as a valuable quality of life feature.[19] In addition, the South Orange County Regional Chamber of Commerce's legislative policy for infrastructure includes the support of programs and solutions for non-point source storm water runoff. This demonstrates that the business community realizes the negative economic effects that result from polluted storm water.

Another important way to consider management program costs is to consider implementation in terms of costs incurred by not improving the programs. Storm and non-storm water discharges from MS4s in southern California has been found to cause illness in people bathing near storm drains.[20] A study of south Huntington Beach and north Newport Beach (both located in northern Orange County) found that an illness rate of about 0.8 percent among bathers at those beaches resulted in about $3 million annually in health-related expenses.[21] Extrapolation of such numbers to the wide range of beaches of Orange County could result in huge public expenses.

[18] Examples include the "Marblehead Coastal" project in San Clemente (http://www.marbleheadonthecoast.com), the "Pacifica San Juan" project in San Juan Capistrano (http://pacificasanjuan.com), and "The Strand at Headlands" in Dana Point (http://strandoc.com).
[19] For a coastal city, see Laguna Beach Overview at http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/about/overview. For an inland city, see the Lake Forest 2005 Economic Profile at http://www.thearbor.info/pdf/2005%20Economic%20Profile.pdf.
[20] Haile, R.W., et al, 1996. An Epidemiological Study of Possible Adverse Health Effects of Swimming in Santa Monica Bay. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project.
[21] Dwight, R.H., et al., 2005. Estimating the Economic Burden From Illnesses Associated With Recreational Coastal Water Pollution – A Case Study in Orange County, California. Journal of Enviro. Management Vol.76. No.2 p.95-103. Also reported in: Los Angeles Times, May 2, 2005. Here's What Ocean Germs Cost You: A UC Irvine Study Tallies the Cost of Treatment and Lost Wages for Beachgoers Who Get Sick.

Storm and non-storm water MS4 discharges, and their impact on receiving waters also affect tourism. In past years, Orange County was featured in the national press for its water quality problems. Such news is likely to have a negative impact on tourism, since polluted beaches are generally not attractive to tourists. According to the Orange County Community Indicators Project, the County's visitors spent an average of $107.70 per day in 2004.[22] The experience of Huntington Beach provides an example of the potential economic impact of poor water quality. Approximately eight miles of Huntington Beach were closed for two months in the middle of summer of 1999, severely impacting beach visitation. When considered with the number of visitors and their average expenditure, the negative effects to the local economy are obvious.

Coastal tourism is an important industry in Orange County and is dependent upon effective management of storm water pollution and the prevention of non-storm water pollution. The following examples reflect that relationship.

DANA POINT: In response to a Grand Jury finding (1999-2000 Rainy Season's First Flush Hits the Harbors of Orange County), the city of Dana Point notes the interrelationship between the clean coastal water and the economic health of the city. Dana Point reports receiving $5.2 million in transit occupancy tax funds in FY 1999-2000 "due in large part because of proximity to the beach. Without clean beaches, Dana Point risks losing its major revenue source."[23] More recently, the City budget report estimates that transit occupancy taxes comprise 35 percent of general fund revenues for the 2006 fiscal year.

LAGUNA BEACH: Tourism is one of the primary components of the Laguna Beach economy, and the beach is one of the main tourist attractions in the city. In 1999, hotel/motel bed tax revenue was approximately $3 million, representing 13 percent of the City's general fund revenue.[24] In 2006, the City expects transit occupancy taxes to represent about 11 percent of general fund revenue.[25] The proportional decrease is due to an increase in property taxes, which is also affected in part by the quality of coastal waters. The City Council recognizes the value of the beaches to tourists, and the local population and has funded several low-flow non-storm water diversion systems in an attempt to prevent beach pollution and beach closures.

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[22] Orange County 2006 Community Indicators Project. 2006. Sponsored by the County of Orange, the Orange County Business Council, and the Children and Families Commission of Orange County. Available on-line at www.oc.ca.gov/ceocommunity.asp

[23] Orange County Grand Jury. 1999-2000 Rainy Season's First Flush Hits the Harbors of Orange County.

[24] Laguna Beach at a Glance. May 2000. Prepared by Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc.

[25] City of Laguna Beach, adopted budget 2006-2007. Available on-line at: http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/government/reference/budget07

DOHENY STATE BEACH: In 1997, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) prepared an economic analysis as part of the San Juan Creek and Aliso Creek Watershed Study. Recreational value for Doheny State Beach, based on annual visitation of 670,545 people in 1995, was calculated at $2,850,000. Furthermore, the USACE notes that lifeguards reported that beach attendance falls dramatically when there are unhealthy conditions in the ocean. In 1999, the USACE prepared an updated economic study as part of the Feasibility Phase of the San Juan Creek Watershed Management Study. The 1999 study reports that average beach attendance from 1996 to 1998 increased to 918,735. The USACE places a recreation value per visitor at $5.76, which implies the annual recreational value of Doheny State Beach for 1996 to 1998 was $5,291,914.

ALISO BEACH: In 1997, the USACE prepared an economic analysis as part of the San Juan Creek and Aliso Creek Watershed Study. Recreational value for Aliso Beach, based on annual visitation of 3,477,369 people in 1995, was calculated at $14,779,000. In the 1999 Draft Feasibility Report for the Aliso Creek Watershed Management Study, the USACE noted that the average beach attendance from 1996 to 1998 decreased to 1,148,374. The recreation value per visitor was calculated at $4.50 and the average annual impact from water quality-related beach closures at Aliso Beach Park was estimated to be $468,392. This number is comparable to an economic analysis conducted as part of the Aliso Creek Watershed 205(j) study that estimated the annual average recreational value impact of beach closures at Aliso Beach Park to be $468,400.

Finally, it is important to consider the benefits of management programs in conjunction with their costs. A recent study conducted by the University of Southern California and University of California, Los Angeles assessed the costs and benefits of implementing various approaches for achieving compliance with the MS4 permits in the Los Angeles Region. The study found that non-structural systems would cost $2.8 billion but provide $5.6 billion in benefit. If structural systems were determined to be needed, the study found that total costs would be $5.7 to $7.4 billion, while benefits could reach $18 billion.[26] Costs are anticipated to be borne over many years – probably ten years at least. As can be seen, the benefits of the programs are expected to considerably exceed their costs. Such findings are corroborated by USEPA, which found that the benefits of implementation of its Phase II storm water rule would also outweigh the costs.[27]

Additional discussion of economic issues can be found at section 3 of the Fact Sheet/Technical Report for Regional Board Order No. R9-2002-01, available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/programs/oc_stormwater.html.

[26] LARWQCB, 2004. Alternative Approaches to Stormwater Control.
[27] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68791.

VII. LEGAL AUTHORITY

The following statutes, regulations, and Water Quality Control Plans provide the basis for the requirements of Order No. R9-2009-0002: Clean Water Act (CWA), California Water Code (CWC), 40 CFR Parts 122, 123, 124 (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Application Regulations for Storm Water Discharges, Final Rule), Part II of 40 CFR Parts 9, 122, 123, and 124 (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System – Regulations for Revision of the Water Pollution Control Program Addressing Storm Water Discharges; Final Rule), Water Quality Control Plan – Ocean Waters of California (California Ocean Plan), Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan), 40 CFR 131 Water Quality Standards; Establishment of Numeric Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants for the State of California; Rule (California Toxics Rule), and the California Toxics Rule Implementation Plan.

The legal authority citations below generally apply to directives in Order No. R9-2009-0002, and provide the Regional Board with ample underlying authority to require each of the directives of Order No. R9-2009-0002. Legal authority citations are also provided with each permit section discussion in section IX of this Fact Sheet/Technical Report.

CWA 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) – The CWA requires in section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) that permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers "shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers."

CWA 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) – The CWA requires in section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) that permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers "shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants."

40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B,C,E, and F) – Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B,C,E, and F) provide that each Copermittee's permit application "shall consist of: (i) Adequate legal authority. A demonstration that the applicant can operate pursuant to legal authority established by statute, ordinance or series of contracts which authorizes or enables the applicant at a minimum to: [...] (B) Prohibit through ordinance, order or similar means, illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer; (C) Control through ordinance, order or similar means the discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer of spills, dumping or disposal of materials other than storm water; [...] (E) Require compliance with condition in ordinances, permits, contracts or orders; and (F) Carry out all inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures necessary to determine compliance and noncompliance with permit conditions including the prohibition on illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer."

40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) – Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) provides that the Copermittee shall develop and implement a proposed management program which "shall include a comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate. The program shall also include a description of staff and equipment available to implement the program. [...] Proposed programs may impose controls on a system wide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls. [...] Proposed management programs shall describe priorities for implementing controls."

40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A - D) – Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A - D) require municipalities to implement controls to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from new development and significant redevelopment, construction, and commercial, residential, industrial, and municipal land uses or activities. Prevention of illicit discharges is also required.

CWC 13377 – CWC section 13377 provides that "Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the State Board or the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the CWA, as amended, issue waste discharge requirements and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with anymore stringent effluent standards or limitation necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance."

Order No. R9-2009-0002 is an essential mechanism for achieving the water quality objectives that have been established for protecting the beneficial uses of the water resources in the San Diego Regional Board's portion of Orange County. Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1) requires MS4 permits to include any requirements necessary to "achieve water quality standards established under CWA section 303, including State narrative criteria for water quality." The term "water quality standards" in this context refers to a water body's beneficial uses and the water quality objectives necessary to protect those beneficial uses as established in the Basin Plan and antidegradation policies.

VIII. FINDINGS

The findings of the Order have been modified to reduce repetition in their discussions and address new requirements. Each finding of the Order is provided and discussed below. Additional discussion relative to the findings can be found in section IX of the Fact Sheet, which provides discussions of the Order's directives.

A. Basis For the Order

Finding A.1. This Order is based on the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 of the Water Code, commencing with Section 13000), applicable state and federal regulations, all applicable provisions of statewide Water Quality Control Plans and Policies adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board), the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin adopted by the Regional Board, the California Toxics Rule, and the California Toxics Rule Implementation Plan.

Discussion of Finding A.1. In 1987, Congress established CWA Amendments to create requirements for storm water discharges under the NPDES program, which provides for permit systems to regulate the discharge of pollutants. Under the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the State Board and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards have primary responsibility for the coordination and control of water quality, including the authority to implement the CWA. Porter-Cologne (section 13240) directs the Regional Water Quality Control Boards to set water quality objectives via adoption of Basin Plans that conform to all State policies for water quality control.

As a means for achieving those water quality objectives, Porter-Cologne (section 13243) further authorizes the Regional Water Quality Control Boards to establish waste discharge requirements (WDRs) to prohibit waste discharges in certain conditions or areas. Since 1990, the San Diego Regional Board has issued area-wide MS4 NPDES permits. The Order will renew Order No. R9-2002-01 to comply with the CWA and attain water quality objectives in the Basin Plan by limiting the contributions of pollutants conveyed by storm water and by including numeric action levels for dry weather non-storm water discharges designed to ensure that the Copermittees comply with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into their MS4. Further discussions of the legal authority associated with the prohibitions and directives of the Order are provided in section VII this document.

Finding A.2. This Order renews National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAS0108740, which was first issued on July 16, 1990 (Order No. 90-38), and then renewed on August 8, 1996 (Order No. 96-03) and February 13, 2002 (Order No. R9-2002-01). On August 21, 2006, in accordance with Order No. R9-2002-01, the County of Orange, as the Principal Permittee, submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for renewal of the MS4 Permit.

Discussion of Finding A.2. This Order renews National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAS0108740, which was first issued on July 16, 1990 (Order No. 90-38), and then renewed on August 8, 1996 (Order No. 96-03) and February 13, 2002 (Order No. R9-2002-01). On August 21, 2006, in accordance with Order No. R9-2002-01, the County of Orange, as the Principal Permittee, submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for renewal of the MS4 Permit. Supporting information discussing the topic of this finding can be found in section V of this document.

Finding A.3. This Order is consistent with the following precedential Orders adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) addressing municipal storm water NPDES Permits: Order 99-05, Order WQ-2000-11, Order WQ 2001-15, Order WQO 2002-0014, and Order WQ-2009-0008 (*SWRCB/OCC FILE A-1780)*.

Discussion of Finding A.3. In recent years the State Board has considered several appeals of MS4 permits issued by the Regional Boards. In Order 99-05, the State Board established language for Receiving Water Limitation Language for MS4 permits. In Order No. WQ-2000-11, the State Board addressed design standards for Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) requirements. Order WQ 2001-15 addressed Petitions of the San Diego County MS4 Permit issued by the Regional Board in 2001 (Order No. R9-2001-01). Order WQO 2002-0014 addresses Petitions of the Orange County MS4 Permit issued by the Regional Board in 2002 (Order No. R9-2002-01).

B. Regulated Parties

Finding B.1. Each of the persons in Table 1 of the Order, hereinafter called Copermittees or dischargers, owns or operates a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), through which it discharges storm water and non-storm water into waters of the United States within the San Diego Region. These MS4s fall into one or more of the following categories: (1) a medium or large MS4 that services a population of greater than 100,000 or 250,000 respectively; or (2) a small MS4 that is "interrelated" to a medium or large MS4; or (3) an MS4 which contributes to a violation of a water quality standard; or (4) an MS4 which is a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the United States.

Discussion of Finding B.1. Section 402 of the CWA prohibits the discharge of any pollutant to waters of the United States from a point source, unless that discharge is authorized by a NPDES permit. Though storm water and non-storm water may come from a diffuse source, it is discharged through MS4s, which are point sources under the CWA. Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(a) (iii) and (iv) provide that discharges from MS4s, which service medium or large populations greater than 100,000 or 250,000 respectively, shall be required to obtain a NPDES permit. Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(a)(v) also provides that a NPDES permit is required for "A [storm water] discharge which the Director, or in states with approved NPDES programs, either the Director or the USEPA Regional Administrator, determines to contribute to a violation of a water quality standard or is a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the United States." Such sources are then designated into the program.

Other small MS4s, such as those serving universities and military installations, also exist within the watersheds of Orange County in the San Diego Region. While these MS4s are not subject to this Order, they are subject to the Phase II NPDES storm water regulations. Over time, these MS4s will be designated for coverage under the State Board's statewide general storm water permit for small MS4s.

C. Discharge Characteristics

Finding C.1. Runoff discharged from an MS4 contains waste, as defined in the California Water Code (CWC), and pollutants that adversely affect the quality of the waters of the State. The discharge of runoff from an MS4 is a "discharge of pollutants from a point source" into waters of the U.S. as defined in the CWA.

Discussion of Finding C.1. Section 13050(d) of the CWC defines "waste" as "sewage and any and all other waste substances, liquid, solid, gaseous, or radioactive, associated with human habitation, or of human or animal origin, or from any producing, manufacturing, or processing operation, including waste placed within containers of whatever nature prior to, and for purposes of, disposal." 40 CFR 122.2 defines "point source" as "any discernable, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural storm water runoff." 40 CFR 122.2 defines "discharge of a pollutant" as "Any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to waters of the U.S. from any point source." Also, the justification for control of pollution into waters of the state can be found at CWC section 13260(a)(1). State Board Order WQ 2001-15 verifies that discharges from the MS4 contain waste.[28]

The term urban runoff has been removed throughout Tentative Order R9-2009-0002 and replaced with storm water (wet weather) or non-storm water (dry weather) runoff. This clarification is necessary to prevent the misunderstanding that regulation under this permit is subject only to urbanized areas. The term "urban runoff" is not defined in the Code of Federal Regulations or Federal Register in the regulation of phase 1 MS4 discharges.

The discharge of runoff from an MS4 is a "discharge of pollutants from a point source" into waters of the U.S. as defined in the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Permit defines runoff as all flows in a storm water conveyance system (MS4 defined below) and consists of the following components:

(1) storm water (wet weather flows) and
(2) non-storm water discharges (dry weather flows).

The Permit defines an MS4 as a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains):

[28] State Board, 2001. Order WQ 2001-15. In the Matter of Petitions of Building Industry Association of San Diego County and Western States Petroleum Association: For Review of Waster Discharge Requirements Order No. 2001-01 for Urban Runoff from San Diego County [NPDES No. CAS0108758] Issued by the Regional Board.

(i) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States;

(ii) Designated or used for collecting or conveying storm water;

(iii) Which is not a combined sewer;

(iv) Which is not part of the Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.26.

Permit finding D.3.c. includes natural streams that convey runoff as part of the MS4. The presence of an MS4 system is not limited to areas considered to be "urban" in nature. Though the term urban is often referred to specifically as pertaining to cities, runoff means all flows in a storm water conveyance system, regardless of the location of the conveyance system. A conveyance system owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law), may be located in a setting (e.g. unincorporated area, low density residential) that is not considered by the public to be "urban" in nature. These areas are contributing pollutants to the MS4 system that must be addressed. The term runoff applies to all flows in an MS4 system, no matter where the MS4 may be located in regards to incorporated or unincorporated property.

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR 122.26 requires that large and medium MS4s obtain a permit for all discharges from their systems. Appendix I to 40 CFR 122 designates Orange County as having a large and medium MS4 requiring a permit. The regulations do not differentiate discharges from urban or rural MS4 systems. Rather, the regulations require the permit for all discharges from their systems. In the Final Rule establishing the Phase 1 storm water regulations, the USEPA clarified that all discharges are subject to a permit. On page 48041 of the Final Rule, the USEPA states:

> "EPA recognizes that some of the counties addressed by today's rule have, in addition to areas with high unincorporated urbanized populations, areas that are essentially rural or uninhabited and may not be the subject of planned development. While permits issued for these municipal systems ***will cover*** *(emphasis added) municipal systems discharges in unincorporated portions of the county* (emphasis added), it is the intent of EPA that management plans

> and other components of the programs focus on the urbanized and developing areas of the county."

So, while the Permit covers all MS4 discharges regardless if that discharge is in an urban or unincorporated area; the Copermittees management program should focus on urbanized areas. Due to the Permit's requirements, the Copermittees management programs will naturally focus on urbanized areas. Urbanized areas have more industry, construction, pollution and MS4s that require more inspection, maintenance, monitoring, enforcement and complaint follow-up.

USEPA further clarified on page 48041 that all MS4 discharges require permit coverage when addressing highway MS4 systems:

> "[The regulations] will result in discharges from separate storm sewer systems serving State highways and other highways through storm sewers ... in unincorporated portions of specified unincorporated portions of specified counties being included as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer systems, since all municipal separate storm sewers within the boundaries of these political entities are included."

In their summary on page 48043, the USEPA states:

> "The definition [of MS4] provides that all systems within a geographical area including highways and flood controls will be covered, thereby avoiding fragmented and ill-coordinated programs;"

Neither the State Board's storm water permit for Caltrans (Order No. 99-06-DWQ) nor the Los Angeles Regional Board's draft MS4 permit for Ventura County include the term "urban runoff" in a significant regulatory capacity. The Caltrans permit has one reference to "urban runoff" where the term is used interchangeably with "storm water." The draft Ventura permit uses the term "urban runoff" when referring to titles of reference documents, previously adopted management plans and municipal ordinances that may contain the phrase.

Understandably, the Copermittees have expressed concern regarding the regulation of pollutants from natural, undeveloped areas that enter the MS4 in an unincorporated area. The MS4 collection could change a natural sheet flow discharge to a concentrated point discharge. The MS4 does not provide natural infiltration or other pollutant remediation that these flows would receive in an otherwise natural drainage system. The MS4 may concentrate these natural pollutants and flows. In some cases, the MS4 may ultimately discharge the elevated concentrations of natural pollutants and flow rates to waters of the US far from the natural pollutant and flow source, causing a condition of pollution or a violation of water quality standards.

Finding C.2. MS4 storm water and non-storm water discharges are likely to contain pollutants that cause or threaten to cause a violation of surface water quality standards, as outlined in the Regional Board's Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan). Storm water and non-storm water discharges from the MS4 are subject to the conditions and requirements established in the San Diego Basin Plan for point source discharges. These water quality standards must be complied with at all times, irrespective of the source and manner of discharge.

Discussion of Finding C.2. This finding is a clarification regarding the potential for discharges of storm water and non-storm water to impact the Beneficial Uses as described in the Basin Plan. As such these point source discharges require Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) to ensure that water quality standards are met. Furthermore, since point source discharges require WDRs, the discharges are subject to the prohibitions, conditions and requirements of the Basin Plan.

In addition, municipal discharges have been split into storm water and non-storm water discharges to represent the differing regulations applicable to storm water and non-storm water, though both types of discharges are likely to contain pollutants.

Finding C.3. The most common categories of pollutants in runoff include total suspended solids, sediment (due to anthropogenic activities); pathogens (e.g., bacteria, viruses, protozoa); heavy metals (e.g., copper, lead, zinc and cadmium); petroleum products and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons; synthetic organics (e.g., pesticides, herbicides, and PCBs); nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers); oxygen-demanding substances (decaying vegetation, animal waste); detergents; and trash.

Discussion of Finding C.3. The National Urban Runoff Program (NURP) study showed that heavy metals, organics, coliform bacteria, nutrients, oxygen demanding substances (e.g., decaying vegetation), and total suspended solids are found at relatively high levels in storm water and non-storm water discharges.[29] It also found that MS4 discharges draining residential, commercial, and light industrial areas contain significant loadings of total suspended solids and other pollutants. The Basin Plan goes on to identify runoff pollutants to include lawn and garden chemicals, household and automotive care products dumped or drained on streets, and sediment that erodes from construction sites.[30] In addition, the State Board Urban Runoff Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) finds that urban runoff pollutants include sediments, nutrients, oxygen-demanding substances, heavy metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, pathogenic bacteria, viruses, and pesticides.[31] Runoff that flows over streets, parking lots, construction sites, and industrial, commercial, residential, and municipal areas carries these untreated pollutants through storm drain networks directly to the receiving waters of the San Diego Region.

Finding C.4. The discharge of pollutants and/or increased flows from MS4s may cause or threaten to cause the concentration of pollutants to exceed applicable receiving water quality objectives and impair or threaten to impair designated beneficial uses resulting in a condition of pollution (i.e., unreasonable impairment of water quality for designated beneficial uses), contamination, or nuisance.

Discussion of Finding C.4. The 1992, 1994, and 1996 National Water Quality Inventory Reports to Congress prepared by USEPA showed a trend of impairment in the nation's waters from contaminated storm and non-storm water runoff.[32] The 1998 National Water Quality Inventory Report showed that runoff discharges affect 11 percent of rivers, 12 percent of lakes, and 28 percent of estuaries. The report states that ocean shoreline impairment due to runoff increased from 55 percent in 1996 to 63 percent in 1998. The report notes that runoff discharges are the leading source of pollution and the main factor in the degradation of surface water quality in California's coastal waters, rivers, and streams. Furthermore, the NURP study found that pollutant levels from illicit non-storm water discharges were high enough to significantly degrade receiving water quality, and threaten aquatic life, wildlife, and human health.[33]

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[29] Ibid.
[30] Regional Board, 1994. Water Quality Control Plan, San Diego Basin, Region 9. San Diego.
[31] State Board, 1994. Urban Runoff Technical Advisory Committee Report and Recommendations. Nonpoint Source Management Program.
[32] USEPA, 2000. Quality of Our Nation's Waters: Summary of the National Water Quality Inventory 1998 Report to Congress – USEPA 841-S-00-001; Water Quality Conditions in the United States: Profile from the 1998 National Water Quality Inventory Report to Congress – USEPA 841-F-00-006.
[33] USEPA, 1993. Results of the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program, Volume 1 – Final Report.

In addition, the Region's CWA section 303(d) list, which identifies water bodies with impaired beneficial uses within the region, also indicates that the impacts of storm water and non-storm water runoff on receiving waters are significant. Many of the impaired water bodies on the 303(d) list are impaired by constituents that have been found at high levels within storm water and non-storm water runoff by the County of Orange storm water monitoring program.[34] Examples of constituents frequently responsible for beneficial use impairment include indicator fecal bacteria, heavy metals, and sediment; these constituents have been found at high levels in runoff both regionally and nationwide.[35,36] In addition, impairments may be caused by synergistic effects of multiple contaminants or by pollutants not currently monitored by storm water programs[37].

Finding C.5. Pollutants in runoff can threaten and adversely affect human health. Human illnesses have been clearly linked to recreating near storm drains flowing to coastal waters. Also, runoff pollutants in receiving waters can bioaccumulate in the tissues of invertebrates and fish, which may be eventually consumed by humans.

[34] County of Orange, 2006. Orange County Municipal Copermittees 2005-2006 Annual Storm Water Program Report, Section 11.
[35] Ibid.
[36] USEPA, 1983. Results of the Nationwide Urban Runoff Program, Volume 1 – Final Report.
[37] County of Orange, 2006. Orange County Municipal Copermittees 2005-2006 Annual Storm Water Program Report, Section 11.

Discussion of Finding C.5. A landmark study, conducted by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project, found that there was an increased occurrence of illness in people that swam in proximity to a flowing storm drain.[38] A study of south Huntington Beach and north Newport Beach (both located in northern Orange County) found that an illness rate of about 0.8 percent among bathers at those beaches resulted in about $3 million annually in health-related expenses.[39] Furthermore, runoff pollutants in receiving waters can bioaccumulate in the tissues of invertebrates and fish, which may eventually be consumed by humans. Pollutants such as heavy metals and pesticides, which are commonly found in MS4 runoff, have been found to bioaccumulate and biomagnify in long-lived organisms at the higher trophic levels.[40] Since many aquatic species are utilized for human consumption, toxic substances accumulated in species' tissues can pose a significant threat to public health. USEPA supports this finding when it states, "As runoff flows over areas altered by development, it picks up harmful sediment and chemicals such as oil and grease, pesticides, heavy metals, and nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus). These pollutants often become suspended in runoff and are carried to receiving waters, such and lakes, ponds, and streams. Once deposited, these pollutants can enter the food chain through small aquatic life, eventually entering the tissues of fish and humans."[41]

Finding C.6. Runoff discharges from MS4s often contain pollutants that cause toxicity to aquatic organisms (i.e., adverse responses of organisms to chemicals or physical agents ranging from mortality to physiological responses such as impaired reproduction or growth anomalies). Toxic pollutants impact the overall quality of aquatic systems and beneficial uses of receiving waters.

[38] Haile, R.W., et al., 1996. An Epidemiological Study of Possible Adverse Health Effects of Swimming in Santa Monica Bay. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project.
[39] Dwight, R.H., et al., 2005. Estimating the Economic Burden From Illnesses Associated With Recreational Coastal Water Pollution – A Case Study in Orange County, California. Journal of Enviro. Management Vol.76. No.2 p.95-103. Also reported in: Los Angeles Times, May 2, 2005. Here's What Ocean Germs Cost You: A UC Irvine Study Tallies the Cost of Treatment and Lost Wages for Beachgoers Who Get Sick.
[40] Abel, P.D, 1996. Water Pollution Biology.
[41] USEPA, 2000. Storm Water Phase II Compliance Assistance Guide. Washington D.C. EPA 833-R-00-002.

Discussion of Finding C.6. The Copermittees' monitoring data exhibits frequent toxic conditions in runoff during storm events and dry weather. Toxicity is observed in both fresh and marine receiving waters, but varies significantly within and among sites and over time. However, according to the County of Orange, toxicity in both dry and wet weather appears concentrated along the coast. This supports the conclusion that toxicity is associated with anthropogenic activities and is caused by pollutants that flow downstream and become concentrated near the bottom of developed watersheds. Physical channel modification and hydromodification are also greatest near the coast and likely contribute to findings of toxicity. The cause of toxicity may vary between locations, dates, and indicator organisms. The actual cause may be influenced by various factors such as development, runoff management, habitat modification, hydromodification, and native aquatic environment. Toxicity identification evaluations (TIEs) have failed to confirm initial findings of toxicity. Follow-up studies by the County of Orange implicate both pollutants and physical stream habitat degradation (e.g. channel modification and hydromodification) as factors related to toxicity findings.[42]

Finding C.7. The Copermittees discharge runoff into lakes, drinking water reservoirs, rivers, streams, creeks, bays, estuaries, coastal lagoons, the Pacific Ocean, and tributaries thereto within one of the eleven hydrologic units (San Juan Hydrologic Unit) comprising the San Diego Region as shown in Tables 2a and 2b. Some of the receiving water bodies have been designated as impaired by the Regional Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in 2006 pursuant to CWA section 303(d). Also shown in the Tables are the watershed management areas (WMAs) as defined in the Regional Board report, Watershed Management Approach, January 2002.

Discussion of Finding C.7. This finding identifies the Copermittees responsible for MS4 discharges in each watershed management area. The list is identical to Order No. R9-2002-0001. The CWA Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters, 2006 Update has been approved by the Regional Board, State Board, and USEPA.[43] This 303(d) list identifies waters that do not meet water quality standards after applying certain required technology-based effluent limits ("impaired" water bodies). As part of this listing process, states are required to prioritize waters/watersheds for future development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). The listed 303(d) pollutant(s) of concern do not necessarily reflect impairment of the entire corresponding WMA or all corresponding major surface water bodies. The specific impaired portions of each WMA are listed in the State Board's 2006 Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments.

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[42] County of Orange, 2006. Orange County Municipal Copermittees 2005-2006 Annual Storm Water Program Report, Section 11.

[43] The approved 2006 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments is on-line at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_lists2006.html

Finding C.8. Trash is a persistent pollutant which can enter receiving waters from the MS4 resulting in accumulation and transport in receiving waters over time. Trash poses a serious threat to the Beneficial Uses of the receiving waters, including, but not limited to, human health, rare and endangered species, navigation and human recreation.

Discussion of Finding C.8. The Copermittees to date have documented high volumes of trash coming from the MS4 system and in receiving waters.[44]

The Basin Plan specifies the following narrative Water Quality Objective (WQO) for Floating Material:

> *"Waters shall not contain floating material, including solids, liquids, foams, and scum in concentrations which cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses."*

The Basin Plan specifies the following narrative WQO for Suspended and Settleable Solids: Material:

> *"Waters shall not contain suspended and settleable solids in concentrations of solids that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses."*

Additionally, high density urban areas in Southern California have been shown to be responsible for up to 60 percent of the trash that enters receiving waters from the MS4.[45] The retrofitting of existing MS4 systems, such as catch basins, in targeted high trash areas can result in significant reductions in the amount of trash entering receiving waters from the MS4.

Trash, as litter in both solid and liquid form, is consistently found on and adjacent to roadways. A California Department of Transportation Litter Management Pilot Study found that of roadway trash, plastics and Styrofoam accounted for 33 percent of trash by weight, and 43 percent by volume. Further, the study found that approximately 80 percent of the litter associated with roadways was floatable, indicating that, without capture, this litter would enter Waters of the State after a storm event, resulting in the impairment of Beneficial Uses.[46] The study, however, relied upon a mesh capture size of 0.25 inches (6.35 millimeters). This size is too large to effectively capture plastic pre-production pellets (aka "nurdles"), which are roughly 3 mm in size, and likely underestimated the total contribution of plastics. Plastics, including pre-production pellets, have been found to be the dominant pollutant on beaches in the County of Orange.[47] Furthermore, pre-production plastic pellets, which are small enough to be easily digested, have been found to carry persistent organic pollutants, including PCBs

[44] Aliso Creek Watershed 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th Quarterly Progress Reports. 2007-2008.
[45] The City of Los Angeles Meets Trash TMDLs Compliance with CB Inserts and Opening Covers. August 06, 2008.
[46] California Department of Transportation District 7 Litter Management Pilot Study. June 26, 2000.
[47] Moore, S.L., Gregorio, D., Carreon, M., Weisberg, S.B. and M. K. Leecaster. 1998. Composition and Distribution of Beach Debris in Orange County, California. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. Vol. 42

and DDT.[48]

Finding C.9. The Copermittees' water quality monitoring data submitted to date documents persistent violations of Basin Plan water quality objectives for various runoff-related pollutants (fecal coliform bacteria, total suspended solids, turbidity, metals, etc.) at various watershed monitoring stations. Persistent toxicity has also been observed at some watershed monitoring stations. In addition, bioassessment data indicates that the majority of urbanized receiving waters have Poor to Very Poor Index of Biotic Integrity ratings. In sum, the above findings indicate that runoff discharges are causing or contributing to water quality impairments, and are a leading cause of such impairments in Orange County.

Discussion of Finding C.9. The Copermittees have produced data that demonstrates water quality objectives are frequently not met during dry and wet weather. The 2006 Report of Waste Discharge and the 2005-06 Annual Reports document that receiving water monitoring stations often fail to meet water quality objectives established in the Basin Plan. Similar conclusions are found in monitoring reported to the Regional Board pursuant to Investigative Orders issued between 2001 and 2006 for Aliso Creek, Salt Creek[49], Prima Deshecha[50], and North Creek at Doheny Beach[51]. Monitoring reported to the State Board pursuant to funding grant agreements also demonstrates that discharges from MS4s routinely exceed water quality objectives.[52,53, 54, 55, 56].

[48] Rios, L.M., Moore, C. and Patrick R. Jones. 2007. Persistent organic pollutants carried by synthetic polymers in the ocean environment. *Marine Pollution Bulletin.* Vol. 54.
[49] An Investigative Order was issued on March 6, 2003 to the City of Dana Point for water quality conditions of Salt Creek near Monarch Beach.
[50] An Investigative Order was issued on July 3, 2002 to the City of San Clemente and the County of Orange for water quality conditions of Prima Deshecha Canada (including Poche Beach).
[51] Investigative Order No. R9-2006-0039 was issued on April 4, 2006 to the City of Dana Point and Quantum Ozone, Inc. for an assessment of water quality conditions at North Creek, Doheny Beach.
[52] City of Dana Point. 2005. *Final Report for the Del Obispo Storm Drain Project.* Prepared for the State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 02-216-550-0.
[53] City of Dana Point. 2004. *Final Report For The Alipaz Storm Drain Treatment And Low Flow Diversion Project" by the City of Dana Point.* Prepared for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement Number: 01-068-550-0.
[54] James Volz. 2005. *Final Report for Poche Beach Urban Runoff Ultraviolet Light Bacteria Disinfection Project.* Prepared by the County of Orange for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 01-236-550-1.
[55] Max Anderson. 2005. Final Report: Aliso Beach Clean Beach Initiatives, J01P28 Interim Water Quality Improvement Package Plant Best Management Practices. Prepared by the County of Orange for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 01-227-550-0.
[56] City of Laguna Niguel and CH2MHILL. 2004. *Final Report: Wetland Capture and Treatment (WetCAT) Network.* Prepared for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 01-122-259-0.

Water quality in receiving waters downstream of MS4 discharges fail to meet Ocean Plan standards[57], California Toxics Rule standards[58], and Basin Plan objectives. Data submitted in the MS4 Annual Reports indicate that at various times chemical, bacteria, pesticide, and metal concentrations may exceed water quality objectives in marine and fresh water receiving waters in both wet and dry weather conditions. Although wet weather MS4 effluent data is not generally reported, dry-weather non-storm water MS4 effluent data demonstrates that the effluent contains concentrations of pollutants that would exceed receiving water quality objectives.

In most of these watersheds, there are no other significant NPDES permits discharging to the creeks. For instance, there are no live-stream discharges of treated waste water in south Orange County. The few NPDES permits in the watersheds are mainly for recycled water which only discharges occasionally during the rainy season. Because the water quality monitoring indicates exceedances of water quality standards and MS4 discharges are the main source of pollutants in the watersheds, it can be inferred that the MS4 discharges are causing or contributing to water quality impairments, and are a leading cause of such impairments in Orange County.

Finding C.10. When natural vegetated pervious ground cover is converted to impervious surfaces such as paved highways, streets, rooftops, and parking lots, the natural absorption and infiltration abilities of the land are lost. Therefore, runoff leaving a developed area is significantly greater in runoff volume, velocity, and peak flow rate than pre-development runoff from the same area. Runoff durations can also increase as a result of flood control and other efforts to control peak flow rates. Increased volume, velocity, rate, and duration of runoff greatly accelerate the erosion of downstream natural channels. Significant declines in the biological integrity and physical habitat of streams and other receiving waters have been found to occur with as little as a 3-5 percent conversion from natural to impervious surfaces. The increased runoff characteristics from new development must be controlled to protect against increased erosion of channel beds and banks, sediment pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force.

Finding C.11. Development creates new pollution sources as human population density increases and brings with it proportionately higher levels of car emissions, car maintenance wastes, municipal sewage, pesticides, household hazardous wastes, pet wastes, trash, etc. which can either be washed or directly dumped into the MS4. As a result, the runoff leaving the developed area is significantly greater in pollutant load than the pre-development runoff from the same area. These increased pollutant loads must be controlled to protect downstream receiving water quality.

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[57] The Basin Plan incorporates terms and conditions of the State Board's *Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California* (Ocean Plan) as a water quality objective for Ocean Waters in the San Diego Region.
[58] The California Toxics Rule criteria promulgated by the USEPA are directly applicable water quality standards for certain priority toxic pollutants in inland surface waters and enclosed bays and estuaries in California.

Discussion of Findings C.10 and C.11.
The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) 1999 Report, "*Stormwater Strategies, Community Responses to Runoff Pollution*" identifies two main causes of the storm water pollution problem in developed areas. Both causes are directly related to development:

1. Increased volume and velocity of surface runoff. There are three types of human-made impervious covers that increase the volume and velocity of runoff: (i) rooftop, (ii) transportation imperviousness, and (iii) non-porous (impervious) surfaces. As these impervious surfaces increase, infiltration will decrease, forcing more water to run off the surface, picking up speed and pollutants.

2. The concentration of pollutants in the runoff. Certain industrial, commercial, residential and construction activities are large contributors of pollutant concentrations in storm water runoff. As human population density increases, it brings with it proportionately higher levels of car emissions, car maintenance wastes, municipal sewage, pesticides, household hazardous wastes, pet wastes, trash, etc.

As a result of these two causes, runoff leaving developed areas is significantly greater in volume, velocity, and pollutant load than pre-development runoff from the same area.

By accommodating the traditional approach to storm water management, development has also altered the flow regime (rate, magnitude, frequency, timing, and flashiness of runoff) that supports aquatic and riparian habitats. These hydrologic changes are driven by the loss of water storage capacity in the watersheds,[59] and exacerbated by physical alterations of the stream channel network. [60] This relationship between development and stream channel integrity has been documented nationally and in southern California.

[59] Konrad, Christopher P. and Derek K. Booth, 2005. *Hydrologic Changes in Urban Streams and Their Ecological Significance.* American Fisheries Society Symposium Vol.47 pp.157-177.
[60] Poff. N.L. et al. 1997. The Natural Flow Regime: A paradigm for river conservation and restoration. Bioscience Vol. 47, No. 11, pp.769-784.

Hydrologic changes from development also directly and indirectly adversely affect wetlands. Natural wetlands support many beneficial uses and provide important water-quality related ecological services, including pollutant removal, flood attenuation, and groundwater recharge.[61] The Center for Watershed Protection recently provided USEPA with a synthesis of more than 100 scientific studies on the direct and indirect impacts of development, particularly urbanization, on wetlands and the role wetlands play in watershed quality. The report found that the three changes from land development with the most potential to impact wetlands include: Increased storm water runoff; decreased groundwater recharge; and flow constriction.[62] Each of these changes can often be avoided or minimized by implementing LID and hydromodification BMPs.

When Order No. R9-2002-01 was adopted, studies had shown that the level of imperviousness in an area strongly correlates with the quality of nearby receiving waters.[63] One comprehensive study, which looked at numerous areas, variables, and methods, revealed that stream degradation occurs at levels of imperviousness as low as 10 – 20 percent.[64] Stream degradation is a decline in the biological integrity and physical habitat conditions that are necessary to support natural biological diversity. For instance, few urban streams can support diverse benthic communities with imperviousness greater than or equal to 25 percent.[65] To provide some perspective, a medium density, single-family home area can be from 25 percent to 60 percent impervious (variation due to street and parking design).[66]

More recently, a report on the effects of impervious in southern California streams found that local ephemeral and intermittent streams are more sensitive to such effects than streams in other parts of the country. This study, by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Program, estimated a threshold of response at a two to three percent change in percent of impervious cover in a watershed. [67] This threshold is lower than the previously reported estimates by the USEPA that were cited in the Fact Sheet for Order No. R9-2002-01.

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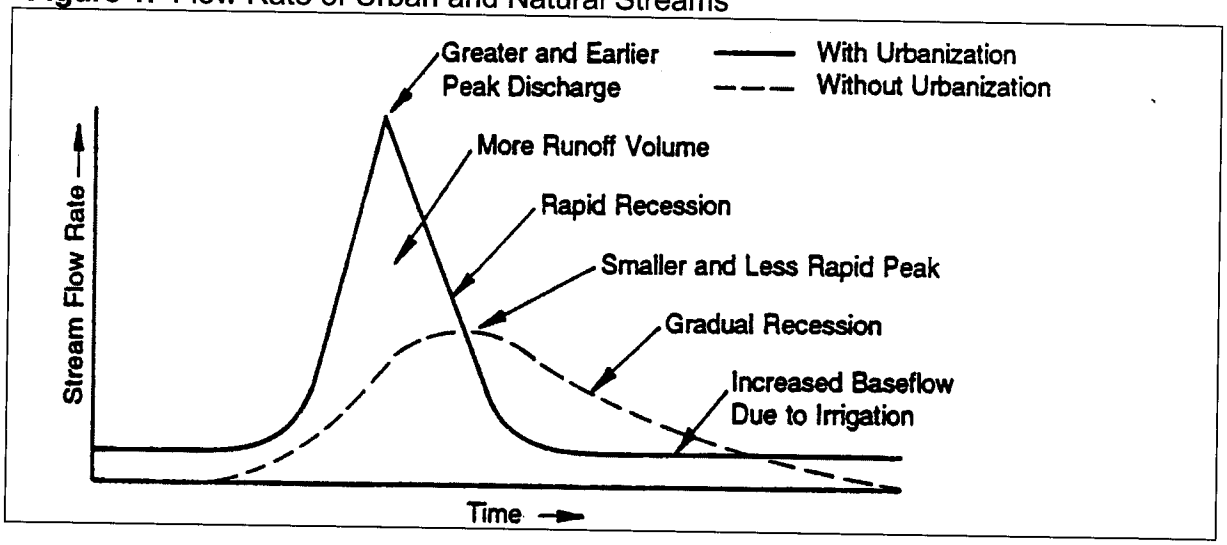
[61] Wright, Tiffany, et al. 2006. "Direct and Indirect Impacts of Urbanization on Wetland Quality." Prepared by the Center for Watershed Protection. Available at: http://www.cwp.org. 81p.
[62] Ibid p.26
[63] USEPA, 1999. Part II. 40 CFR Parts 9, 122, 123, and 124. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System – Regulations for Revision of the Water Pollution Control Program Addressing Storm Water Discharges; Final Rule. Federal Register.
[64] Ibid.
[65] Ibid.
[66] Schueler, T.R., 1994. The Importance of Imperviousness. Watershed Protection Techniques. As cited in 64 Fed. Reg. 68725.
[67] Coleman, Derrick, et al. 2005. *Effect of Increases in Peak Flows and Imperviousness on the Morphology of Southern California Streams.* Technical Report No. 450 of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project.

To demonstrate the principle of increased volume and velocity of runoff from urbanization, Figure 1 shows the flow rate of an urban vs. a natural stream. What the figure demonstrates is that urban stream flows have greater peaks and volumes, as well as shorter retention times than natural stream flows. The greater peak flows and volumes result in stream degradation through increased erosion of stream banks and damage to aquatic habitat. The shorter retention times result in less time for sediments and other pollutants to settle before being carried out to the ocean. This sediment, and the associated pollutants it carries, can be a significant cause of water quality degradation.

Figure 1. Flow Rate of Urban and Natural Streams[68]



Increased volume and velocity of runoff adversely impacts receiving waters and their beneficial uses in many ways. According to the Urban Runoff TAC report,[69] increases in population density and imperviousness result in changes to stream hydrology including:

1. Increased peak discharges compared to pre-development levels;
2. Increased volume of storm water runoff with each storm compared to pre-development levels;
3. Decreased travel time to reach receiving water; increased frequency and severity of floods;
4. Reduced stream flow during prolonged periods of dry weather due to reduced levels of infiltration;
5. Increased runoff velocity during storms due to a combination of effects of higher discharge peaks, rapid time of concentration, and smoother hydraulic surfaces from channelization; and

[68] Adapted from Schueler, T.R., 1987. Controlling Urban Runoff: A Practical Manual for Planning and Designing Urban BMPs. Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.
[69] State Board, 1994. Urban Runoff Technical Advisory Committee Report and Recommendations. Nonpoint Source Management Program.

6. Decreased infiltration and diminished ground water recharge.

Even though the rainfall depths in arid watersheds are lower, watershed development can greatly increase peak discharge rates during rare flood events.[70] A study conducted in arid watersheds around Riverside, CA showed that, over two decades, impervious cover increased from 9 percent to 22 percent, which resulted in an increase of more than 100 percent in the peak flow rate for the two-year storm event. The study also showed that the average annual storm water runoff volume had increased by 115 percent to 130 percent over the same time span.[71]

Prior hydromodification studies in California have shown that the increase in impervious cover, and thus change in runoff volume, velocity, rate, and duration, results in a shift in the range of storms that produce geomorphically significant flows within receiving waters (see above discussion). Additionally, studies in California have determined that ninety percent of the geomorphic "work" done within channels receiving flows from developed areas now occurs from flows below the 10 year peak flow event.[72]

This increased volume, velocity, rate, and duration of runoff greatly accelerates the erosion of the beds and banks within downstream receiving waters. Additionally, storm water flows which runoff directly from impervious surfaces into the MS4 and thus receiving waters prevent the associated runoff of natural sediments which would occur in pre-project conditions. This combined alteration of the physical condition of storm water runoff results in accelerated downstream erosion of receiving water bed and banks. The excessive erosion of stream beds and banks releases pollutants found in soils into receiving waters, degrades macroinvertebrate habitat (see D.2.c), eliminates spawning habitat, reduces associated wetland and riparian habitat, and threatens existing infrastructure adjacent to receiving waters. Bank sloughing within creeks and streams increases the pollutant loading to those receiving waters, particularly for turbidity and phosphorous.[73] In arid environments, accelerated channel erosion has been shown to have synergistic impacts within watersheds. Increased channel erosion within Las Vegas wash has resulted in the loss of over 1,000 acres of wetland and riparian habitat, released additional pollutants into downstream receiving waters, and eliminated in-stream habitat and water quality conditions required for existing threatened and endangered species.[74]

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[70] Schueler and Holland, 2000. Storm Water Strategies for Arid and Semi-Arid Watersheds (Article 66). The Practice of Watershed Protection. P. 695-706.
[71] Ibid.
[72] Santa Clara Valley Hydromodification Management Plan. April 21, 2005.
[73] Sekely, A.C., Mulla, D.J. and D.W. Bauer. 2002. Streambank slumping and its contribution to the phosphorus and suspended sediment loads of the Blue Earth River, Minnesota. *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation.* September 2002 vol. 57 no. 5 243-250.
[74] Tuttle, P.L.. and E..L.. Orsak. 2002. Las Vegas Wash Water Quality and Implications to Fish and Wildlife. U.S.

Regarding the impact of development on storm water runoff pollutant loads, the Regional Board's Basin Plan states:

> *Nonpoint source pollution is primarily the result of man's uses of land such as urbanization, roads and highways, vehicles, agriculture, construction, industry, mineral extraction, physical habitat alteration (dredging/filling), hydromodification (diversion, impoundment, channelization), silviculture (logging), and other activities which disturb land.*[75] *As a result, when rain falls on and drains through urban freeways, industries, construction sites, and neighborhoods it picks up a multitude of pollutants. The pollutants can be dissolved in the runoff and quickly transported by gravity flow through a vast network of concrete channels and underground pipes referred to as storm water conveyance systems. Such systems ultimately discharge the polluted runoff, without treatment, into the nation's creeks, rivers, estuaries, bays, and oceans.*[76]

According to the Center for Watershed Protection, urbanization strongly shapes the quality of both surface and ground water in arid and semi-arid regions of the southwest. Since rain events are so rare, pollutants have more time to build up on impervious surfaces compared to humid regions. Therefore, the pollutant concentrations of storm water runoff from arid watersheds tends to be higher than that of humid watersheds.[77] The effect of antecedent rainfall events is demonstrated in a recent report from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) that found the concept of a seasonal first flush is applicable to the southern California climate.[78]

Finding C.12. Development and urbanization especially threaten environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs), such as water bodies designated as supporting a RARE beneficial use (supporting rare, threatened or endangered species) and CWA 303(d)-impaired water bodies. Such areas have a much lower capacity to withstand pollutant shocks than might be acceptable in other areas. In essence, development that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may become significant in a particularly sensitive environment. Therefore, additional control to reduce storm water pollutants from new and existing development may be necessary for areas adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA.

Fish and Wildlife Service.

[75] Regional Board, 1994. Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin. P. 4-66.

[76] Ibid. P. 4-69 - 4-70.

[77] Schueler and Holland, 2000. Storm Water Strategies for Arid and Semi-Arid Watersheds (Article 66). The Practice of Watershed Protection. P. 695-706.

[78] Stenstrom, Michael and Masoud Kayhanian, 2005. *First Flush Phenomenon Characterization.* Prepared for Caltrans. Report No. CTSW-RT-05-73-02.6 Study jointly performed by UCLA and UCD. Most of the data presented was collected from three highly urbanized highway sites in west Los Angeles. Much effort went into developing a quantitative way of defining the mass first flush. Other aspects include: variability of water quality during storm events, litter characteristics, correlation among constituents, first flush of organics and particle size distribution, new methods for measuring oil and grease, and grab and composite sampling strategies. The report is available on-line at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/stormwater/special/newsetup/

Discussion of Finding C.12. ESAs are defined in the Order as "Areas that include but are not limited to all CWA Section 303(d) impaired water bodies; areas designated as Areas of Special Biological Significance by the Basin Plan ; water bodies designated with the RARE beneficial use by the Basin Plan; areas designated as preserves or their equivalent under the Natural Communities Conservation Program within the Cities and County of Orange; and any other equivalent environmentally sensitive areas which have been identified by the Copermittees."

Areas that meet this definition are inherently sensitive habitats containing unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species, or are not achieving their designated beneficial uses. As discussed above, runoff is known to contain a wide range of pollutants and has demonstrated toxicity to plants and animals. Therefore, it is necessary to apply additional storm water controls for developments within, adjacent to, or directly discharging to ESAs. This need for additional storm water controls is addressed within each component of the Order. USEPA supports the requirement for additional storm water controls, stating "For construction sites that discharge to receiving waters that do not support their designated use or other waters of special concern, additional construction site controls are probably warranted and should be strongly considered."[79] Further support for requiring additional controls to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to ESAs can be found in *Mitigation of Storm Water Impacts From New Developments in Environmentally Sensitive Areas*, a technical report written by the LARWQCB.[80]

ESAs within the area subject to this Order are expected to be substantially similar to the previous Order. Additions may be necessary once the South County Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP) is formally adopted. Other modifications may reflect updated descriptions or findings of threatened or endangered aquatic species.

Finding C.13. Although dependent on several factors, the risks typically associated with properly managed infiltration of runoff (especially from residential land use areas) are not significant. The risks associated with infiltration can be managed by many techniques, including (1) designing landscape drainage features that promote infiltration of runoff, but do not "inject" runoff (injection bypasses the natural processes of filtering and transformation that occur in the soil); (2) taking reasonable steps to prevent the illegal disposal of wastes; (3) protecting footings and foundations; (4) ensuring that each drainage feature is adequately maintained in perpetuity; and (5) pretreatment.

[79] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. Washington D.C. EPA/833-B-92-002.
[80] LARWQCB, 2001. Mitigation of Storm Water Impacts From New Developments In Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

Discussion of Finding C.13. Infiltration is an effective means for managing runoff. However, measures must be taken to protect groundwater quality when infiltration of runoff is implemented. USEPA supports runoff infiltration and provides guidance for protection of groundwater: "With a reasonable degree of site-specific design considerations to compensate for soil characteristics, infiltration may be very effective in controlling both urban runoff quality and quantity problems. This strategy encourages infiltration of urban runoff to replace the natural infiltration capacity lost through urbanization and to use the natural filtering and sorption capacity of soils to remove pollutants; however, the potential for some types of urban runoff to contaminate groundwater through infiltration requires some restrictions."[81] The restrictions placed on runoff infiltration in this Order are based on recommendations provided by the USEPA Risk Reduction Engineering Laboratory. The State Board found in Order WQ 2000-11 on the appeal of the LARWQCB's Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) requirements that the guidance provided in the above referenced document by the USEPA Risk Reduction Engineering Laboratory is sufficient for the protection of groundwater quality from runoff infiltration. To further protect groundwater quality, the Order also includes guidance from the LARWQCB,[82] the State of Washington,[83] and the State of Maryland.[84] Subsequently, the California Storm Water Quality Association (CASQA) has produced technical guidance for post-construction treatment BMPs to protect ground water quality[85].

Finding C.14. Non-storm water (dry weather) discharge from the MS4 is not considered a storm water (wet weather) discharge and therefore is not subject to regulation under the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) standard from CWA 402(p)(3)(B)(iii), which is explicitly for "Municipal ... *Stormwater Discharges* (emphasis added)" from the MS4. Non-storm water discharges, per CWA 402(p)(3)(B)(ii), are to be effectively prohibited. Such dry weather non-storm water discharges have been shown to contribute significant levels of pollutants and flow in arid, developed Southern California watersheds and are not to be effectively prohibited under the Clean Water Act.

Discussion of Finding C.14.

Permitting Framework

The Clean Water Act (CWA) employs the strategy of prohibiting the discharge of any pollutant from a point source into waters of the United States unless the discharger of the pollutant(s) obtains a NPDES permit pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water

[81] USEPA, 1994. Potential Groundwater Contamination from Intentional and Nonintentional Stormwater Infiltration. EPA 600 SR-94 051.
[82] LARWQCB, 2000. Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan for Los Angeles County and Cities in Los Angeles County.
[83] Washington State Department of Ecology, 1999. Draft Stormwater Management in Washington State. Volume V – Runoff Treatment BMPs. Pub. No. 99-15.
[84] Maryland Department of the Environment, 1999. 2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual. Volume I.
[85] CASQA. The New Development and Redevelopment Handbook, 2003. Available on-line at http://www.cabmphandbooks.org/Development.asp

Act. The discharge of storm water and/or non-storm water from an MS4 system is considered a discharge from a point source. As discussed below, however, the Clean Water Act regulates storm water and non-storm water discharges under different standards.

In 1987 the CWA was amended to include provisions that specifically concerned NPDES permitting requirements for storm water discharges from MS4 systems. Section 402(p) of the CWA regulates the discharge of storm water from a point source, the municipal separate storm sewers. Such discharges of storm water are subject to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) storm water standard and the related iterative process. The MEP standard for storm water discharges reflects Congress' recognition that the variability of flow and intensity of storm events render difficult strict compliance with water quality standards by MS4s. However, this standard was not considered applicable to non-storm water discharges, which under 402(p) are required to be effectively prohibited from entering the MS4. Clearly, if non-storm water discharges must be effectively prohibited from entering the MS4, the very next requirement (402(p)(3)(B)(iii)) requiring discharges from the MS4 be reduced to the MEP intends that the discharge of pollutants be limited to storm water. Unless exempt or authorized under a separate NPDES permit, non-storm water discharges are not authorized to enter the MS4 in the first instance and are considered to be illicit discharges.

The Federal Register further clarifies that such discharges through an MS4 are not authorized under the CWA (55 Fed. Reg. 47995):

> "Today's rule defines the term "illicit discharge" to describe any discharge through a municipal separate storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water and that is not covered by an NPDES permit. Such illicit discharges are not authorized under the Clean Water Act. Section 402(p(3)(B) requires that permits for discharges from municipal separate storm sewers require the municipality to "effectively prohibit" non-storm water discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer...Ultimately, such non-storm water discharges through a municipal separate storm sewer must either be removed from the system or become subject to an NPDES permit."

The federal regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 122.26(d)(vi)(2)(B)) require that the municipal separate storm sewer discharger prohibit "through ordinance, order or similar means, illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer." As owners and operators of the MS4, Copermittees cannot passively receive discharges from third parties (Federal Register 68766) and thus are responsible for the discharge of any non-storm water from their MS4.

The State Water Board's recent precedential order (Order WQ-2009-0008) affirming a Los Angeles County MS4 permit modification, consistent with USEPA's prior interpretations, recognizes that "[n]either the Clean Water Act nor the federal storm water regulations define 'non-storm water.' 'Illicit discharge' is defined as any discharge to an MS4 'not composed entirely of storm water.'[fn]. Thus, 'illicit

discharge' is the most nearly applicable definition of 'non-storm water' found in federal law and is often used interchangeably with that term."[86]

Storm Water and Non-storm Water Definitions

By definition non-storm water is not precipitation related. 40 CFR 122.26(b)(13) states that: "Storm water means storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage." While "surface runoff and drainage" is not defined in federal law, it is related to precipitation events such as rain and/or snowmelt (see 55 Fed Reg 47995-96). The Federal Register (55, page 47995) includes an entire section on the definition of storm water and non-storm water. The term "surface runoff and drainage" does not include all incidental flows in the MS4 system, but consists of flows relating to precipitation events as clarified by the Federal Register, USEPA's documents and permitting, and other Regional Board Orders.

The Federal Register (55 Fed Reg 47995-47996) provides clarification on the distinction between storm water and non-storm water discharges, including their regulation:

> "In response to the comments which requested EPA to define the term storm water broadly to include a number of classes of discharges **which are not in any way related to precipitation events, EPA believes that this rulemaking is not an appropriate forum for addressing the appropriate regulation of such non-storm water discharges**, even though some classes of non-storm water discharges may typically contain only minimal amounts of pollutants. Congress did not intend that the term storm water be used to describe any discharge that has a de minimis amount of pollutants, not did it intend for section 402(p) to be used to provide a moratorium from permitting other non-storm water discharges."

As recently recognized by the State Water Board in a precedential decision upholding an MS4 permit modification adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Board, "U.S. EPA has previously rejected the notion that 'storm water,' as defined at 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26(b)(13), includes dry weather flows. In U.S. EPA's preamble to the storm water regulations, U.S. EPA rejected an attempt to define storm water to include categories of discharges 'not in any way related to precipitation events.'[fn]."[87] Thus, USEPA has made it clear that it deems discharges unrelated to precipitation events to be non-storm water discharges. 40 CFR 122.26(d)(iv)(B) itself provides specific examples of non-storm water discharges:

> "...the following category of non-storm water discharges or flows shall only be addressed where such discharges are identified by the municipality as sources of pollutants to the United States: water line flushing, landscape irrigation,

[86] State Water Board Order WQ-2009-0008 (*In the Matter of the Petition of County of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Flood Control District*, adopted August 4, 2009), p. 4.
[87] State Water Board Order WQ-2009-0008 (*In the Matter of the Petition of County of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Flood Control District*, adopted August 4, 2009), p. 7.

diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, uncontaminated groundwater infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005(20) to separate storm sewers, uncontaminated pumped groundwater,..."

USEPA also removed street wash waters from the definition of storm water, as USEPA specifically identified this discharge as being non-storm water (55 Fed. Reg. page 47996). Additionally, section 1.2.2.2. of USEPA's Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities (MSGP-2000) considers fire hydrant flushings, irrigation drainage, landscape watering, and foundation or footing drains to be non-storm water discharges. USEPA's September 1999 Storm Water Management Fact Sheet for Non-Storm Water Discharges to Storm Sewers states that non-storm water discharges can include discharges of process water, air conditioning condensate, non-contact cooling water, vehicle wash water, or sanitary wastes.

While these types of non-storm water discharges (or illicit discharges) may be regulated under storm water permits because as a practical matter they can enter and be discharged from the MS4 systems, they are not regulated as storm water discharges under the Clean Water Act because they are unrelated to precipitation events. As indicated above, the State Water Resources Control Board recent discussion of this issue supports the conclusion that non-storm water discharges are unrelated to precipitation events. In its Order affirming amendments to the Los Angeles County MS4 permit to implement a TMDL to control bacteria in dry weather flows, the State Water Board rejected petitioners County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District implied assertion that the definition of "storm water" contained in the federal regulations (defined as "surface run-off and drainage") includes the run-off and drainage from non-storm events. The State Water Board notes that the challenged permit provisions do not apply to storm water flows in that they apply only during dry weather conditions as defined in the permit. In upholding the challenged order, the State Water Board notes that the Los Angeles Water Board's permit language followed USEPA's approach, referring to USEPA's rejection of attempts to define storm water to include categories of discharges "not in any way related to precipitation events."[88]

Lastly, the Regional Board and State Board have issued multiple permits for non-storm water discharges, including, but not limited to, R9-2008-0002 (extracted groundwater), R9-2002-0020 (hydrostatic discharge) and 2006-008 DWQ (utility vaults), pursuant to section 402 of the CWA.

Permitting Non-storm Water Discharges

The U.S. EPA's approach (and the Regional Board's under its approved program) for non-storm water discharges from MS4s is to regulate these discharges under the existing 402 NPDES framework (Fed Reg 47995 and 48037 see below) for discharges

[88] State Water Board Order WQ-2009-0008 (*In the Matter of the Petition of County of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Flood Control District*, adopted August 4, 2009), p. 7 (quoting 55 Fed. Reg. 47990. 47995).

to surface waters. The NPDES program (40 CFR 122.44(d)) utilizes discharge prohibitions and effluent limitations as regulatory mechanisms to regulate non-storm water discharges, including the use of technology and water quality-based effluent limitations. Non-numerical effluent limitations, such as BMPs for non-storm water discharges may only be authorized where numerical effluent limits are infeasible or where the practices are reasonably necessary to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA (40 CFR 122.44(k) see below).

The Federal Register (55, page 48037) provides clarification that non-storm water discharges from the MS4 are to be regulated under section 402, not 402(p):

> "Conveyances which continue to accept other "non-storm water" discharges (e.g. discharges without an NPDES permit) with the exceptions noted above (*exempted discharges that are not a source of pollutants*) do not meet the definition of municipal separate storm sewer and are not subject to 402(p)(3)(B) of the CWA unless such discharges are issued separate NPDES permits. Instead, conveyances which continue to accept non-storm water discharges which have not been issued separate NPDES permits are subject to sections 301 and 402 of the CWA."

This regulatory approach is consistent with the approach recently upheld by the State Water Board in a precedential order adopted on August 4, 2009. In this Order, the State Water Board rejected a challenge to amendments to the Los Angeles County MS4 permit that require compliance with receiving water limitations and discharge prohibitions for dry weather, non-storm water discharges. Petitioners there argued that the receiving water limits and discharge prohibitions for dry weather dischargers were inappropriate and that the Los Angeles Water Board should instead have regulated the discharges with the maximum extent practicable standard, through an iterative process. The State Water Board concludes that dry weather discharges, as defined in the permit and in the underlying TMDL, "are more appropriately regarded as non-storm water discharges, which the Clean Water Act requires to be effectively prohibited."[89]

As stated above, for NPDES permits under 402 of the CWA, the Code of Federal Regulations (122.44(k)) clarify that a discharger may utilize BMPs to control or abate the discharge of pollutants when:

> "(1) Authorized under section 304(e) of the CWA for the control of toxic pollutants and hazardous substances from ancillary industrial activities;
> (2) Authorized under section 402(p) of the CWA for the control of storm water discharges;
> (3) Numeric limits are infeasible; or
> (4) The practices are reasonably necessary to achieve effluent limitations and standards or to carry out the purposes and intent of the CWA."

[89] State Water Board Order WQ-2009-0008 (*In the Matter of the Petition of County of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Flood Control District*, adopted August 4, 2009), p. 8

For the last 19 years, Southern Orange County NPDES permits for discharges of storm water have regulated non-storm water discharges from the MS4. These permits required Copermittees (dischargers) to prohibit non-storm water discharges into (thus through and from) their MS4 systems, implement a program to prevent illicit discharges, and monitor to identify illicit discharges and exempted discharges that are a source of pollution. These measures are considered Best Management Practices (BMPs), are required to be included in NPDES permits issued under Section 402(p) of the CWA, and are considered by USEPA to be an interim approach to permitting non-storm water discharges from the MS4 in accordance with section 402 of the CWA and CFR 122.44(k).

As explained in the discussion of Finding C.15., below, the Copermittees' reliance on BMPs for the past 19 years has not resulted in compliance with applicable water quality standards. The Regional Board has evaluated (in accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)) past and existing controls (BMPs), non-storm water effluent monitoring results, the sensitivity of the species in receiving waters (e.g. endangered species), and the potential for effluent dilution, and has determined that existing BMPs to control pollutants in storm water discharges are not sufficient to protect water quality standards in receiving waters and the existing requirement that Copermittees effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into the MS4 historically results in the discharge of pollutants to the receiving waters. Thus, numeric action levels for non-storm water, dry weather, discharges from the MS4 and required actions following observed exceedances of numeric action levels have been established. For further discussion regarding the development of action levels please see Finding E.12 and discussion.

Dry weather action levels are applicable to non-storm water discharges of effluent from the MS4 system. Non-storm water effluent discharges from the MS4 are those which occur during dry weather conditions. These action levels are not applied to storm water discharges, as defined within the Order. Storm water discharges regulated by the Order are required to meet the MEP standard and related iterative process and have separate action levels.

Dry weather action levels are applicable to non-storm water discharges from the MS4 system into receiving waters. Non-storm water discharges are already required to be prohibited unless specifically exempted or covered under a separate NPDES permit. Dry weather action levels apply to non-storm water discharges of effluent from a point source into receiving waters. The MS4 is not a receiving water. Should a discharger wish to discharge a non-exempt category to the MS4 system, such discharges require a separate NPDES permit pursuant to sections 402 and 301 of the CWA. It is also infeasible to monitor and sample every discharge into the MS4, as such discharges are diffuse by nature and may vary spatially and temporally.

Finding C.15. Non-storm water discharges to the MS4 granted an influent exception (i.e., which are exempt from the effective prohibition requirement set forth in CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii)) under 40 CFR 122. 26 are included within this Order. Any exempted discharges identified by Copermittees as a source of pollutants are subsequently required to be *addressed* (emphasis added) as illicit discharges through prohibition and incorporation into existing IC/ID programs. The Copermittees have identified landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn water, previously exempted discharges, as a source of pollutants and conveyance of pollutants to waters of the United States.

Discussion of Finding C.15. The Federal Register (55, page 48037) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(iv)(B) clarify that certain components and categories of non-storm water discharges into the MS4 are not required to be prohibited. The Code of Federal Regulations requires the discharger have:

> "...a program, including inspections, to implement through ordinance, orders or similar means to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system; this program shall address all types of illicit discharges, however, the following category of non-storm water discharges or flows shall only be addressed where such discharges are identified by the municipality as sources of pollutants to the United States: water line flushing, landscape irrigation, diverted stream flows, rising ground waters, uncontaminated groundwater infiltration (as defined at 40 CFR 35.2005(20) to separate storm sewers, uncontaminated pumped groundwater,..."

As such, the identification of any of these categories as a source of pollutants requires them to be addressed as illicit discharges, which are not authorized under the CWA, and are required to be "effectively prohibited" as illicit discharges via ordinance, order or similar means. The prohibition of previously exempted discharges of non-storm water to waters of the United States from entering, and necessarily being discharged from an MS4, conforms with CWA requirements for standards and enforcement for effluent limitations to necessary to meet water quality standards (33 U.S.C. 1311(b)(1)(C)).

To date the Copermittees have identified overspray and drainage from potable and reclaimed water landscape irrigation as a substantial source and conveyance mechanism for pollutants into waters of the United States. Irrigation runoff into the MS4, as identified by the Copermittees, is a source of pollutants to waters of the United States, and is required to be *addressed* (emphasis added) as an illicit discharge per 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) by prohibition through implementing and enforcing an ordinance, order or similar means. The Copermittees have identified irrigation water as a source of pollutants and conveyance of pollutants to waters of the United States, when applied improperly in excess and thereafter entering the MS4, in the following documents:

- Per requirements of 401 Water Quality Certification 02C-055, the County of Orange conducted a **Drainage Area Reconnaissance and Urban Runoff**

Characterization study. From the reconnaissance and characterization, the County of Orange determined that:

> "*...water quality results provided two important findings.*" First, "*analytical data strongly indicates that irrigation overspray and drainage constitutes a very substantial source and conveyance mechanism for fecal indicator bacteria into Aliso Creek, and suggests that reduction measures for this source of urban runoff could provide meaningful reduction in bacteria loading to the stream.*"

- Aliso Creek, currently 303(d) listed as impaired for Indicator Bacteria, is included in the Bacteria Project I TMDL adopted by the Regional Board on December 12, 2007. Secondly, reclaimed water high in electrical conductivity and Nitrate was indicated as:

  > "*...the source water at three of the excessive runoff locations (P1,P2,J01). These dissolved nitrogen concentration and flow rates create relatively high nitrogen loadings, which have the potential to contribute to undesirable levels of periphytic algal growth in Aliso Creek.*"

- On November 15, 2007 the **Unified Annual Progress Report Program Effectiveness Assessment** for the 2006-2007 reporting period was submitted by the Copermittees. Within the report, the Copermittees demonstrate that a "*wide range of constituents exceeded the tolerance interval bounds*", including orthophosphate. Tolerance interval bounds are pollutant levels set by the Copermittees that represent when a problem may be occurring. These tolerance levels sometimes equate with Basin Plan Objectives (BPOs) and California Toxic Rules (CTR) and USEPA Criteria. The report states that "*high levels of orthophosphate concentration are most likely the result of fertilizer runoff or reclaimed water runoff*". Aliso Creek is currently 303(d) listed as impaired for phosphorous.

- On November 15, 2007 the **Watershed Action Plan Annual Report**(s) for the 2006-2007 reporting period was submitted by the County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District and Copermittees within the San Juan Creek, Laguna Coastal Streams, Aliso Creek, and Dana Point Coastal Streams Watersheds. San Juan Creek, Laguna Coastal Streams, Aliso Creek and Dana Point Coastal Streams are all currently 303(d) listed as impaired for Indicator Bacteria within their watersheds and/or in the Pacific Ocean at the discharge points of their watersheds. These locations are included in the Bacteria Project I TMDL adopted by the Regional Board on December 12, 2007. The Copermittees, within their Watershed Action Strategy Table for Fecal Indicator Bacteria

  > "*Support programs to reduce or eliminate the discharge of anthropogenic dry weather nuisance flow throughout the [...] watershed. Dry weather flow is the transport medium for bacteria and other 303(d) constituents of*

concern". Additionally, they state that "*conditions in the MS4 contribute to high seasonal bacteria propagation in-pipe during warm weather. Landscape irrigation is a major contributor to dry weather flow, both as surface runoff due to over-irrigation and overspray onto pavements; and as subsurface seepage that finds its way into the MS4.*"

- In 2006, the State Water Quality Control Board (State Board) allocated Grant funding to the **SmartTimer/Edgescape Evaluation Program (SEEP)**. Project partners include the following Copermittees: the Cities of Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Nigel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita and San Juan Capistrano. Also included in the study were the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Department of Agriculture and ten south Orange County water districts. The project targets irrigation runoff by retrofitting existing development and documenting the conservation and runoff improvements. The Grant Application states that:

  "*Irrigation runoff contributes flow & pollutant loads to creeks and beaches that are 303(d) listed for bacteria indicators.*"

  Furthermore, the grant application states:

  "*Regional program managers agree that the reduction and/or elimination of irrigation-related urban flows and associated pollutant loads may be key to successful attainment of water quality and beneficial use goals as outlined in the San Diego Basin Plan and Bacteria TMDL over the long term.*"

  This is reinforced in the project descriptions and objectives:

  "*Elevated dry-weather storm drain flows, composed primarily in the South Orange County Region of landscape irrigation water wasted as runoff, carry pollutants that impair recreational use and aquatic habitats all along Southern California's urbanized coastline. Storm drain systems carry the wasted water, along with landscape derived pollutants such as bacteria, nutrients and pesticides, to local creeks and the ocean. Given the local Mediterranean climate, excessive perennial dry season stream flows are an unnatural hydrologic pattern, causing species shifts in local riparian communities and warm, unseasonal contaminated freshwater plumes in the near-shore marine environment*".

The basis of this grant project, conducted by the Copermittees and additional water use partners, is that over-irrigation (landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn watering) into the MS4 is a source and conveyance of pollutants. In addition, they indicate that this alteration of natural flows is impacting the Beneficial Uses of Waters of the State and U.S.

D. Runoff Management Programs

Finding D.1.a. This Order specifies requirements necessary for the Copermittees to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff to the maximum extent practicable (MEP). However, since MEP is a dynamic performance standard, which evolves over time as runoff management knowledge increases, the Copermittees' runoff management programs must continually be assessed and modified to incorporate improved programs, control measures, best management practices (BMPs), etc. in order to achieve the evolving MEP standard. Absent evidence to the contrary, this continual assessment, revision, and improvement of runoff management program implementation is expected to ultimately achieve compliance with water quality standards in the Region.

Discussion of Finding D.1.a. Under CWA section 402(p), municipalities are required to reduce the discharge of storm water pollutants from their MS4s to the maximum extent practicable (MEP). MEP is the critical technology-based performance standard that municipalities must attain. The MEP standard is an ever-evolving, flexible, and advancing concept, which considers technical and economic feasibility. As knowledge about controlling storm water runoff continues to evolve, so does that which constitutes MEP. Reducing the discharge of storm water pollutants to the MEP requires Copermittees to assess each program component and revise activities, control measures, best management practices (BMPs), and measurable goals, as necessary to meet MEP.

To achieve the MEP standard, municipalities must employ whatever BMPs are technically feasible (i.e., are likely to be effective) and are not cost prohibitive. The major emphasis is on technical feasibility. Reducing storm water pollutants to the MEP means choosing effective BMPs, and rejecting applicable BMPs only where other effective BMPs will serve the same purpose, or the BMPs would not be technically feasible, or the cost would be prohibitive. In selecting BMPs to achieve the MEP standard, the following factors may be useful to consider:

1. Effectiveness: Will the BMPs address a pollutant (or pollutant source) of concern?
2. Regulatory Compliance: Is the BMP in compliance with storm water regulations as well as other environmental regulations?
3. Public Acceptance: Does the BMP have public support?
4. Cost: Will the cost of implementing the BMP have a reasonable relationship to he pollution control benefits to be achieved?
5. Technical Feasibility: Is the BMP technically feasible considering soils, geography, water resources, etc?

If a municipality reviews a lengthy menu of BMPs and chooses to select only a few of the least expensive BMPs, it is likely that MEP has not been met. On the other hand, if a municipal discharger employs all applicable BMPs except those where it can show that they are not technically feasible in the locality, or whose cost is prohibitive, it would have met the standard. Where a choice may be made between two BMPs that should provide generally comparable effectiveness, the discharger may choose the least expensive alternative and exclude the more expensive BMP. However, it would not be acceptable either to reject all BMPs that would address a pollutant source, or to pick a BMP based solely on cost, which would be clearly less effective. In selecting BMPs the municipality must make a serious attempt to comply and practical solutions may not be easily dismissed. In any case, the burden is on the municipal discharger to show compliance with its permit. After selecting BMPs, it is the responsibility of the discharger to ensure that all BMPs are implemented.[90]

A definition of MEP is not provided in either the federal statute or in the federal regulations. The final determination regarding whether a municipality has reduced storm water pollutants to the MEP can only be made by the Regional Board or the State Board, and not by the municipal discharger. While the Regional Board or the State Board ultimately define MEP, it is the responsibility of the Copermittees to initially propose actions that implement BMPs to reduce storm water pollution to the MEP. In other words, the Copermittees' runoff management programs to be developed under the Order are the Copermittees' proposals of MEP. Their total collective and individual activities conducted pursuant to their runoff management programs become their proposal for MEP as it applies both to their overall effort, as well as to specific activities. The Order provides a minimum framework to guide the Copermittees in meeting the MEP standard for storm water.

It is the Regional Board's responsibility to evaluate the proposed programs and specific BMPs to determine what constitutes MEP, using the above guidance and the court's 1994 decision in NRDC v. California Department of Transportation, Federal District Court, Central District of California. The federal court stated that a Copermittee must evaluate and implement BMPs except where (1) other effective BMPs will achieve greater or substantially similar pollution control benefits; (2) the BMP is not technically feasible; or (3) the cost of BMP implementation greatly outweighs the pollution control benefits. In the absence of a proposal acceptable to the Regional Board, the Regional Board will define MEP by requiring implementation of additional measures by the Copermittees.

[90] State Water Resources Control Board, 1993. Memo Entitled Definition of Maximum Extent Practicable.

The Copermittees' continual evolution in meeting the MEP standard is expected to achieve compliance with water quality standards. USEPA has consistently supported this expectation. In its Interim Permitting Approach for Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs) in Storm Water Permits, USEPA states "the interim permitting approach uses best management practices (BMPs) in first-round storm water permits, and expanded or better-tailored BMPs in subsequent permits, where necessary, to provide for attainment of water quality standards."[91] USEPA reiterated its position in 1999, when it stated regarding the Phase II municipal storm water regulations that "successive iterations of the mix of BMPs and measurable goals will be driven by the objective of assuring maintenance of water quality standards" and "EPA anticipates that a permit for a regulated small MS4 operator implementing BMPs to satisfy the six minimum control measures will be sufficiently stringent to protect water quality, including water quality standards [...]."[92]

The requirements of the Order are expected to achieve compliance with receiving water quality standards. The approach to be used is the continual assessment, revision, and improvement of Copermittee best management practice implementation. This approach is consistent with the Clean Water Act and State Board guidance. In Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner (1999, 197 F. 3d 1035), the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit states: "Under 33 U.S.C. section 1342 (p)(3)(B)(iii), the EPA's choice to include either management practices or numeric limitations in the permits was within its discretion." In addition, the approach is consistent with State Board Order WQ 99-05, which outlines an iterative approach for achieving compliance with water quality standards.

Finding D.1.b. The Copermittees have generally been implementing the jurisdictional runoff management programs required pursuant to Order No. R9-2002-01 since February 13, 2003. Prior to that, the Copermittees were regulated by Order No. 96-03 since August 8, 1996. Runoff discharges, however, continue to cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards as evidenced by the Copermittees monitoring results.[93]

[91] Federal Register / Vol. 61, No. 166 / August 26, 1996 / P. 43761.
[92] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68753-68754.
[93] Orange County Storm Water Program, 2006. Unified Annual Progress Report, Program Effectiveness Assessment (San Diego Region).

Discussion of Finding D.1.b. In response to Order No. R9-2002-01, the Copermittees have improved their runoff management programs. For instance, comprehensive runoff management plans have been developed. In order to implement the plans, the Copermittees have, among other things, developed BMP requirements, improved inter- and intra-governmental coordination, improved training programs, improved illicit discharge detection procedures, and improved their monitoring efforts. Although the programmatic improvements have led to better implementation of BMPs, the Copermittees' monitoring data demonstrate that additional or revised BMPs are necessary to prevent discharges from MS4s from causing and contributing to violations of water quality standards. A discussion of data collected by the Copermittees is included in the discussion for Finding C.9.

Finding D.1.c. This Order contains new or modified requirements that are necessary to improve Copermittees' efforts to reduce the discharge of storm water pollutants in runoff to the MEP and achieve water quality standards. Some of the new or modified requirements, such as the revised Watershed Runoff Management Program section, are designed to specifically address these high priority water quality problems. Other new or modified requirements address program deficiencies that have been noted during audits, report reviews, and other Regional Board compliance assessment activities.

Discussion of Finding D.1.c. The Copermittees are required to update and expand their runoff management programs on jurisdictional and watershed levels in order to improve their efforts to reduce the contribution of storm water pollutants in runoff to the MEP and meet water quality standards. Changes to Order No. R9-2002-01's requirements have been made to help ensure these two standards are achieved by the Copermittees.

The Orders' jurisdictional requirements have changed based on findings by the Regional Board during typical compliance assurance activities or receipt of complaints.[94] The Regional Board performed full jurisdictional program audits of 8 of the 13 Copermittees during the Order No. R9-2002-01 permit term. Where the audits found common implementation problems, requirements have been altered to better ensure compliance. In addition, the Regional Board conducted detailed reviews of every jurisdictional annual report submitted by the Copermittees. Updates to the Copermittees' programs are also based on recommendations found in the Copermittees' ROWD.[95] In many instances, the Copermittees and the Regional Board have identified similar issues that merit program modifications.

[94] Audit reports, report reviews, and inspection reports are available for review at the Regional Board office.
[95] All significant changes made to the Order's requirements are described and explained in detail in Fact Sheet section X.

To better focus on attainment of water quality standards, the Order's watershed requirements have been improved. The conditions of the receiving waters now drive management actions, which in turn focus diminishing resources on the highest priority water quality problems within the receiving waters in each watershed. Improvements to watershed requirements were also made to facilitate a mutually clear understanding of the requirements between the Regional Board and Copermittees.

Finding D.1.d. Updated Jurisdictional Runoff Management Plans (JRMPs) and Watershed Runoff Management Plans (WRMPs), which describe the Copermittees' runoff management programs in their entirety, are needed to guide the Copermittees' runoff management efforts and aid the Copermittees in tracking runoff management program implementation. It is practicable for the Copermittees to update the JRMPs and WRMPs within one year, since significant efforts to develop these programs have already occurred.

Discussion of Finding D.1.d. Development of runoff management plans is a crucial runoff management measure and should be considered a BMP. The plans help organize and focus the Copermittees' programs and guide their implementation. In its statewide assessment report to USEPA Region IX and the State Board, Tetra Tech, Inc. concluded that the lack of a master storm water planning document must be considered a serious program deficiency[96]. When submitted to the Regional Board, the plans provide useful correspondence between the Copermittees and the Regional Board. The Plans also become available for review by the public, and thus facilitate public participation in runoff management decisions. Finally, while development and submittal of runoff management plans are not necessary to ensure compliance of the Copermittees' runoff management programs with the Order, the Regional Board is provided with a means to track Copermittee implementation.

The focus of the Order is on development and implementation of storm water programs which meet MEP, rather than creation of Copermittee plans which exhibit MEP. While the Order does not rely upon the plans to ensure MEP and other standards are achieved, the plans still serve a useful purpose. As stated above, the plans serve to organize the Copermittees' efforts to address runoff. As a practical matter, any program of the size required by the Order should be documented in writing. This serves to guide implementation of the program by the numerous individuals responsible for program implementation.

[96] Tetra Tech, Inc. 2006. *Assessment Report on Tetra Tech's Support of California's MS4 Stormwater Program.* Produced for USEPA Region IX and the California State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards.

Runoff management plans are not necessary for ensuring compliance with the Order because the Order itself contains sufficient detailed requirements to ensure that compliance with discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, and the narrative standard of MEP for storm water are achieved. Implementation by the Copermittees of programs in compliance with the Order's requirements, prohibitions, and receiving water limitations is the pertinent compliance standard to be used under the Order, as opposed to assessing compliance by reviewing the Copermittees' implementation of their plans alone. The Regional Board ensures compliance with the Order by reviewing annual reports, conducting inspections, performing audits, and through other general program oversight.

Runoff management plans are particularly important and useful for municipalities when program implementation is spread across several departments and/or when municipalities experience staff turnover.[97] Each Copermittee relies on multiple employees or contractors for program implementation, but the spread of responsibility varies among Copermittees.[98] Written jurisdictional plans ensure appropriate coordination within each municipality.

Copermittees' runoff management plans are simply descriptions of their runoff management programs required under the Order. These plans serve as procedural correspondence which guides program implementation and aids the Copermittees and Regional Board in tracking implementation of the programs. In this manner, the plans are not functional equivalents of the Order. For these reasons, the Copermittees' runoff management plans need not be an enforceable part of the Order.

The Copermittees' plans and programs can be updated within one year because much of their plans and programs are already in existence. In fact, many parts of their plans and programs have been in place for 15 years. Moreover, the adoption of Order No. R9-2002-01 required a larger scale reorganization of the Copermittees' programs than Tentative Order No. R9-2009-0002, but also allowed one year for program updates. The Copermittees were generally able to meet the time schedule required under Order No. R9-2002-01.

Finding D.1.e. Pollutants can be effectively reduced in storm water runoff by the application of a combination of pollution prevention, source control, and treatment control BMPs. Pollution prevention is the reduction or elimination of pollutant generation at its source and is the best "first line of defense". Source control BMPs (both structural and non-structural) minimize the contact between pollutants and flows (e.g., rerouting run-on around pollutant sources or keeping pollutants on-site and out of receiving waters). Treatment control BMPs remove pollutants that have been mobilized by wet-weather or dry-weather flows.

[97] Tetra Tech, Inc. 2005. Program Evaluation Report. Orange County Storm Water Program: Cities of Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, and Rancho Santa Margarita.
[98] Responsible departments and employees are described in the 2005-06 Annual Reports for the MS4 programs.

Discussion of Finding D.1.e. The State Board finds in its Order No. WQ 98-01 that BMPs are effective in reducing pollutants in storm water runoff, stating that "implementation of BMPs [is] generally the most appropriate form of effluent limitations when designed to satisfy technology requirements, including reduction of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable." A State Board TAC further supports this finding by recommending "that nonpoint source pollution control can be accomplished most effectively by giving priority to [BMPs] in the following order:

1. Pollution Prevention – implementation of practices that use or promote pollution free alternatives;
2. Source Control – implementation of control measures that focus on preventing or minimizing urban runoff from contacting pollution sources;
3. Treatment Control – implementation of practices that require treatment of polluted runoff either onsite or offsite."[99]

Pollution prevention, the reduction or elimination of pollutant generation at its source, is an essential aspect of BMP implementation. Fewer pollutants are available to be washed from developed areas when the generation of pollutants by activities is limited. Thus, pollutant loads in storm water discharges are reduced from these areas. In addition, there is no need to control or treat pollutants that are never generated.[100] Furthermore, pollution prevention BMPs are generally more cost effective than removal of pollutants by treatment facilities or cleanup of contaminated media.[101,102]

In the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, Congress established a national policy that emphasizes pollution prevention over control and treatment. CWC section 13263.3(a) also supports pollution prevention, stating "The Legislature finds and declares that pollution prevention should be the first step in a hierarchy for reducing pollution and managing wastes, and to achieve environmental stewardship for society. The Legislature also finds and declares that pollution prevention is necessary to support the federal goal of zero discharge of pollutants into navigable waters." Finally, the Basin Plan also supports this finding by stating "To eliminate pollutants in storm water, one can either clean it up by removing pollutants or prevent it from becoming polluted in the first place. Because of the overwhelming volume of storm water and the enormous costs associated with pollutant removal, pollution prevention is the only approach that makes sense."[103]

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[99] State Board, 1994. Urban Runoff Technical Advisory Committee Report and Recommendations. Nonpoint Source Management Program.
[100] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region).
[101] Devinny, J.S. et al. 2004. *Alternative Approaches to Stormwater Quality Control.* Prepared for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Found as Appendix H to *NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey.* Prepared for the California State Water Resources Control Board by the Office of Water Programs California State University, Sacramento. Available on-line at: http://www.owp.csus.edu/research/npdes/
[102] Schueler, T.R.., 2000. Center for Watershed Protection. Assessing the Potential for Urban Watershed Restoration, Article 142.
[103] Regional Board, 1994. Water Quality Control Plan, San Diego Basin, Region 9.

USEPA also supports the utilization of a combination of BMPs to address pollutants in runoff. For example, USEPA has found there has been success in addressing illicit discharge related problems through BMP initiatives like storm drain stenciling and recycling programs, including household hazardous waste special collection days.[104] Structural BMP performance data has also been compiled and summarized by USEPA.[105]

The summary provides the performance ranges of various types of structural BMPs for removing suspended solids, nutrients, pathogens, and metals from storm water flows. These pollutants are generally a concern in storm water in the San Diego Region and Orange County.[106] For suspended solids, the least effective structural BMP type was found to remove 30-65 percent of the pollutant load, while the most effective was found to remove 65-100 percent of the pollutant load. For nutrients, the least effective structural BMP type was found to remove 15-45 percent of the pollutant load, while the most effective was found to remove 65-100 percent of the pollutant load. For pathogens, the least effective structural BMP type was found to remove <30 percent of the pollutant load, while the most effective was found to remove 65-100 percent of the pollutant load. For metals, the least effective structural BMP type was found to remove 15-45 percent of the pollutant load, while the most effective was found to remove 65-100 percent of the pollutant load.

Several studies conducted in the last few years have measured the effectiveness of treatment BMPs in southern Orange County. Studies have been conducted on both dry weather and wet weather flows. Each demonstrates that treatment control BMPs can, to varying degrees, remove pollutants from runoff, but that pollution prevention and source control BMPs are necessary to reduce storm water pollutant discharges to the point of supporting water quality objectives in the receiving waters. A partial list of such studies includes:

1. "Assessment of Best Management Practice (BMP) Effectiveness" by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP).[107] This project assesses the effectiveness of BMPs in southern California for improving water quality related to toxicity.

2. "Final Report for the Del Obispo Storm Drain Project" by the City of Dana Point.[108] This report assesses the implementation of a solids removal unit and low-flow diversion project.

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[104] USEPA, 1999. 40 CFR Parts 9, 122, 123, and 124 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System-Regulations for Revision of the Water Pollution Control Program Addressing Storm Water Discharges. 64 FR 68728.
[105] USEPA, 1999. Preliminary Data Summary of Urban Storm Water Best Management Practices. EPA 821-R-99-012.
[106] Orange County Stormwater Program, Appendix E1 BMP Effectiveness and Applicability for Orange County (updated June 2005).
[107] Jeffrey S. Brown and Steven M. Bay 2005. *Assessment of Best Management Practice (BMP) Effectiveness.* SCCWRP Technical Report 461.
[108] City of Dana Point. 2005. *Final Report for the Del Obispo Storm Drain Project.* Prepared for the State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 02-216-550-0.

3. "Final Report for the Alipaz Storm Drain Treatment and Low Flow Diversion Project" by the City of Dana Point.[109] This report assesses the implementation of a solids removal unit and low-flow diversion project.

4. "Final Report for Poche Beach Urban Runoff Ultraviolet Light Bacteria Disinfection Project" by the County of Orange.[110] This report assesses the implementation of an ultraviolet system within a box culvert.

5. Final Report for J01P28 Interim Water Quality Improvement Package Plant Best Management Practices.[111] This report assesses the implementation of an ultraviolet treatment system at an inland waters storm drain outfall.

6. "Final Report for Wetland Capture and Treatment (WetCAT) Network" by the City of Laguna Niguel.[112] This report assesses the implementation of constructed wetlands.

Results of these recent studies demonstrate that treatment at the MS4 outfalls for pollutants that have already been discharged *into* the MS4 is generally unlikely to reduce pollutant concentrations to levels that would support water quality objectives. It also demonstrates that non-storm water discharges are occurring into the MS4 that are illicit discharges, exempted discharges that are a source of pollutants and/or discharges under a separate NPDES permit that are in violation of that permit.

It is important to note that the Clean Water Act and NPDES federal regulations clearly require control of discharges into the MS4. Section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) of the Clean Water Act states that MS4 permits must "prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers." 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B) requires Copermittees to "detect and remove [...] illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer." See Finding C.14 and Discussion.

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[109] City of Dana Point. 2004. *Final Report For The Alipaz Storm Drain Treatment And Low Flow Diversion Project" by the City of Dana Point.* Prepared for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement Number: 01-068-550-0.
[110] Volz, James. 2005. *Final Report for Poche Beach Urban Runoff Ultraviolet Light Bacteria Disinfection Project.* Prepared by the County of Orange for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 01-236-550-1.
[111] Anderson, Max. 2005. Final Report: Aliso Beach Clean Beach Initiatives, J01P28 Interim Water Quality Improvement Package Plant Best Management Practices. Prepared by the County of Orange for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 01-227-550-0.
[112] City of Laguna Niguel and CH2MHILL. 2004. *Final Report: Wetland Capture and Treatment (WetCAT) Network.* Prepared for State Water Resources Control Board Agreement No. 01-122-259-0.

The Order's approach to regulating discharges into and from the MS4 is in accordance with State Board Order WQ 2001-15. In that order, the State Board reviewed the San Diego County permit (Order No. 2001-01) requirements and made one change to one prohibition.[113] The Order upheld all other requirements of the current permit. Order No. R9-2009-0002 incorporates the one change made by the State Board, and continues the approach of Order No. 2001-01 (the basis for the current permit), as it was upheld by the State Board in Order WQ 2001-15. State Board Order WQ 2001-15 supports such requirements, stating: "It is important to emphasize that dischargers into MS4s continue to be required to implement a full range of BMPs, including source control."

The Court of Appeals, Fourth Appellate District, found that the current permit's approach to regulation of discharges into the MS4 was appropriate. Since the Tentative Order utilizes the same approach, the court decision supports the Tentative Order's requirements.

Finding D.1.f. Runoff needs to be addressed during the three major phases of urban development (planning, construction, and use) in order to reduce the discharge of storm water pollutants to the MEP, effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges and protect receiving waters. Development which is not guided by water quality planning policies and principles can unnecessarily result in increased pollutant load discharges, flow rates, and flow durations which can impact receiving water beneficial uses. Construction sites without adequate BMP implementation result in sediment runoff rates which greatly exceed natural erosion rates of undisturbed lands, causing siltation and impairment of receiving waters. Existing development generates substantial pollutant loads which are discharged in runoff to receiving waters.

Discussion of Finding D.1.f. MS4 permits are issued to municipalities because of their land use authority. The ultimate responsibility for the pollutant discharges, increased runoff, and inevitable long-term water quality degradation that results from development lies with local governments. This responsibility is based on the fact that it is the local governments that have authorized the development (i.e., conversion of natural pervious ground cover to impervious surfaces) and the land uses that generate the pollutants and runoff. Furthermore, the MS4 through which the pollutants and increased flows are conveyed, and ultimately discharged into natural receiving waters, are owned and operated by the same local governments. In summary, the Copermittees under the Order are responsible for discharges into and out of their MS4s because (1) they own and operate the MS4; and (2) they have the legal authority that authorizes the very development and land uses with generate the pollutants and increased flows in the first place.

[113] The State Board removed the prohibition of discharges *into* the MS4 that cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality objectives. The revision allows for treatment of storm water flows once the pollutants have entered the MS4. It does not affect the effective prohibition on certain dry-weather flows into the MS4 that is required by the Clean Water Act.

For example, since grading cannot commence prior to the issuance of a local grading permit, the Copermittees have a built-in mechanism to ensure that all grading activities are protective of receiving water quality. The Copermittee has the authority to withhold issuance of the grading permit until the project proponent has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Copermittee that the project will not violate their ordinances or cause the Copermittee to be in violation of its MS4 permit. Since the Copermittee will ultimately be held responsible for any discharges from the grading project by the Regional Board, the Copermittee will want to use its own permitting authority to ensure that whatever measures the Copermittee deems necessary to protect discharges into its MS4 are in fact taken by the project proponent.

The Order holds the local government accountable for this direct link between its land use decisions and water quality degradation. The Order recognizes that each of the three major stages in the development process (development planning, construction, and the use or operational stage) are controlled by and must be authorized by the local government. Accordingly, this permit requires the local government to implement, or require others to implement, appropriate best management practices to reduce storm water pollutant discharges and increased flow during each of the three stages of development.

Including plans for BMP implementation during the design phase of new development and redevelopment offers the most cost effective strategy to reduce storm water runoff pollutant loads to surface waters.[114] The Phase II regulations for small municipalities reflect the necessity of addressing runoff during the early planning phase. Due to the greater water quality concerns generally experienced by larger municipalities, Phase II requirements for small municipalities are also applicable to larger municipalities such as the Copermittees. The Phase II regulations direct municipalities to develop, implement, and enforce a program to address storm water runoff from new development and redevelopment projects that disturb greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale. The program must ensure that controls are in place that would prevent or minimize water quality impacts. This includes developing and implementing strategies which include a combination of structural and/or non-structural BMPs appropriate to the locality. The program must also ensure the adequate long-term operation and maintenance of BMPs.[115] USEPA expands on the Phase II regulations for urban development when it recommends that Copermittees:

[114] USEPA, 2000. Storm Water Phase II Compliance Assistance Guide. EPA 833-R-00-002.
[115] USEPA, 1999. 40 CFR Parts 9, 122, 123, and 124 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System-Regulations for Revision of the Water Pollution Control Program Addressing Storm Water Discharges; Final Rule. 64 FR 68845.

> "Adopt a planning process that identifies the municipality's program goals (e.g., minimize water quality impacts resulting from post-construction runoff from new development and redevelopment), implementation strategies (e.g., adopt a combination of structural and/or non-structural BMPs), operation and maintenance policies and procedures, and enforcement procedures. In developing your program, you should consider assessing existing ordinances, policies, programs and studies that address storm water runoff quality."

Management of storm water runoff during the construction phase is also essential. USEPA explains in the preamble to the Phase II regulations that storm water discharges generated during construction activities can cause an array of physical, chemical, and biological water quality impacts. Specifically, the biological, chemical and physical integrity of the waters may become severely compromised due to runoff from construction sites. Fine sediment from construction sites can adversely affect aquatic ecosystems by reducing light penetration, impeding sight-feeding, smothering benthic organisms, abrading gills and other sensitive structures, reducing habitat by clogging interstitial spaces within the streambed, and reducing intergravel dissolved oxygen by reducing the permeability of the bed material. Water quality impairment also results, in part, because a number of pollutants are preferentially absorbed onto mineral or organic particles found in fine sediment. The interconnected process of erosion (detachment of the soil particles), sediment transport, and delivery is the primary pathway for introducing key pollutants, such as nutrients, metals, and organic compounds into aquatic systems.[116]

Finally, storm water and non-storm water runoff from existing development must be addressed. The Copermittees' monitoring data exhibits that significant water quality problems exist in receiving waters which receive runoff from areas with extensive existing development, such as Aliso Creek. Source identification, BMP requirements, inspections, and enforcement are all important measures which can be implemented to address runoff from existing development. USEPA supports inspections and enforcement by municipalities when it states "Effective inspection and enforcement requires [...] penalties to deter infractions and intervention by the municipal authority to correct violations. Enforcement mechanisms [...] also must be described."[117]

Finding D.1.g. Annual reporting requirements included in this Order are necessary to meet federal requirements and to evaluate the effectiveness and compliance of the Copermittees' programs.

Discussion of Finding D.1.g. The annual reporting requirements are consistent with federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.41, which states:

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[116] Ibid., 64 FR 68728.
[117] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.

> "The operator of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system of a municipal separate storm sewer system that has been designated by the Director under section 122.26(a)(1)(v) of this part must submit an annual report by the anniversary of the date of the issuance of the permit for such a system. The report shall include: (1) The status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions; (2) Proposed changes to the storm water management program that are established as permit condition, Such proposed changes shall be consistent with § 122.26(d)(2)iii) of this part; (3) Revisions, if necessary, to the assessment of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under § 122.26(d)(2)iv) and (d)(2)(v) of this part; (4) A summary of data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year; (5) Annual expenditures and budget for year following each annual report; (6) A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs; and (7) Identification of water quality improvements or degradation."

CWC section 13267 provides that "the regional board may require that any person who has discharged [...] shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring reports which the regional board requires."

The Regional Board must assess the reports to ensure that the Copermittees' programs are adequate to assess and address water quality. The reporting requirements can also be useful tools for the Copermittees to review, update, or revise their programs. Areas or issues which have received insufficient efforts can also be identified and improved.

Finding D.1.h. This Order establishes Storm Water Action Levels (SALs) for selected pollutants based on USEPA Rain Zone 6 (arid southwest) Phase I MS4 monitoring data for pollutants in storm water. The SALs were computed as the 90th percentile of the data set, utilizing the statistical based population approach, one of three approaches recommended by the California Water Board's Storm Water Panel in its report, 'The Feasibility of Numerical Effluent Limits Applicable to Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Municipal, Industrial and Construction Activities (June 2006). SALs are identified in Section D of this Order. Copermittees shall implement a timely, comprehensive, cost-effective storm water pollution control program to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from the permitted areas so as not to exceed the SALs. SALs express an integration of the adequacy/inadequacy of programmatic measures and BMPs required in this Order.

Discussion of Finding D.1.h. Section 402(p) of the CWA states MS4 permits for storm water shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the

Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. This includes requiring numeric effluent limitations for storm water.

SALs are not numeric effluent limitations, which is reflected in language which clarifies an excursion above a SAL does not create a presumption that MEP is not being met. Instead, a SAL exceedance is to be used by the Copermittee as an indication that the MS4 storm water discharge point is a definitive "bad actor," and the result from the monitoring needs to be considered as part of the iterative process for reducing pollutants in storm water to the MEP.

The CWA defines effluent limitations as:
"Any restriction imposed by the Director on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of pollutants which are "discharged" from "point sources" into "waters of the United States"..." A SAL is not a restriction on a quantity, rate or concentration, but is a level at which actions that further reduce pollutants from that discharge point need to be evaluated in order to reduce storm water pollutants to the MEP. Thus, SALs are not effluent limitations as defined by the CWC or CWA.

The approach of using "action levels" is consistent with recommendations made by USEPA in their Interim Permitting Approach for Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations in Storm Water Permits, dated August 26, 1996:
"Under the Clean Water Act(CWA) and NPDES regulations, permitting authorities may employ a variety of conditions and limitations in storm water permits, including best management practices, performance objectives, narrative conditions, monitoring triggers, action levels (e.g., monitoring benchmarks, toxicity reduction evaluation action levels), etc., as the necessary water-quality based limitations, where numeric water quality based effluent limitations are determined to be unnecessary or infeasible". As such, these action levels are not considered numeric water quality-based effluent limitations.

It should be noted that a purpose of monitoring, required under this and previous Orders, is to aid in the evaluation of implemented programs and BMPs in reducing pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP. The tentative Monitoring and Reporting Program states:

This Receiving Waters and Runoff Monitoring and Reporting Program is intended to meet the following goals:

2. Measure and improve the effectiveness of the Permittees' runoff management programs;
3. Assess the chemical, physical, and biological impacts to receiving waters resulting from runoff discharges;
4. Characterize runoff discharges;
5. Identify sources of specific pollutants;
6. Prioritize drainage and sub-drainage areas that need management actions; and

9. Provide information to implement required BMP improvements.

For the past 4 permit cycles (19 years), Copermittees have utilized non-numerical limitations (BMPs) to control and abate the discharge of any pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP. Copermittees have been accorded 19 years to research, develop, and deploy BMPs that are capable of reducing storm water discharges from the MS4 to levels represented in SALs. Storm Water Action Levels are set at such a level that any exceedance of a SAL will clearly indicate BMPs being implemented are insufficient to protect the Beneficial Uses of waters of the State. Copermittee shall utilize the exceedance information as a high priority consideration when adjusting and executing annual work plans, as required by this Permit. Failure to appropriately consider and react to SAL exceedances in an iterative manner creates a presumption that the Copermittee(s) have not complied to the MEP.

SALs have been developed utilizing Phase I storm water effluent data (updated February 2008, http://rpitt.eng.ua.edu/Research/ms4/mainms4.shtml) from the arid west region (USEPA Rain Zone 6). USEPA Rainfall Zone 6, which includes MS4 effluent data from Orange, San Diego, Los Angeles and Ventura County. While the County of Orange has a large monitoring data set, Regional Board staff have concluded that there is a lack of effluent monitoring from major outfalls that are representative of conditions throughout the Region. The approach taken to derive SALs is a straightforward percentile approach, with the SAL being set as the 90th percentile of the dataset for each constituent. This approach is consistent with the 2006 State Board Panel Report:

> "The statistically based population approach would once again rely on the average distribution of measured water quality values developed from many water quality samples taken for many events at many locations. In this case, however, the Action Level would be defined by the central tendency and variance estimates from the population data. For example, the Action Level could be set as two standard deviations above the mean, i.e. if measured concentrations are consistently higher than two standard deviations above the mean, an Action Level would be triggered. Other population based measures of central tendency could be used (i.e. geomean, median, etc.) or estimates of variance (i.e. prediction intervals, etc.). Regardless of which population based estimators are used (or percentile from above), the idea would be to identify the [statistically derived] point at which managers feel concentrations are significantly beyond the norm."

SALs are a measurable criteria which quantifies the performance of BMPs for a particular watershed or subwatershed that discharges storm water MS4 effluent from that particular discharge point. Thus, Copermittees can utilize SAL results to determine the effectiveness BMPs on the effluent from a particular area of the MS4.

SALs represent the lowest 10 percent of pollutant reduction for USEPA Rain Zone 6 MS4 Phase I programs discharging to waters of the United States. For the past 4

permit cycles (19 years), Copermittees have utilized non-numerical limitations (BMPs) to control and abate the discharge of any pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP. Copermittees have been accorded 19 years to research, develop, and deploy BMPs that are capable of reducing storm water discharges from the MS4 to levels represented in SALs. Storm Water Action Levels are set at such a level that any exceedance of a SAL will indicate to the Copermittee(s) that the discharge is within the lowest 10% of monitored outfalls. Therefore, an exceedance of a SAL warrants priority consideration within the Copermittee iterative process.

Finding D.2.a. The Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SSMP) requirements contained in this Order are consistent with Order WQ-2000-11 adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) on October 5, 2000. In the precedential order, the State Board found that the design standards, which essentially require that runoff generated by 85 percent of storm events from specific development categories be infiltrated or treated, reflect the MEP standard. The order also found that the SSMP requirements are appropriately applied to the majority of the Priority Development Project categories contained in Section D.1 of this Order. The State Board also gave Regional Water Quality Control Boards the needed discretion to include additional categories and locations, such as retail gasoline outlets (RGOs), in SSMPs.

Discussion of Finding D.2.a. The post-construction requirements and design standards contained in the SSMP section of Order No. R9-2009-0002 constitute MEP consistent with State Board guidance, court decisions, and Regional Board requirements. The State Board and Regional Boards have made several recent decisions in regards to inclusion of SSMP requirements in MS4 permits. In a precedential decision, State Board WQ Order No. 2000-11, the State Board found that the SSMP provisions constitute MEP for addressing storm water pollutant discharges resulting from Priority Development Projects. The provisions of the SSMP section of the Order are also consistent with those previously issued by the Regional Board for Orange County (Order No. R9-2002-0001) and San Diego County (Order Nos. R9-2001-01 and R9-2007-0001), as well as requirements in the Los Angeles County MS4 permit (Order No. R4-2001-182). In State Board Order WQ 2001-15, the State Board reaffirmed that SSMP requirements constitute MEP. Moreover, the SSMP requirements of the San Diego County MS4 permit (Order No. R9-2001-01) were upheld when the California State Supreme Court declined to hear the matter on appeal.

Finding D.2.b. Controlling runoff pollution by using a combination of onsite source control and site design BMPs augmented with treatment control BMPs before the runoff enters the MS4 is important for the following reasons: (1) Many end-of-pipe BMPs (such as diversion to the sanitary sewer) are typically ineffective during significant storm events. Whereas, onsite source control BMPs can be applied during all runoff conditions; (2) End-of-pipe BMPs are often incapable of capturing and treating the wide range of pollutants which can be generated on a sub-watershed scale; (3) End-of-pipe BMPs are more effective when used as polishing BMPs, rather than the sole BMP to be implemented; (4) End-of-pipe BMPs do not protect the quality or beneficial uses of receiving waters between the pollutant source and the BMP; and (5) Offsite end-of-pipe BMPs do not aid in the effort to educate the public regarding sources of pollution and their prevention.

Discussion of Finding D.2.b. Many end-of-pipe BMPs are designed for low flow conditions because their end-of-pipe location prevents them from being designed for large storm events. This results in the end-of-pipe BMPs being overwhelmed, bypassed, or ineffective during larger storm events more frequently than onsite BMPs designed for larger storms. BMPs are also frequently most effective for a particular type of pollutant (such as sediment). Such BMPs may be appropriate for small sites with a limited suite of pollutants generated; however, end-of-pipe BMPs must typically be able to address a wide range of pollutants generated by a sub-watershed, limiting their effectiveness and/or increasing costs. Moreover, the location of some end-of-pipe BMPs allow for untreated pollutants to be discharged to and degrade receiving waters prior to their reaching the BMPs. This fails to protect receiving waters, which is the purpose of BMP implementation. In addition, opportunities to educate the public regarding runoff pollution can be lost when end-of-pipe BMPs are located away from pollutant sources and out of sight. Onsite BMPs can lead to a better public understanding of runoff issues since their presence can provide a visible and/or tangible lesson in pollution prevention.

Finding D.2.c. Use of Low-Impact Development (LID) site design BMPs at new development, redevelopment and retrofit projects can be an effective means for minimizing the impact of storm water runoff discharges from the development projects on receiving waters. LID is a site design strategy with a goal of maintaining or replicating the pre-development hydrologic regime through the use of design techniques. LID site design BMPs help preserve and restore the natural hydrologic cycle of the site, allowing for filtration and infiltration which can greatly reduce the volume, peak flow rate, velocity, and pollutant loads of storm water runoff. Current runoff management, knowledge, practices and technology have resulted in the use of LID BMPs as an acceptable means of meeting the storm water MEP standard.

Discussion of Finding D.2.c. The Clean Water Act (CWA) is the cornerstone of surface water quality protection in the United States. (The Act does not deal directly with ground water nor with water quantity issues.) The statute employs a variety of regulatory and nonregulatory tools to sharply reduce direct pollutant discharges into

waterways, and manage polluted runoff. These tools are employed to achieve the broader goal of restoring and maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters so that they can support the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, wildlife and recreation in and on the water.

Increasing the volume, velocity, frequency and discharge duration of storm water runoff from developed areas will eventually greatly accelerate downstream erosion, impair stream habitat in natural drainages, and negatively impact beneficial uses. Development and urbanization increase pollutant loads and volume while simultaneously increasing impervious area. Impervious surfaces can neither absorb water nor remove pollutants and thus lose the purification and infiltration provided by naturally vegetated soil. Furthermore, impervious surfaces tend to concentrate pollutants on the top of the surface that are then washed off into the MS4 and waters of the State in a concentrated manner. The use of Low-Impact Development (LID) site design BMPs can be an effective means of minimizing the impact of runoff discharges on receiving waters. By reducing water pollution, reducing runoff and increasing groundwater recharge, LID helps to improve the quality of receiving surface waters, stabilize the flow rates of receiving waters (preventing downstream hydromodification), reduce downstream flooding and protect and enhance water supply sources. Current runoff management, knowledge, practice and technology has resulted in the use of LID BMPs as an acceptable means of meeting the MEP standard for storm water treatment.

Current municipal codes may oppose or hinder the design, use and implementation of specific elements of LID. These codes include, but are not limited to, emergency services access requirements, building landscape ordinances, building height limits and parking space requirements. It is essential for Copermittees to work with other responsible agencies and/or update codes that have the potential to impact the use of LID.

The Local Government Commission, a non-profit organization working to build livable communities, developed a set of principles known as the *Ahwahnee Water Principles for Resource-Efficient Land Use*[118] that provide the opportunity to reduce costs and improve the reliability and quality of our water resources. Implementation of LID incorporates several of the Ahwahnee principles such as:

> 1. "Community Design should be compact, mixed use, walkable and transit-oriented so that urban runoff pollutants are minimized and the open lands that absorb water are preserved to the maximum extent possible."
> 3. "Water holding areas such as creek beds, recessed athletic fields, ponds, cisterns, and other features that serve to recharge groundwater, reduce runoff, improve water quality and decrease flooding should be incorporated into the urban landscape."

[118] Local Government Commission, "The Ahwahnee Water Principles – A Blueprint for Regional Sustainability", http://water.lgc.org/Members/tony/docs/lgc_water_guide.pdf

4. "All aspects of landscaping from the selection of plants to soil preparation and the installation of irrigation systems should be designed to reduce water demand, retain runoff, decrease flooding, and recharge groundwater."
5. "Permeable surfaces should be used for hardscape. Impervious surfaces such as driveways, streets, and parking lots should be minimized so that land is available to absorb storm water, reduce polluted urban runoff, recharge groundwater and reduce flooding."

The use of LID site design BMPs helps reduce the amount of impervious area associated with development and allows storm water to infiltrate into the soil. Natural vegetation and soil filters storm water runoff and reduces the volume and pollutant loads of storm water. Studies have revealed that the level of imperviousness resulting from development and urbanization is strongly correlated with the water quality impairment of nearby receiving waters.[119] In many cases, the impacts on receiving waters due to changes in hydrology can be more significant than those attributable to the contaminants found in storm water discharges.[120] These impacts include stream bank erosion (increased sediment load and subsequent deposition), benthic habitat degradation, and decreased diversity of macroinvertebrates. Although conventional BMPs do reduce storm water pollutant loads, they may not effectively control adverse effects from changes in the discharge hydrologic conditions.[121]

The Order includes requirements for developments to include site design BMPs that mimic or replicate the natural hydrologic cycle. Open space designs which maximize pervious surfaces and retention of "natural" drainages have been found to reduce both the costs of development and pollutant export.[122] Moreover, USEPA finds including plans for a "natural" site design and BMP implementation during the design phase of new development and redevelopment offers the most cost effective strategy to reduce storm water pollutant loads to surface waters.[123] In addition, a recent U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development guidance document on low-impact development notes that the use of LID-based storm water management design allows land to be developed, but in a cost-effective manner that helps mitigate potential environmental impacts.[124]

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[119] USEPA, 1999. 40 CFR Parts 9, 122, 123, and 124 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System – Regulations for Revision of the Water Pollution Control Program Addressing Storm Water Discharges; Final Rule.
[120] Ibid.
[121] USEPA, 2000. Low-Impact Development: A literature review. EPA-841-B-00-005. 35p.
[122] Center for Watershed Protection, 2000. "The Benefits of Better Site Design in Residential Subdivisions." Watershed Protection Techniques. Vol. 3. No. 2.
[123] USEPA, 1999. 40 CFR Parts 9, 122, 123, and 124 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System – Regulations for Revision of the Water Pollution Control Program Addressing Storm Water Discharges; Final Rule.
[124] U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research, 2003. "The Practice of Low Impact Development." Prepared by: NAHB Research Center, Inc. Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Contract No. H-21314CA. 131p.

Finding D.2.d. Retail Gasoline Outlets (RGOs) are significant sources of pollutants in storm water runoff. RGOs are points of convergence for motor vehicles for automotive related services such as repair, refueling, tire inflation, and radiator fill-up and consequently produce significantly higher loadings of hydrocarbons and trace metals (including copper and zinc) than other developed areas.

Discussion of Finding D.2.d. RGOs are included in the Order as a Priority Development Project category because RGOs produce significantly greater loadings of hydrocarbons and trace metals (including copper and zinc) than other developed areas. To meet the storm water MEP standard, source control and structural treatment BMPs are needed at RGOs that meet the following criteria: (a) 5,000 square feet or more or (b) an ADT of 100 or more vehicles per day. These are appropriate thresholds since vehicular development size and volume of traffic are good indicators of potential impacts of storm water runoff from RGOs on receiving waters.

This finding has been added to satisfy State Board WQ Order No. 2000-11's requirements for including RGOs as a Priority Development Category. Order No. 2000-11 acknowledged that a threshold (size, average daily traffic, etc.) appropriate to trigger SSMP requirements should be developed for RGOs and that specific findings regarding RGOs should be included in MS4 permits to justify the requirement.[125] Additional detail to support the inclusion of RGOs can be found in the Fact Sheet discussion of Section D.1.d.2.j.

Finding D.2.e. Industrial sites are significant sources of pollutants in runoff. Pollutant concentrations and loads in runoff from industrial sites are similar or exceed pollutant concentrations and loads in runoff from other land uses, such as commercial or residential land uses. As with other land uses, LID site design, source control, and treatment control BMPs are needed at industrial sites in order to meet the MEP standard. These BMPs are necessary where the industrial site is larger than 10,000 square feet. The 10,000 square feet threshold is appropriate, since it is consistent with requirements in other Phase I NPDES storm water regulations throughout California.

[125] State Board, 2000. Order WQ 2000-11. In the Matter of the Petitions of The Cities Of Bellflower, Et Al., The City Of Arcadia, And Western States Petroleum Association Review of January 26, 2000 Action of the Regional Board And Actions and Failures to Act by both the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region and Its Executive Officer Pursuant to Order No. 96-054, Permit for Municipal Storm Water and Urban Run-Off Discharges Within Los Angeles County [NPDES NO. CAS614001] SWRCB/OCC FILES A-1280, A-1280(a) and A-1280(b)

Discussion of Finding D.2.e. Industrial sites can be a significant source of pollutants in storm water runoff. In an extensive review of storm water literature, the LARWQCB found widespread support for the finding that "industrial and commercial activities can also be considered hot spots as sources of pollutants." It also found that "industrial and commercial areas were likely to be the most significant pollutant source areas" of heavy metals.[126] Likewise, storm water runoff from heavy industry in the Santa Clara Valley has been found to be extremely toxic.[127] These findings are corroborated by USEPA, which states in the preamble to the 1990 Phase I NPDES storm water regulations that "Because storm water from industrial facilities may be a major contributor of pollutants to municipal separate storm sewer systems, municipalities are obligated to develop controls for storm water discharges associated with industrial activity through their system in their storm water management program." Since heavy industrial sites can be a significant source of pollutants in runoff in a manner similar to other SSMP project categories such as commercial development or automotive repair shops, it is appropriate to include heavy industrial sites as a SSMP category in the Order.

The Phase I NPDES storm water regulations require the Copermittees to "control through ordinance, permit, contract, order, or similar means, the contribution of pollutants to the municipal storm sewer by storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of storm water discharged from sites of industrial activity" (40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)). In addition, it has been established that the MEP standard for the control of storm water runoff from new development projects includes incorporation of the SSMP requirements. Since the Copermittees must both control storm water pollutants from industrial sites and meet the storm water MEP standard for new development, it is appropriate to apply the SSMP requirements to heavy industrial sites.

The State Board's Order WQ 2000-11 indicates that it is appropriate to apply SSMP requirements to categories of development where evidence shows the category of development can be a significant source of pollutants. As evidenced above, heavy industrial sites can be a significant source of pollutants. Therefore, the Order includes heavy industrial sites as a SSMP Priority Development Project category.

[126] Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. 2001.
[127] Schueler and Holland, 2000. Storm Water Strategies for Arid and Semi-Arid Watersheds (Article 66). The Practice of Watershed Protection.

Finding D.2.f. If not properly designed or maintained, certain BMPs implemented or required by municipalities for runoff management may create a habitat for vectors (e.g. mosquitoes and rodents). However, proper BMP design and maintenance to avoid standing water can prevent the creation of vector habitat. Nuisances and public health impacts resulting from vector breeding can be prevented with close collaboration and cooperative effort between municipalities, the Orange County Vector Control District, and the California Department of Public Health during the development and implementation of runoff management programs.

Discussion of Finding D.2.f. The implementation of certain structural BMPs or other runoff treatment systems can result in significant vector problems in the form of increased breeding or harborage habitat for mosquitoes, rodents or other potentially disease transmitting organisms. The implementation of BMPs that retain water may provide breeding habitat for a variety of mosquito species, some of which have the potential to transmit diseases such as Western Equine Encephalitis, St. Louis Encephalomyelitis, and malaria. Recent BMP implementation studies by Caltrans[128] in District 7 and District 11 have demonstrated mosquito breeding associated with some types of BMPs. The Caltrans BMP Retrofit Pilot study cited lack of maintenance and improper design as factors contributing to mosquito production. However, a Watershed Protection Techniques article describes management techniques for selecting, designing, and maintaining structural treatment BMPs to minimize mosquito production. [129] State and local runoff management programs that include structural BMPs with the potential to retain water have been implemented in Florida and the Chesapeake Bay region without resulting in significant public health threats from mosquitoes or other vectors.[130]

Finding D.2.g. The increased volume, velocity, frequency and discharge duration of storm water runoff from developed areas has the potential to greatly accelerate downstream erosion, impair stream habitat in natural drainages, and negatively impact beneficial uses. Development and urbanization increase pollutant loads in storm water runoff and the volume of storm water runoff. Impervious surfaces can neither absorb water nor remove pollutants and thus lose the purification and infiltration provided by natural vegetated soil. Hydromodification measures for discharges to hardened channels allow for the future restoration of the hardened channels to their natural state, thereby restoring the chemical, physical, and biological integrity and Beneficial Uses of local receiving waters.

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[128] Caltrans, 2000. BMP Retrofit Pilot Studies: A Preliminary Assessment of Vector Production.
[129] Watershed Protection Techniques, 1995. Mosquitoes in Constructed Wetlands: A Management Bugaboo? 1(4):203-207.
[130] Shaver, E. and R. Baldwin , 1995. Sand Filter Design for Water Quality Treatment in Herricks, E., Ed. Stormwater Runoff and Receiving Systems: Impact, Monitoring, and Assessment, CRC Lewis Publishers, New York, NY.

Discussion of Finding D.2.g. Increasing the volume, velocity, frequency and discharge duration of storm water runoff from developed areas will eventually greatly accelerate downstream erosion, impair stream habitat in natural drainages, and negatively impact beneficial uses. Development and urbanization increase pollutant loads and volume while simultaneously increasing impervious area. Impervious surfaces can neither absorb water nor remove pollutants and thus lose the purification and infiltration provided by naturally vegetated soil.

Historic hydromodification impacts, such as concrete lining and channelization, have impacted the natural physical habitat of urban streams resulting in low Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) scores. The Copermittee's 2006-2007 monitoring indicated decreased IBI scores in the developed watersheds. In the absence of water chemistry and toxicity impacts, these low scores were attributed to be a result of poor physical habitat conditions.[131]

Hydromodification impacts result in poor physical habitat conditions through streambed scour, erosion, vegetation displacement, sediment deposition, channelization and channel modifications. Increased sediment loads from hydromodification causes other impacts to physical habitats including increased turbidity which then may cause increased temperatures. In addition, an increased sediment load may have an increased biological content thereby increasing the sediment oxygen demand and lowering the dissolved oxygen available for aquatic life.[132]

The objective of the CWA is "to restore and maintain the chemical, *physical,* and biological integrity of the Nation's waters (emphasis added)." Stream restoration by removing concrete and other unnatural materials is a major step toward achieving that objective. The success of future stream restoration and stabilization is, however, dependent on preventing and reducing physical impacts from activities upstream. Therefore, hydromodification management measures are necessary upstream of modified (e.g. concrete, rip rap, etc.) channels in addition to non-modified channels.

Please see discussion of Findings C.10 and C.11.

[131] Orange County Copermittees, November 15, 2007. 2006-2007 Unified Annual Progress Report Program Effectiveness Assessment (San Diego Region).
[132] USEPA, National Management Measures to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution from Hydromodification, EPA 841-B-07-002, July 2007.

Finding D.3.a. In accordance with federal NPDES regulations and to ensure the most effective oversight of industrial and construction site discharges, discharges of runoff from industrial and construction sites are subject to dual (state and local) storm water regulation. Under this dual system, each Copermittee is responsible for enforcing its local permits, plans, and ordinances, and the Regional Board is responsible for enforcing the General Construction Activities Storm Water Permit, State Board Order 99-08 DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002 (General Construction Permit) and the General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit, State Board Order 97-03 DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001 (General Industrial Permit). NPDES municipal regulations require that municipalities develop and implement measures to address runoff from industrial and construction activities. Those measures may require the implementation of additional BMPs than are required under the statewide general permits for activities subject to both state and local regulation.

Discussion of Finding D.3.a. USEPA finds the control of pollutant discharges from industry and construction so important to receiving water quality that it has established a double system of regulation over industrial and construction sites. This double system of regulation consists of two parallel regulatory systems with the same common objective: to keep pollutants from industrial and construction sites out of the MS4. In this double system of regulation for runoff from industrial and construction sites, local governments must enforce their legal authorities (i.e., local ordinances and permits) while the Regional Board must enforce its legal authority (i.e., statewide general industrial and construction storm water permits). These two regulatory systems are designed to complement and support each other. Municipalities are not required to enforce Regional Board and State Board permits; however, they are required to enforce their ordinances and permits. The Federal regulations are clear that municipalities have responsibility to prevent non-storm water and address storm water runoff from industrial and construction sites which enters their MS4s.

Municipalities have this responsibility because they have the authority to issue land use and development permits. Since municipalities are the lead permitting authority for industrial land use and construction activities, they are also the lead for enforcement regarding runoff discharges from these sites. For sites where the municipality is the lead permitting authority, the Regional Board will work with the municipality and provide support where needed. The Regional Board will assist municipalities in enforcement against non-compliant sites after the municipality has exhibited a good faith effort to bring the site into compliance.

According to USEPA, the storm water regulations envision that NPDES permitting authorities and municipal operators will cooperate to develop programs to monitor and control pollutants in storm water discharges from industrial facilities.[133] USEPA discusses the "dual regulation" of construction sites in its Storm Water Phase II Compliance Assistance Guide, which states "Even though all construction sites that disturb more than one acre are covered nationally by an NPDES storm water permit, the construction site runoff control minimum measure [...] is needed to induce more localized site regulation and enforcement efforts, and to enable operators [...] to more effectively control construction site discharges into their MS4s."[134] While the Storm Water Phase II Compliance Assistance Guide applies to small municipalities, it is applicable to the Copermittees, because they are similar in size and have the potential to discharge similar pollutant types as Phase II municipalities.

Finding D.3.b. Identification of sources of pollutants in runoff (such as municipal areas and activities, industrial and commercial sites/sources, construction sites, and residential areas), development and implementation of BMPs to address those sources, and updating ordinances and approval processes are necessary for the Copermittees to ensure that discharges of pollutants from its MS4 in storm water are reduced to the MEP and that non-storm water discharges are not occurring. Inspections and other compliance verification methods are needed to ensure minimum BMPs are implemented. Inspections are especially important at high risk areas for pollutant discharges.

Discussion of Finding D.3.b. Source identification is necessary to characterize the nature and extent of pollutants in discharges and to develop appropriate BMPs. It is the first step in a targeted approach to runoff management. Source identification helps identify the location of potential sources of pollutants in runoff. Pollutants found to be present in receiving waters can then be traced to the sites which frequently generate such pollutants. In this manner source inventories can help to target inspections, monitoring, and potential enforcement. This allows for limited inspection, monitoring, and enforcement time to be most effective. USEPA supports source identification as a concept when it recommends construction, municipal, and industrial source identification in guidance and the federal regulations.[135,136]

[133] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.
[134] USEPA, 2000. Storm Water Phase II Compliance Assistance Guide. EPA 833-R-00-002.
[135] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.
[136] 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(ii)

The development of BMPs for identified sources will help ensure that appropriate, consistent controls are implemented at all types of development and areas. Copermittees must reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff to the maximum extent practicable. To achieve this level of pollutant reduction, BMPs must be implemented. Designation of minimum BMPs helps ensure that appropriate BMPs are implemented for various sources. These minimum BMPs also serve as guidance as to the level of water quality protection required. USEPA requires development and implementation of BMPs for construction, municipal, commercial, industrial, and residential sources at 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A-D).

Updating ordinances and approval processes is necessary in order for the Copermittees to control discharges to their MS4s. USEPA supports updating ordinances and approval processes when it states "A crucial requirement of the NPDES storm water regulation is that a municipality must demonstrate that it has adequate legal authority to control the contribution of pollutants in storm water discharged to its MS4. [...] In order to have an effective municipal storm water management program, a municipality must have adequate legal authority to control the contribution of pollutants to the MS4. [...] 'Control,' in this context, means not only to require disclosure of information, but also to limit, discourage, or terminate a storm water discharge to the MS4."[137]

Inspections provide a necessary means for the Copermittees to evaluate compliance of pollutant sources with their municipal ordinances and minimum BMP requirements. USEPA supports inspections when it recommends inspections of construction, municipal, and industrial sources.[138] Inspection of high risk sources are especially important because of the ability of frequent inspections to help ensure compliance, thereby reducing the risk associated with such sources. USEPA suggests that inspections can improve compliance when it states "Effective inspection and enforcement requires [...] penalties to deter infractions and intervention by the municipal authority to correct violations."[139]

Finding D.3.c. Historic and current development makes use of natural drainage patterns and features as conveyances for runoff. Urban streams used in this manner are part of the municipalities MS4 regardless of whether they are natural, anthropogenic, or partially modified features. In these cases, the urban stream is both an MS4 and receiving water.

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[137] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.
[138] Ibid.
[139] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.

Discussion of Finding D.3.c. An MS4 is defined in the federal regulations as a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains), owned or operated by a Copermittee, and designed or used for collecting or conveying runoff.[140] Natural drainage patterns and urban streams are frequently used by municipalities to collect and convey runoff away from development within their jurisdiction. Therefore, the Regional Board considers natural drainages that are used for conveyances of runoff, regardless of whether or not they've been altered by the municipality, as both part of the MS4s and as receiving waters. To clarify, an unaltered natural drainage, which receives runoff from a point source (channeled by a Copermittee to drain an area within their jurisdiction), which then conveys the runoff to an altered natural drainage or a man-made MS4, is both an MS4 and a receiving water.[141]

Finding D.3.d. As operators of the MS4s, the Copermittees cannot passively receive and discharge pollutants from third parties. By providing free and open access to an MS4 that conveys discharges to waters of the U.S., the operator essentially accepts responsibility for discharges into the MS4 that it does not prohibit or control. These discharges may cause or contribute to a condition of contamination or a violation of water quality standards.

[140] USEPA, 2000. EPA Administered Permit Programs: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Code of Federal Regulations, Vol. 40, Part 122.
[141] Regional Board, 2001. Response in Opposition to Petitions for Review of California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region Order No. 2001-01 – NPDES Permit No. CAS0108758 (San Diego Municipal Storm Water Permit).

Discussion of Finding D.3.d. CWA section 402(p) requires operators of MS4s to prohibit non-storm water discharges into their MS4s. This is necessary because pollutants which enter the MS4 generally are conveyed through the MS4 to be eventually discharged into receiving waters. If a municipality does not prohibit non-storm water discharges, it is providing the pathway (its MS4) which enables pollutants to reach receiving waters. Since the municipality's storm water management service can result in pollutant discharges to receiving waters, the municipality must accept responsibility for the water quality consequences resulting from this service. Furthermore, third party discharges can cause a municipality to be out of compliance with its permit. Since pollutants from third parties which enter the MS4 will eventually be discharged from the MS4 to receiving waters, the third party discharges can result in a situation of municipality non-compliance if the discharges lead to an exceedance of water quality standards. For these reasons, each Copermittee must prohibit and/or control discharges from third parties to its MS4. USEPA supports this concept when it states "the operators of regulated small MS4s cannot passively receive and discharge pollutants from third parties" and "the operator of a small MS4 that does not prohibit and/or control discharges into its system essentially accepts 'title' for those discharges. At a minimum, by providing free and open access to the MS4s that convey discharges to the waters of the United States, the municipal storm sewer system enables water quality impairment by third parties."[142]

Finding D.3.e. Waste and pollutants which are deposited and accumulate in MS4 drainage structures will be discharged from these structures to waters of the U.S. unless they are removed. These discharges may cause or contribute to, or threaten to cause or contribute to, a condition of pollution in receiving waters. For this reason, pollutant discharges from storm water into MS4s must be reduced using a combination of management measures, including source control, and an effective MS4 maintenance program must be implemented by each Copermittee.

Discussion of Finding D.3.e. When rain falls and drains freeways, industries, construction sites, and neighborhoods, it picks up a multitude of pollutants. Gravity flow transports the pollutants to the MS4. Illicit discharges and connections also can contribute a significant amount of pollutants to MS4s. MS4s are commonly designed to convey their contents as quickly as possible. Due to the resulting typically high flow rates within the concrete conveyance systems of MS4s, pollutants which enter or are deposited in the MS4 and not removed are generally flushed unimpeded through the MS4 to waters of the United States. Since treatment generally does not occur within the MS4, in such cases reduction of storm water pollutants to the MEP must occur prior to discharges entering the MS4.

[142] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68765-68766.

The importance of this concept is supported by the tons of wastes/pollutants that have been removed from the Copermittees' MS4s as reported in their ROWD.[143] Moreover, these pollutants will be discharged into receiving waters unless an effective MS4 and structural treatment BMP maintenance program is implemented by the Copermittees. The requirement for Copermittees to conduct a MS4 maintenance program is specifically directed in both the Phase I and Phase II storm water regulations. Regarding MS4 cleaning, USEPA states "The removal of sediment, decaying debris, and highly polluted water from catch basins has aesthetic and water quality benefits, including reducing foul odors, reducing suspended solids, and reducing the load of oxygen-demanding substances that reach receiving waters."[144] It goes on to say, "Catch basin cleaning is an efficient and cost-effective method for preventing the transport of sediment and pollutants to receiving water bodies." USEPA also finds that "Lack of maintenance often limits the effectiveness of storm water structural controls such as detention/retention basins and infiltration devices. [...] The proposed program should provide for maintenance logs and identify specific maintenance activities for each class of control, such as removing sediment from retention ponds every five years, cleaning catch basins annually, and removing litter from channels twice a year."[145]

Finding D.3.f. Enforcement of local runoff related ordinances, permits, and plans is an essential component of every runoff management program and is specifically required in the federal storm water regulations and this Order. Each Copermittee is individually responsible for adoption and enforcement of ordinances and/or policies, implementation of identified control measures/BMPs needed to prevent or reduce pollutants in storm water runoff, and for the allocation of funds for the capital, operation and maintenance, administrative, and enforcement expenditures necessary to implement and enforce such control measures/BMPs under its jurisdiction. Education is an important aspect of every effective runoff management program and the basis for changes in behavior at a societal level. Education of municipal planning, inspection, and maintenance department staffs is especially critical to ensure that in-house staffs understand how their activities impact water quality, how to accomplish their jobs while protecting water quality, and their specific roles and responsibilities for compliance with this Order. Public education, designed to target various urban land users and other audiences, is also essential to inform the public of how individual actions affect receiving water quality and how adverse effects can be minimized.

[143] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region).
[144] USEPA, 1999. Storm Water O&M Fact Sheet, Catch Basin Cleaning. EPA 832-F-99-011.
[145] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.

Discussion of Finding D.3.f. The Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A – D) are clear in placing responsibility on municipalities for control of runoff from third party activities and land uses to their MS4.[146] In order for municipalities to assume this responsibility, they must implement ordinances, permits, and plans addressing runoff from third parties. Assessments for compliance with their ordinances, permits, and plans are essential for a municipality to ensure that third parties are not causing the municipality to be in violation of its municipal storm water permit. When conditions of non-compliance are determined, enforcement is necessary to ensure that violations of municipality ordinances and permits are corrected. When the Copermittees determine a violation of its storm water ordinance, it must pursue correction of the violation. Without enforcement, third parties do not have incentive to correct violations. USEPA supports enforcement by municipalities when it states "Effective inspection and enforcement requires [...] penalties to deter infractions and intervention by the municipal authority to correct violations. Enforcement mechanisms [...] also must be described."[147]

Education is a critical BMP and an important aspect of runoff management programs. USEPA finds that "An informed and knowledgeable community is critical to the success of a storm water management program since it helps ensure the following: Greater support for the program as the public gains a greater understanding of the reasons why it is necessary and important, [and] greater compliance with the program as the public becomes aware of the personal responsibilities expected of them and others in the community, including the individual actions they can take to protect or improve the quality of area waters."[148]

Regarding target audiences, USEPA also states "The public education program should use a mix of appropriate local strategies to address the viewpoints and concerns of a variety of audiences and communities, including minority and disadvantaged communities, as well as children."

Finding D.3.g. Public participation during the development of runoff management programs is necessary to ensure that all stakeholder interests and a variety of creative solutions are considered.

Discussion of Finding D.3.g.
This finding is supported by the Phase II Storm Water Regulations, which state "early and frequent public involvement can shorten implementation schedules and broaden public support for a program." USEPA goes on to explain, "Public participation is likely to ensure a more successful storm water program by providing valuable expertise and a conduit to other programs and governments."[149]

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[146] USEPA, 2000. EPA Administered Permit Programs: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Code of Federal Regulations, Vol. 40, Part 122.
[147] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA/833-B-92-002.
[148] USEPA, 2000. Storm Water Phase II Compliance Assistance Guide. EPA 833-R-00-002.
[149] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68755.

Finding D.3.h. Retrofitting existing development with storm water treatment controls including LID, is necessary to address storm water discharges from existing development that may cause or contribute to a condition of pollution or a violation of water quality standards. Although SSMP BMPs are required for redevelopment, the current rate of redevelopment will not address water quality problems in a timely manner. Cooperation with private landowners is necessary to effectively identify, implement and maintain retrofit projects for the preservation, restoration, and enhancement of water quality.

Discussion of Finding D.3.h. Existing BMPs are not sufficient to protect the Beneficial Uses of receiving waters from storm water MS4 discharges, as evidenced by 303(d) listings and exceedances of Water Quality Objectives from the Copermittees monitoring reports. Implementing more advanced BMPs, including the retrofitting of existing development with LID, is part of the iterative process. Based on the current rate of redevelopment compared to existing BMPs, the use of LID only on new and redevelopment will not adequately address current water quality problems, including downstream hydromodification. Retrofitting existing development is practicable for a municipality through a systematic evaluation, prioritization and implementation plan focused on impaired water bodies, pollutants of concern, areas of downstream hydromodification, feasibility and effective communication and cooperation with private property owners.

Finding D.4.a. Since runoff within a watershed can flow from and through multiple land uses and political jurisdictions, watershed-based runoff management can greatly enhance the protection of receiving waters. Such management provides a means to focus on the most important water quality problems in each watershed. By focusing on the most important water quality problems, watershed efforts can maximize protection of beneficial use in an efficient manner. Effective watershed-based runoff management actively reduces pollutant discharges and abates pollutant sources causing or contributing to watershed water quality problems. Watershed-based runoff management that does not actively reduce pollutant discharges and abate pollutant sources causing or contributing to watershed water quality problems can necessitate implementation of the iterative process outlined in section A.3 of the Tentative Order. Watershed management of runoff does not require Copermittees to expend resources outside of their jurisdictions. Watershed management requires the Copermittees within a watershed to develop a watershed-based management strategy, which can then be implemented on a jurisdictional basis.

Discussion of Finding D.4.a. In recent years, addressing water quality issues from a watershed perspective has increasingly gained attention. Regarding watershed-based permitting, the USEPA *Watershed-Based NPDES Permitting Policy Statement* issued on Jan. 7, 2004 states the following:

USEPA continues to support a holistic watershed approach to water quality management. The process for developing and issuing NPDES permits on a watershed basis is an important tool in water quality management. USEPA believes that developing and issuing NPDES permits on a watershed basis can benefit all watershed stakeholders, from the NPDES permitting authority to local community members. A watershed-based approach to point source permitting under the NPDES program may serve as one innovative tool for achieving new efficiencies and environmental results. USEPA believes that watershed-based permitting can:

- Lead to more environmentally effective results;
- Emphasize measuring the effectiveness of targeted actions on improvements in water quality;
- Provide greater opportunities for trading and other market based approaches;
- Reduce the cost of improving the quality of the nation's waters;
- Foster more effective implementation of watershed plans, including total maximum daily loads (TMDLs); and
- Realize other ancillary benefits beyond those that have been achieved under the CWA (e.g., facilitate program integration including integration of clean water act and safe drinking water act programs).

Watershed-based permitting is a process that ultimately produces NPDES permits that are issued to point sources on a geographic or watershed basis. In establishing point source controls in a watershed-based permit, the permitting authority may focus on watershed goals, and consider multiple pollutant sources and stressors, including the level of nonpoint source control that is practicable. In general, there are numerous permitting mechanisms that may be used to develop and issue permits within a watershed approach.

This USEPA guidance is in line with State Board and Regional Board watershed management goals. For example, the State Board's TAC recommends watershed-based water quality protection, stating "Municipal permits should have watershed specific components." The TAC further recommends that "All NPDES permits and Waste Discharge Requirements should be considered for reissuance on a watershed basis."

In addition, the Basin Plan states that "public agencies and private organizations concerned with water resources have come to recognize that a comprehensive evaluation of pollutant contributions on a watershed scale is the only way to realistically assess cumulative impacts and formulate workable strategies to truly protect our water resources. Both water pollution and habitat degradation problems can best be solved by following a basin-wide approach."

In light of USEPA's policy statement and the State Board's and Regional Board's watershed management goals, the Regional Board seeks to expand watershed management in the regulation of runoff from the MS4. Watershed-based MS4 permits can provide for more effective receiving water quality protection by focusing on specific water quality problems. The entire watershed for the receiving water can be assessed, allowing for critical areas and practices to be targeted for corrective actions. Known sources of pollutants of concern can be investigated for potential water quality impacts. Problem areas can then be addressed, leading to eventual improvements in receiving water quality. Management of runoff on a watershed basis allows for specific water quality problems to be targeted so that efforts result in maximized water quality improvements.[150]

Finding D.4.b. Some runoff issues, such as general education and training, can be effectively addressed on a regional basis. Regional approaches to runoff management can improve program consistency and promote sharing of resources, which can result in implementation of more efficient programs.

Discussion of Finding D.4.b. Copermittees in Orange County participate in several runoff-related activities whose scope extends beyond the area subject to this Order. These include countywide activities (e.g., portions of Orange County fall under the jurisdiction of the Santa Ana Regional Board), southern California, and statewide activities. Copermittees' participation in these regional activities is generally directed at improving management capability, preventing redundancy and taking advantage of economies of scale. For instance, Copermittees seek to develop consistency between watershed and/or jurisdictional programs (e.g., through standards development), and to collaborate on certain program activities such as education, training, and monitoring. The Copermittees report agreeing that jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs cannot be effectively developed and implemented in isolation. In addition, the Copermittees, through WRMP implementation efforts, have learned that many watershed activities can be more effectively implemented (e.g., achieve more water quality benefits) at the regional level due to economies of scale and agree watershed protection should be increasingly emphasized as a focal point of Copermittee efforts under the re-issued Permit.[151]

Finding D.4.c. It is important for the Copermittees to coordinate their water quality protection and land use planning activities to achieve the greatest protection of receiving water bodies. Copermittee coordination with other watershed stakeholders, especially Caltrans, the Department of Defense, and water and sewer districts, is also important.

[150] Regional Board, 2004. San Diego County Municipal Storm Water Permit Reissuance Analysis Summary. P. 1.

[151] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region).

Discussion of Finding D.4.c. Conventional planning and zoning can be limited in their ability to protect the environmental quality of creeks, rivers, and other waterbodies. Watershed-based planning is often ignored, despite the fact that receiving waters unite land by collecting runoff from throughout the watershed. Since watersheds unite land, they can be used as an effective basis for planning. Watershed-based planning enables local and regional areas to realize economic, social, and other benefits associated with growth, while conserving the resources needed to sustain such growth, including water quality.

This type of planning can involve four steps: (1) Identify the watersheds shared by the participating jurisdictions; (2) Identify, assess, and prioritize the natural, social, and other resources in the watersheds; (3) Prioritize areas for growth, protection, and conservation, based on prioritized resources; and (4) Develop plans and regulations to guide growth and protect resources. Local governments have started with simple, yet effective, steps toward watershed planning, such as adopting a watershed-based planning approach, articulating the basic strategy in their General Plans, and beginning to pursue the basic strategy in collaboration with neighboring local governments who share the watersheds. Examples of new mechanisms created to facilitate watershed-based planning and zoning include the San Francisquito Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management Process and the Santa Clara Basin Watershed Management Initiative.[152]

[152] Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association., 1999. Start at the Source. Forbes Custom Publishing. Available on-line at: http://www.scvurppp-w2k.com/basmaa_satsm.htm

E. Statute and Regulatory Considerations

Finding E.1. The Receiving Water Limitations (RWL) language specified in this Order is consistent with language recommended by the USEPA and established in State Board Water Quality Order 99-05, *Own Motion Review of the Petition of Environmental Health Coalition to Review Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 96-03, NPDES Permit No. CAS0108740*, adopted by the State Board on June 17, 1999. The RWL in this Order require compliance with water quality standards, which for storm water discharges is to be achieved through an iterative approach requiring the implementation of improved and better-tailored BMPs over time. Compliance with receiving water limitations based on applicable water quality standards is necessary to ensure that MS4 discharges will not cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards and the creation of conditions of pollution.

Discussion of Finding E.1. The RWLs in the Order require storm water compliance with water quality standards through an iterative approach for implementing improved and better-tailored BMPs over time. The iterative BMP process requires the implementation of increasingly stringent BMPs until receiving water standards are achieved. This is necessary because implementation of BMPs alone cannot ensure attainment of receiving water quality standards. For example, a BMP that is effective in one situation may not be applicable in another. An iterative process of BMP development, implementation, and assessment is needed to promote consistent compliance with receiving water quality objectives. If assessment of a given BMP confirms that the BMP is ineffective, the iterative process should be restarted, with redevelopment of a new BMP that is anticipated to result in compliance with receiving water quality objectives.

The issue of whether storm water discharges from MS4s must meet water quality standards has been intensely debated in past years. The argument arises because CWA section 402(p) fails to clearly state that municipal dischargers of storm water must meet water quality standards. On the issue of industrial discharges of storm water, the statute clearly indicates that industrial dischargers must meet both (1) the technology-based standard of "best available technology economically achievable (BAT)" and (2) applicable water quality standards. On the issue of municipal discharges however, the statute states that municipal dischargers must meet (1) the technology-based standard of MEP" and (2) "such other provisions that the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants." The statute fails, however, to specifically state that municipal dischargers must meet water quality standards.

As a result, the municipal storm water dischargers have argued that they do not have to meet water quality standards; and that they only are required to meet MEP for storm water. Environmental interest groups maintain that not only do MS4 discharges have to meet water quality standards, but that MS4 permits must also comply with numeric effluent limitations for the purpose of meeting water quality standards. On the issue of water quality standards, USEPA, the State Board, and the Regional Board have consistently maintained that MS4s must indeed comply with water quality standards. On the issue of whether water quality standards must be met by numeric effluent limitations, USEPA, the State Board (in Orders WQ 91-03 and WQ 91-04), and the Regional Board have maintained that MS4 permits can contain narrative requirements for the implementation of BMPs in place of numeric effluent limitations for storm water discharges.[153]

In addition to relying on USEPA's legal opinion concluding that MS4s must meet MEP for storm water and water quality standards, the State Board also relied on the CWA's explicit authority for States to require "such other provisions that the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants" in addition to the technology-based standard of MEP for storm water discharges. To further support its conclusions that MS4 permit dischargers must meet water quality standards, the State Board relied on provisions of the CWC that specify that all waste discharge requirements must implement applicable Basin Plans and take into consideration the appropriate water quality objectives for the protection of beneficial uses.

The State Board first formally concluded that permits for MS4s must contain effluent limitations based on water quality standards in its Order WQ 91-03. In that Order, the State Board also concluded that it was appropriate for Regional Boards to achieve this result by requiring best management practices, rather than by inserting numeric effluent limitations into MS4 permits. Later, in Order WQ 98-01, the State Board prescribed specific precedent setting Receiving Water Limitations language to be included in all future MS4 permits. This language specifically requires that MS4 dischargers meet water quality standards and allows for the use of narrative BMPs (increasing in stringency and implemented in an iterative process) as the mechanism by which water quality standards can be met for storm water discharges.

In Order WQ 99-05, the State Board modified its receiving water limitations language in Order WQ 98-01 to meet specific objections by USEPA (the modifications resulted in stricter compliance with water quality standards). State Board Order WQ 99-05 states:

[153] For the most recent assessment, see Storm Water Panel Recommendations to the California State Water Resources Control Board, 2006. *The Feasibility of Numeric Effluent Limits Applicable to Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Municipal, Industrial, and Construction Activities.*

> "In Order WQ 98-01, the State Board ordered that certain receiving water limitation language be included in future municipal storm water permits. Following inclusion of that language in permits issued by the San Francisco Bay and San Diego Regional Boards for Vallejo and Riverside respectively, the USEPA objected to the permits. The USEPA objection was based on the receiving water limitation language. The USEPA has now issued those permits itself and has included receiving water limitation language it deems appropriate.
>
> In light of USEPA's objection to the receiving water limitation language in Order WQ 98-01 and its adoption of alternative language, the State Board is revising its instructions regarding receiving water limitation language for municipal storm water permits. It is hereby ordered that Order WQ 98-01 will be amended to remove the receiving water limitation language contained therein and to substitute the USEPA language. Based on the reasons stated here, and as a precedent decision, the following receiving water limitation language shall be included in future municipal storm water permits."

In the 1999 case involving MS4 permits issued by USEPA to several Arizona cities (*Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner*, 1999, 197 F. 3d 1035), the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld USEPA's requirement for MS4 dischargers to meet water quality standards, but it did so on the basis of USEPA's discretion rather than on the basis of strict compliance with the Clean Water Act. In other words, while holding that the Clean Water Act does not require all MS4 discharges to comply strictly with state water quality standards, the Court also held that USEPA has the authority to determine that ensuring strict compliance with state water quality standards is necessary to control pollutants. On the question of whether MS4 permits must contain numeric effluent limitations, the court upheld USEPA's use of iterative BMPs in place of numeric effluent limitations for storm water discharges.

On October 14, 1999, the State Board issued a legal opinion on the federal appellate decision and provided advice to the Regional Boards on how to proceed in the future. In the memorandum, the State Board concludes that the recent Ninth Circuit opinion upholds the discretion of USEPA and the State to (continue to) issue storm water permits to MS4s that require compliance with water quality standards through iterative BMPs. Moreover, the memorandum states that "[...] because most MS4 discharges enter impaired water bodies, there is a real need for permits to include stringent requirements to protect those water bodies. As TMDLs are developed, it is likely that MS4s will have to participate in pollutant load reductions, and the MS4 permits are the most effective vehicles for those reductions." In summary, the State Board found that the Regional Boards should continue to include the RWL established in State Board Order WQ 99-05 in all future permits.

The issue of the RWLs language was also central to BIA's (and others') appeal of Order No. 2001-01 (San Diego MS4 permit), which was used as a template for Order No. R9-2002-01. BIA contended that the storm water MEP standard was a ceiling on what could be required of the Copermittees in implementing their runoff management programs, and that Order No. 2001-01's receiving water limitations requirements exceeded that ceiling. In other words, BIA argued that the Copermittees could not be required to comply with receiving water limitations if they necessitated efforts which went beyond the MEP standard. Again, the courts upheld the Regional Board's discretion to require compliance with water quality standards in municipal storm water permits, without limitation. The Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District found that the Regional Board has "the authority to include a permit provision requiring compliance with water quality standards."[154] On further appeal by BIA, the California State Supreme Court declined to hear the matter.

While implementation of the iterative BMP process is a means to achieve compliance with water quality objectives for storm water MS4 discharges, it does not shield the discharger from enforcement actions for continued non-compliance with water quality standards. Consistent with USEPA guidance,[155] regardless of whether or not an iterative process is being implemented, discharges that cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards are in violation of Order No. R9-2008-0001.

Finding E.2. The Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan), identifies the following beneficial uses for surface waters in Orange County: Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN)[156], Agricultural Supply (AGR), Industrial Process Supply (PROC), Industrial Service Supply (IND), Ground Water Recharge (GWR), Contact Water Recreation (REC1) Non-contact Water Recreation (REC2), Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM), Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD), Wildlife Habitat (WILD), Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE), Freshwater Replenishment (FRSH), Hydropower Generation (POW), and Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance (BIOL). The following additional beneficial uses are identified for coastal waters of Orange County: Navigation (NAV), Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM), Estuarine Habitat (EST), Marine Habitat (MAR), Aquaculture (AQUA), Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR), Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN), and Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL).

[154] Building Industry Association et al., v. State Water Resources Control Board, et al. 2004.
[155] USEPA, 1998. Jan. 21, 1998 correspondence, "State Board/OCC File A-1041 for Orange County," from Alexis Strauss to Walt Petit, and March 17, 1998 correspondence from Alexis Strauss to Walt Petit.
[156] Subject to exceptions under the "Sources of Drinking Waters" Policy (Resolution No. 89-33)

Discussion of Finding E.2. The southern portion of Orange County is within the San Diego Region. The Orange County portion of the San Diego Region falls within and comprises the majority of the San Juan Hydrologic Unit. Major streams within the Orange County watersheds include San Juan Creek, Trabuco Creek, and San Mateo Creek. Other surface water bodies include Aliso Creek, Prima Deshecha Canada, Segunda Deshecha Canada, Oso Creek, Salt Creek, Laguna Canyon Channel, Canada Gobernadora, and Bell Canyon. Several small canyon streams drain directly to the Ocean. Major inland waterbodies include Oso Reservoir, El Toro Reservoir, and Sulphur Creek Reservoir.

The Orange County watersheds include unincorporated portions of Orange County, the Cities of Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano. The uppermost portions of the San Mateo, San Juan, Trabuco, and Aliso Creek watersheds are within the Cleveland National Forests.

Approximately 500,000 people reside within the permitted area. This estimate is based on the 2000 census, which does not represent exact numbers because three municipalities (County of Orange and the Cities of Laguna Hills and Lake Forest) lie within both the San Diego Region and the Santa Ana Region. In addition, new developments have increased the housing stock of the area since the 2000 census. This includes the master planned developments of Ladera Ranch in the San Juan Creek watershed and Talega in the San Clemente Coastal and San Mateo Creek watersheds.

Finding E.3. This Order is in conformance with State Board Resolution No. 68-16, *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California*, and the federal Antidegradation Policy described in 40 CFR 131.12.

Discussion of Finding E.3. Runoff management programs are required to be designed to reduce pollutants in storm water MS4 discharges to the maximum extent practicable and achieve compliance with water quality standards. Therefore, implementation of runoff management programs, which satisfy the requirements of Order No. R9-2009-0002, will prevent violations of receiving water quality standards. The Basin Plan states that "Water quality objectives must [...] conform to US EPA regulations covering antidegradation (40 CFR 131.12) and State Board Resolution 68-16, Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California." As a result, when water quality standards are met, USEPA and State Board antidegradation policy requirements are also met.

Finding E.4. Section 6217(g) of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA) requires coastal states with approved coastal zone management programs to address non-point pollution impacting or threatening coastal water quality. CZARA addresses five sources of non-point pollution: agriculture, silviculture, urban, marinas, and hydromodification. This NPDES permit addresses the management measures required for the urban category, with the exception of septic systems. The adoption and implementation of this NPDES permit relieves the Permittee from developing a non-point source plan, for the urban category, under CZARA. The Regional Board addresses septic systems through the administration of other programs.

Discussion of Finding E.4. Coastal states are required to develop programs to protect coastal waters from nonpoint source pollution, as mandated by the federal CZARA. CZARA Section 6217 identifies polluted runoff as a significant factor in coastal water degradation, and requires implementation of management measures and enforceable policies to restore and protect coastal waters. In lieu of developing a separate NPS program for the coastal zone, California's NPS Pollution Control Program was updated in 2000 to address the requirements of both the CWA section 319 and the CZARA section 6217 on a statewide basis. The California Coastal Commission (CCC), the State Board, and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards are the lead State agencies for upgrading the program, although 20 other State agencies also participate. Pursuant to the CZARA (6217(g) Guidance Document the development of runoff management programs pursuant to this NPDES permit fulfills the need for coastal cities to develop an runoff non-point source plan identified in the State's Non-point Source Program Strategy and Implementation Plan.[157]

Finding E.5. Section 303(d)(1)(A) of the CWA requires that "Each state shall identify those waters within its boundaries for which the effluent limitations...are not stringent enough to implement any water quality standard (WQS) applicable to such waters." The CWA also requires states to establish a priority ranking of impaired waterbodies known as Water Quality Limited Segments and to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for such waters. This priority list of impaired waterbodies is called the Section 303(d) List. The current Section 303(d) List was approved by the State Board on February 4, 2003 and on July 25, 2003 by USEPA. The List was recently updated by the State Board on October 25, 2006. On June 28, 2007 the 2006 303(d) list for California was given final approval by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

[157] State Board/CCC, 2000. Nonpoint Source Program Strategy and Implementation Plan, 1998-2013 (PROSIP).

Discussion of Finding E.5. Section 303(d) of the federal CWA (CWA, 33 USC 1250, et seq., at 1313(d)), requires States to identify waters that do not meet water quality standards after applying certain required technology-based effluent limits ("impaired" water bodies). States are required to compile this information in a list and submit the list to USEPA for review and approval. This list is known as the Section 303(d) list of impaired waters. As part of this listing process, States are required to prioritize waters/watersheds for future development of TMDLs. The State Board and Regional Boards have ongoing efforts to monitor and assess water quality, to prepare the Section 303(d) list, to prioritize waters/watersheds for TMDL development and to subsequently develop TMDLs. TMDLs developed and adopted by the Regional Board are incorporated into the Basin Plan via a Basin Plan Amendment as authorized under section 13240 of the California Water Code. The 2006 California 303(d) List identifies impaired receiving water bodies and their watersheds within the State of California. Storm water and non-storm water runoff that is discharged from the Copermittees' MS4s is a leading cause of receiving water quality impairment in the San Diego Region.[158] TMDLs Project I and II for bacteria are considered priority development TMDLs due to impacts to REC 1 benefits due to impairment of waters for human contact recreation.

Finding E.6. This Order does not constitute an unfunded local government mandate subject to subvention under Article XIIIB, Section (6) of the California Constitution for several reasons, including, but not limited to, the following. First, this Order implements federally mandated requirements under federal Clean Water Act section 402. (33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B).) Second, the local agency Copermittees' obligations under this Order are similar to, and in many respects less stringent than, the obligations of non-governmental and new dischargers who are issued NPDES permits for storm water and non-storm water discharges. Third, the local agency Copermittees have the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for compliance with this Order. Fourth, the Copermittees have requested permit coverage in lieu of compliance with the complete prohibition against the discharge of pollutants contained in federal Clean Water Act section 301, subdivision (a) (33 U.S.C. § 1311(a)) and in lieu of numeric restrictions on their storm water discharges. Fifth, the local agencies' responsibility for preventing discharges of waste that can create conditions of pollution or nuisance from conveyances that are within their ownership or control under State law predates the enactment of Article XIIIB, Section (6) of the California Constitution. Likewise, the provisions of this Order to implement total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) are federal mandates. The federal Clean Water Act requires TMDLs to be developed for water bodies that do not meet federal water quality standards. (33 U.S.C. sec. 1313(d).) Once the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or a state develops a TMDL, federal law requires that permits must contain effluent limitations consistent with the assumptions of any applicable wasteload allocation. (40 C.F.R. sec. 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).)

[158] The approved 2006 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments is on-line at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_lists2006.html.

Discussion of Finding E.6. This Order does not constitute an unfunded local government mandate subject to subvention under Article XIIIB, Section (6) of the California Constitution for several reasons, including, but not limited to, the following. First, this Order implements federally mandated requirements under federal Clean Water Act section 402, subdivision (p)(3)(B). (33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B).) This includes federal requirements to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges, to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the maximum extent practicable, and to include such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. Federal cases have held these provisions require the development of permits and permit provisions on a case-by-case basis to satisfy federal requirements. (Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v. U.S. E.P.A. (9th Cir. 1992) 966 F.2d 1292, 1308, fn. 17.)

The authority exercised under this Order is not reserved state authority under the Clean Water Act's savings clause (cf. Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd. (2005) 35 Cal.4th 613, 627-628 [relying on 33 U.S.C. § 1370, which allows a state to develop requirements which are not "less stringent" than federal requirements]), but instead, is part of a federal mandate to develop pollutant reduction requirements for municipal separate storm sewer systems. To this extent, it is entirely federal authority that forms the legal basis to establish the permit provisions. (See, City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Bd.-Santa Ana Region (2006) 135 Cal.App.4th 1377, 1389; Building Industry Ass'n of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Bd. (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 866, 882-883.)

Second, the local agency Copermittees' obligations under this Order are similar to, and in many respects less stringent than, the obligations of non-governmental dischargers who are issued NPDES permits for storm water discharges. With a few inapplicable exceptions, the Clean Water Act regulates the discharge of pollutants from point sources (33 U.S.C. § 1342) and the Porter-Cologne regulates the discharge of waste (Wat. Code, § 13263), both without regard to the source of the pollutant or waste. As a result, the "costs incurred by local agencies" to protect water quality reflect an overarching regulatory scheme that places similar requirements on governmental and nongovernmental dischargers. (See County of Los Angeles v. State of California (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 57-58 [finding comprehensive workers compensation scheme did not create a cost for local agencies that was subject to state subvention].)

The Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act largely regulate storm water with an even hand, but to the extent there is any relaxation of this even-handed regulation, it is in favor of the local agencies. Except for municipal separate storm sewer systems, the Clean Water Act requires point source dischargers, including discharges of storm water associated with industrial or construction activity, to comply strictly with water quality standards. (33 U.S.C. § 1311(b)(1)(C), Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner (1999) 191 F.3d 1159, 1164-1165 [noting that industrial storm water discharges must strictly comply with water quality standards].) As discussed in prior State Water Resources Control Board decisions, this Order does not require strict compliance with water quality standards. (SWRCB Order No. WQ 2001-15, p. 7.) The Order, therefore, regulates the discharge of waste in municipal storm water more leniently than the discharge of waste from non-governmental sources.

Third, the local agency Copermittees have the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for compliance with this Order. The fact sheet demonstrates that numerous activities contribute to the pollutant loading in the municipal separate storm sewer system. Local agencies can levy service charges, fees, or assessments on these activities, independent of real property ownership. (See, e.g., Apartment Ass'n of Los Angeles County, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles (2001) 24 Cal.4th 830, 842 [upholding inspection fees associated with renting property].) The ability of a local agency to defray the cost of a program without raising taxes indicates that a program does not entail a cost subject to subvention. (County of Fresno v. State of California (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482, 487-488.)

Fourth, the Copermittees have requested permit coverage in lieu of compliance with the complete prohibition against the discharge of pollutants contained in federal Clean Water Act section 301, subdivision (a) (33 U.S.C. § 1311(a)) and in lieu of numeric restrictions on their storm water discharges. To the extent, the local agencies have voluntarily availed themselves of the permit, the program is not a state mandate. (Accord County of San Diego v. State of California (1997) 15 Cal.4th 68, 107-108.) Likewise, the Copermittees have voluntarily sought a program-based municipal storm water permit in lieu of a numeric limitations approach on their storm water discharge. (See City of Abilene v. U.S. E.P.A. (5th Cir. 2003) 325 F.3d 657, 662-663 [noting that municipalities can choose between a management permit or a permit with numeric limitations].) The local agencies' voluntary decision to file a report of waste discharge proposing a program-based permit is a voluntary decision not subject to subvention. (See Environmental Defense Center v. USEPA (9th Cir. 2003) 344 F.3d 832, 845-848.)

Fifth, the local agencies' responsibility for preventing discharges of waste that can create conditions of pollution or nuisance from conveyances that are within their ownership or control under state law predates the enactment of Article XIIIB, Section (6) of the California Constitution.

Finding E. 7. Runoff treatment and/or mitigation must occur prior to the discharge of runoff into receiving waters. Treatment BMPs must not be constructed in waters of the U.S. or State unless the runoff flows are sufficiently pretreated to protect the values and functions of the water body. Federal regulations at 40 CFR 131.10(a) state that in no case shall a state adopt waste transport or waste assimilation as a designated use for any waters of the U.S. Authorizing the construction of an runoff treatment facility within a water of the U.S., or using the water body itself as a treatment system or for conveyance to a treatment system, would be tantamount to accepting waste assimilation as an appropriate use for that water body. Furthermore, the construction, operation, and maintenance of a pollution control facility in a water body can negatively impact the physical, chemical, and biological integrity, as well as the beneficial uses, of the water body. Without federal authorization (e.g., pursuant to Clean Water Act Section 404), waters of the U.S. may not be converted into, or used as, waste treatment or conveyance facilities. Similarly, waste discharge requirements pursuant to California Water Code Section 13260 are required for the conversion or use of waters of the State as waste treatment or conveyance facilities. Diversion from waters of the U.S./State to treatment facilities and subsequent return to waters of the U.S. is allowable, provided that the effluent complies with applicable NPDES requirements.

Discussion of Finding E.7. Runoff treatment and/or mitigation in accordance with any of the requirements in the Order must occur prior to the discharge of storm water into receiving waters. Allowing storm water polluted runoff to enter receiving waters prior to treatment to the MEP will result in degradation of the water body and potential exceedances of water quality standards, from the discharge point to the point of dissipation, infiltration, or treatment. Furthermore, the construction, operation, and maintenance of a pollution control facility in a water body can negatively impact the physical, chemical, and biological integrity, as well as the beneficial uses, of the water body. This requirement is supported by federal regulation 40 CFR 131.10(a) and USEPA guidance. According to USEPA,[159] "To the extent possible, municipalities should avoid locating structural controls in natural wetlands. Before considering siting of controls in a natural wetland, the municipality should demonstrate that it is not possible or practicable to construct them in sites that do not contain natural wetlands... Practices should be used that settle solids, regulate flow, and remove contaminants prior to discharging storm water into a wetland."

Additional Federal guidance discusses the implementation of wetlands to treat municipal storm water discharges (USEPA, 2000. *Guiding Principles for Constructed Treatment Wetlands: Providing for Water Quality and Wildlife Habitat*). It states:

[159] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.

"..treatment wetlands should not be constructed in a waters of the U.S. unless you can sufficiently pretreat the stormwater flows to protect the values and functions of the waters of the U.S. Because storm water is an unpredictable effluent source and can contain high levels of toxic substances, nutrients, and pathogens, we strongly encourage that you construct the treatment wetland in uplands and use best management practices in these projects."[160]

Consistent with USEPA guidance, the conversion or use of waters of the U.S./State into runoff treatment facilities or conveyance facilities for untreated storm water discharges must be appropriately reviewed by both Federal and State resource agencies. Such projects may be subject to federal permitting pursuant to Clean Water Act Section 404 if discharges of dredged or fill material is involved.

The placement of hydromodification controls within waters of the U.S./State may also be subject to federal and/or state permitting, but would not necessarily be considered a pollutant treatment BMP. Provided the grade control structures are designed to re-establish a natural channel gradient and correct excessive changes to the sediment transport regime caused by urbanization, rather than to create a series of artificial hydrological impoundments for the purpose of treating pollution, this type of project is not considered an in-stream treatment BMP.

Finding E. 8. The issuance of waste discharge requirements and an NPDES permit for the discharge of runoff from MS4s to waters of the U.S. is exempt from the requirement for preparation of environmental documents under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code, Division 13, Chapter 3, section 21000 et seq.) in accordance with the CWC section 13389.

Discussion of Finding E. 8. CWC Section 13389 exempts the adoption of waste discharge requirements (such as NPDES permits) from CEQA requirements: "Neither the State Board nor the regional boards shall be required to comply with the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code prior to the adoption of any waste discharge requirement, except requirements for new sources as defined in the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto."

[160] USEPA, 2000. Guiding Principles for Constructed Treatment Wetlands: Providing for Water Quality and Wildlife Habitat, (EPA 843-B-00-003).

This CEQA exemption was challenged during BIA's (and others') appeal of Order No. 2001-01. BIA contended that the CEQA exemption did not apply to permit requirements where the Regional Board utilized its discretion to craft permit requirements which were more prescriptive than required by federal law. The Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District disagreed with this argument, stating "we also reject Building Industry's argument to the extent it contends the statutory CEQA exemption in Water Code section 13389 is inapplicable to a particular NPDES permit provision that is discretionary, rather than mandatory, under the CWA."[161] On further appeal by BIA, the California State Supreme Court declined to hear the matter.

In a recent decision, the Court of Appeal of the State of California, Second Appellate District, upheld the CEQA exemption for municipal storm water NPDES permits (County of Los Angeles, et al. v. California State Water Resources Control Board, et al.).[162]

Finding E.9. Multiple water bodies in Orange County have been identified as impaired and placed on the 303(d) list. In 2004, Bacteria Impaired Waters TMDL Project II included six bacteria impaired shorelines in Dana Point Harbor and San Diego Bay: Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park, B Street, G Street Pier, Tidelands Park, and Chula Vista Marina in San Diego Bay. Since then, only Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay can be confirmed as still impaired by indicator bacteria. On June 11, 2008 the Regional Board adopted a Basin Plan amendment to incorporate *Bacteria Impaired Waters TMDL Project II for San Diego Bay and Dana Point Harbor Shorelines*. On June 16, 2009, the State Board approved the Basin Plan amendment. This action meets requirements of section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Basin Plan amendment process is authorized under section 13240 of the Water Code. The State's Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the TMDLs on September 15, 2009. The effective date of the TMDLs is the date of OAL approval. USEPA approved the TMDLs on October 26, 2009.

Finding E.10. Storm water discharges from developed and developing areas in Orange County are significant sources of certain pollutants that cause, may be causing, threatening to cause or contributing to water quality impairment in the waters of Orange County. Furthermore, as delineated in the CWA section 303(d) list in Table 3, the Regional Board has found that there is a reasonable potential that municipal storm water and non-storm water discharges from MS4s cause or may cause or contribute to an excursion above water quality standards for the following pollutants: Indicator Bacteria, Phosphorous, Toxicity and Turbidity. In accordance with CWA section 303(d), the Regional Board is required to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for these pollutants to these waters to eliminate impairment and attain water quality standards. Therefore, certain early pollutant control actions and further pollutant impact assessments by the Copermittees are warranted and required

[161] Building Industry Association et al., v. State Water Resources Control Board, et al. 2004.
[162] Los Angeles County Super. Ct. No. BS080792. Partial publication dated November 6, 2006.

pursuant to this Order.

Finding E.11. This Order incorporates only those MS4 Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) developed in TMDLs that have been adopted by the Regional Water Board and have been approved by the State Board, Office of Administrative Law and U.S. EPA. Approved TMDL WLAs are to be addressed using water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) calculated as numeric limitations (either in the receiving waters and/or at the point of MS4 discharge) and/or as BMPs. In most cases, the numeric limitation must be achieved to ensure the adequacy of the BMP program. Waste load allocations for storm water and non-storm water discharges have been included within this Order only if the TMDL has received all necessary approvals. This Order establishes WQBELs and conditions consistent with the requirements and assumptions of the WLAs in the TMDLs as required by 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).

A TMDL is the total amount of a particular pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet Water Quality Standards (WQSs), which are comprised of Water Quality Objectives (WQOs), Beneficial Uses and the States Policy on Maintaining High Quality Waters[163]. The WQOs serve as the primary basis for protecting the associated Beneficial Use. The Numeric Target of a TMDL interprets and applies the numeric and/or narrative WQOs of the WQSs as the basis for the WLAs. This Order addresses TMDLs through Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations (WQBELs) that must be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the WLA[164]. Federal guidance[165] states that when adequate information exists, storm water permits are to incorporate numeric water quality based effluent limitations. In most cases, the numeric target(s) of a TMDL are a component of the WQBELs. When the numeric target is based on one or more numeric WQOs, the numeric WQOs and underlying assumptions and requirements will be used in the WQBELs as numeric effluent limitations by the end of the TMDL compliance schedule, unless additional information is required. When the numeric target interprets one or more narrative WQOs, the numeric target may assess the efficacy and progress of the BMPs in meeting the WLAs and restoring the Beneficial Uses by the end of the TMDL compliance schedule.

This Order fulfills a component of the TMDL Implementation Plan adopted by this Regional Board on June 11, 2008 for indicator bacteria in Baby Beach by establishing WQBELs expressed as both BMPs to achieve the WLAs and as numeric limitations[166] for the City of Dana Point and the County of Orange. The establishment of WQBELs expressed as BMPs should be sufficient to achieve the WLA specified in the TMDL. The Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) and Numeric Targets are the necessary metrics to ensure that the BMPs achieve appropriate concentrations of bacterial indicators in

[163] State Water Resources Control Board, Resolution No. 68-16
[164] 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)
[165] USEPA, *Interim Permitting Approach for Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations in Storm Water Permits,* 61 FR 43761, August 26, 1996
[166] The Waste Load Allocations are defined in Resolution No. R9-2008-0027, A Resolution to Adopt an Amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9)* to Incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria, Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay.

the receiving waters.

Discussion of Finding E.9, E.10, E.11. Section 303(d)(1)(A) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires that:

> *"Each state must identify those waters within its boundaries for which the effluent limitations...are not stringent enough to implement any water quality standard (WQS) applicable to such waters."*

The CWA also requires states to establish a priority ranking of impaired waterbodies known as Water Quality Limited Segments and to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for such waters. This priority list of impaired waterbodies is called the Section 303(d) List. The current Section 303(d) List was approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) on October 25, 2006. On June 28, 2007 the 2006 303(d) list for California was given final approval by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Every two years the State of California is required by CWA section 303(d) and 40 CFR(130.7) to develop and submit to the USEPA for approval an updated 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies. The Regional Board is currently undergoing the required 2 year (2008) update for submittal to the State Board.

Multiple water bodies in Orange County have been identified as impaired and placed on the Section 303(d) list. The Regional Board has 78 current 303(d) listings for which TMDLs must be prioritized and subsequently developed. The 303(d) listing of a waterbody and subsequent TMDL development is required when regulations under current permits, such as Technology Based Effluent Limitations (TBELS), are not stringent enough to meet Water Quality Standards and protect the Beneficial Uses of Waters of the State. In 2004, the *Bacteria Impaired Waters TMDL Project II* addressed six bacteria impaired shorelines including Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor. On June 11, 2008 the Regional Board adopted a Basin Plan amendment to incorporate *TMDLs for Indicator Bacteria, Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay*. On June 16, 2009, the State Board approved the Basin Plan amendment The *TMDLs for Indicator Bacteria, Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay* are pending approval by the State Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and USEPA.

Storm water discharges from developed and developing areas in Orange County are a significant source of certain pollutants that cause, may be causing, threatening to cause or contributing to water quality impairment in the waters of Orange County. Furthermore, the CWA section 303(d) list indicates that there is a reasonable potential that municipal storm water and dry weather discharges from MS4s cause or may cause or contribute to an excursion above water quality standards for the following pollutants: Indicator Bacteria, Phosphorous, Toxicity and Turbidity. In accordance with CWA section 303(d), the Regional Board is required to establish TMDLs for these pollutants in these waters to eliminate impairment and attain water quality standards. Per 40 CFR(130.7), WLAs are required for all point sources, including storm water and

non-storm water discharges from MS4s. Therefore, focused pollutant control actions and further pollutant impact assessments by the Copermittees are warranted and required pursuant to this Order.

MS4 Permits address only those TMDL WLAs that have been adopted by the Regional Board and have been approved by the State Board, OAL and USEPA. WLAs are portions of a receiving water's loading capacity that is allocated to one of its existing or future point sources of pollution. The TMDL WLAs in MS4 Permits can be addressed using water quality-based numeric effluent limitations (WQBELs) calculated at end-of-pipe. WQBELs must be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the WLAs.[167]

Assessment of compliance with WLAs is to be assessed at the point of discharge to the receiving water and within the receiving water. TMDL WLAs evaluated end-of-pipe will be assessed using WQBELs. Determination of compliance may also be assessed within the receiving waters to evaluate WLA reductions, program effectiveness and to assess overall water quality. As Numeric Targets serve to establish WLAs, they are part of the underlying assumptions of the WLA and can serve as points of compliance.

Finding E.12. This Order requires each Copermittee to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized discharges of non-storm water into its MS4. However, historically pollutants have been identified as present in dry weather non-storm water discharges from the MS4s through 303(d) listings, monitoring conducted by the Copermittees under Order No. R9-2002-0001, and there are others expected to be present in dry weather non-storm water discharges because of the nature of these discharges. This Order includes action levels for pollutants in non-storm water, dry weather, discharges from the MS4 designed to ensure that the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized discharges of non-storm water in the MS4 is being complied with. Action levels in the Order are based upon numeric or narrative water quality objectives and criteria as outlined in the Basin Plan, Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan), and State Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP). An exceedance of an action level requires specified responsive action by the Copermittees. This Order describes what actions the Copermittees must take when an exceedance of an action level is observed. Exceedances of non-storm water action levels do not alone constitute a violation of this Order but could indicate non-compliance with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into the MS4 or other prohibitions established in this Order. Failure to undertake required source investigation and elimination action following an exceedance of a non-storm water action level (NAL or action level) is a violation of this Order. The Regional Board recognizes that use of action levels will not necessarily result in detection of all unauthorized sources of non-storm water discharges because there may be some

[167] Per 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)

discharges in which pollutants do not exceed established action levels. However, establishing NALs at levels appropriate to protect water quality standards is expected to lead to the identification of significant sources of pollutants in dry weather non-storm water discharges.

Discussion of Finding E.12. This Order includes the existing requirement that Copermittees effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges in the MS4s. It also includes the following prohibition set forth in the Basin Plan: "The discharge of waste to waters of the state in a manner causing, or threatening to cause a condition of pollution, contamination or nuisance as defined in California Water Code section 13050 is prohibited." (Prohibition A.1.) As discussed in the Order's Findings on discharge characteristics, e.g., C.2.,C.4., C.6., C.7., C.9., C.14., and C.15., the Copermittees' reliance on BMPs for the past 19 years has not resulted in compliance with applicable water quality standards or compliance with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized discharges of non-storm water in the MS4. The Regional Board has evaluated (in accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)) past and existing control (BMPs), non-storm water effluent monitoring results, the sensitivity of the species in receiving waters (e.g. endangered species), and the potential for effluent dilution and has determined that existing BMPs to control pollutants in storm water discharges are not sufficient to protect water quality standards in receiving waters and the existing requirement that Copermittees effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into the MS4 historically results in the discharge of pollutants to the receiving waters.

Therefore it is appropriate to establish dry weather non-storm water action levels based upon established water quality standards to measure pollutants levels in the discharge of dry weather non-storm water that could indicate non-compliance with the requirement to effectively prohibit al types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into the MS4 and/or that these discharges are causing, or threatening to cause, a condition of pollution, contamination or nuisance in the receiving waters. NALs are not numeric effluent limitations. While not alone a violation of this Order, an exceedance of an NAL requires the Copermittees to initiate a series of source investigation and elimination actions to address the exceedance. Results from the NAL monitoring are to be used in developing the Copermittees annual work plans. Failure to undertake required source investigation and elimination action following an exceedance of an NAL is a violation of this Order. Please see further discussion in the directives section C of the fact sheet.

A purpose of monitoring, required under this and previous Orders, as stated in the Monitoring and Reporting Program is to "detect and eliminate illicit discharges and illicit connections to the MS4" and to answer the following core management questions:

1. Are conditions in receiving waters protective, or likely to be protective, of beneficial uses?

2. What is the extent and magnitude of the current or potential receiving water problems?
3. What is the relative MS4 discharge contribution to the receiving water problem(s)?
4. What are the sources of MS4 discharge that contribute to receiving water problem(s)?
5. Are conditions in receiving waters getting better or worse?

For the past 4 permit cycles (19 years), Copermittees have utilized their IC/ID program to identify and eliminate non-storm water discharges that are sources of pollutants to the MS4. The Copermittees are also subject to the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized discharges of non-storm water into the MS4s. Historically, discharges of unauthorized non-storm water do occur, resulting in the discharge of pollutants to the receiving water. NALs have been included in this Order to ensure that the Copermittees comply with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges that are a source of pollutants in the receiving waters.

F. Public Process

Finding F.1. The Regional Board has notified the Copermittees, all known interested parties, and the public of its intent to consider adoption of an Order prescribing waste discharge requirements that would serve to renew an NPDES permit for the existing discharge of runoff.

Discussion of Finding F.1. Public notification of development of a draft permit is required under Federal regulation 40 CFR 124.10(a)(1)(ii). This regulation states "(a) Scope. (1) The Director shall give public notice that the following actions have occurred: (ii) A draft permit has been prepared under Sec. 124.6(d)." Public notifications "shall allow at least 30 days for public comment," as required under Federal regulation 40 CFR 124.10(b)(1).

Finding F.2. The Regional Board has held public hearings on April 11, 2007, February 13, 2008, July 1, 2009, and November 18, 2009 and heard and considered all comments pertaining to the terms and conditions of this Order.

Discussion of Finding F.2. Public hearings are required under CWC Section 13378, which states "Waste discharge requirements and dredged or fill material permits shall be adopted only after notice and any necessary hearing." Federal regulation 40 CFR 124.12(a)(1) also requires public hearings for draft permits, stating "The Director shall hold a public hearing whenever he or she finds, on the basis or requests, a significant degree of public interest in a draft permit(s)." Regarding public notice of a public hearing, Federal regulation 40 CFR 124.10(b)(2) states that "Public notice of a public hearing shall be given at least 30 days before the hearing."

IX. DIRECTIVES

This section discusses significant changes which have been made to the requirements of the Order from the requirements which were previously included in Order No. R9-2002-0001. For each section of the Order than has been changed there is a discussion which describes the change that was made and provides the rationale for the change. In addition, comments on the Copermittees' ROWD recommendations, as they pertain to each changed requirement of the Order, are provided.

Requirements of the Order that are not discussed in this section have not been significantly changed from those requirements previously included in Order No. 2002-0001. For such requirements, discussions and rationale for the requirements can be found in section VII of the Fact Sheet/Technical Report for Regional Board Order No. R9-2002-0001, dated February 13, 2002. Section VII also provides additional background information for those requirements that have undergone significant change which are described in detail in this report. The Fact Sheet/Technical Report is available for download at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/programs/oc_stormwater.html

Legal authority citations are provided for each major section of the Tentative Order. These citations apply to all applicable requirements within the section for which they are provided.

A. Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations

The following legal authority applies to section A:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: The Regional Board Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) contains the following waste discharge prohibition: "The discharge of waste to waters of the state in a manner causing, or threatening to cause a condition of pollution, contamination, or nuisance as defined in California Water Code Section 13050, is prohibited."

California Water Code section 13050(l) states "(1) 'Pollution' means an alteration of the quality of waters of the state by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects either of the following: (A) The water for beneficial uses. (B) Facilities which serve beneficial uses. (2) 'Pollution' may include "contamination."

California Water Code section 13050(k) states "'Contamination' means an impairment of the quality of waters of the state by waste to a degree which creates a hazard to public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease. 'Contamination' includes any equivalent effect resulting from the disposal of waste, whether or not waters of the state are affected."

California Water Code section 13050(m) states "'Nuisance' means anything which meets all of the following requirements: (1) Is injurious to health, or is indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property. (2) Affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal. (3) Occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes."

California Water Code section 13241 requires each regional board to "establish such water quality objectives in water quality control plans as in its judgment will ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses and the prevention of nuisance [...]."

California Water Code Section 13243 provides that "A regional board, in a water quality control plan or in waste discharge requirements, may specify certain conditions or areas where the discharge of waste, or certain types of waste, will not be permitted."

California Water Code Section 13263(a) provides that waste discharge requirements prescribed by the Regional Board implement the Basin Plan.

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A - D) require municipalities to implement controls to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from commercial, residential, industrial, and construction land uses or activities.

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(A - D) require municipalities to have legal authority to control various discharges to their MS4.

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1) requires municipal storm water permits to include any requirements necessary to "[a]cheive water quality standards established under section 303 of the CWA, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires NPDES permits to include limitations to "control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Section A of the Order combines two previously distinct requirement sections – Prohibitions and RWLs. These sections have been combined into one section for organization purposes and to reduce redundancy, since both sections address the same issue. These changes have no net effect on the implementation and enforcement of the Order.

Section A.3 describes the "iterative process." The Copermittees must reduce the discharge of storm water pollutants to the MEP and ensure that their MS4 discharges do not cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards. If the Copermittees have reduced storm water pollutant discharges to the MEP, but their discharges are still causing or contributing to violations of water quality standards, the Order provides a clear and detailed process for the Copermittees to follow. This process is often referred to as the "iterative process" and can be found at section A.3. The language of section A.3 is prescribed by the State Board and is included in MS4 permits statewide. Section A.3 essentially requires additional BMPs to be implemented until MS4 storm water discharges no longer cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards.

The State Policy with respect to maintaining high quality waters has been added to clarify that discharges from the MS4 that cause or contribute to a violation of the Policy for high quality waters is prohibited.

B. Non-Storm Water Discharges

The following legal authority applies to section B:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402, 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F), 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and 40 CFR 122.44.

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B) requires MS4 operators "to detect and remove (or require the discharger to the municipal separate storm sewer to obtain a separate NPDES permit for) illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) provides that the Copermittees shall prevent all types of illicit discharges into the MS4 except for certain non-storm water discharges.

Section B of the Order has been reworded to simplify and clarify the requirements for addressing non-storm water discharges that are not prohibited. This rewording has no net effect on the implementation and enforcement of the Order.

Section B.2 has been modified by the removal of landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn watering from the list of non-storm water discharges that are not prohibited, i.e. landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn watering discharges into and from the MS4 are now prohibited. Saline swimming pool discharges have been added as a footnote to the list provided the discharge is directly to a saline water body (see Finding C.14 and Discussion). Language has been added to the section to clarify differences in the federal regulations under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(iv)(B) and for the authority of the Director (Regional Board) in regards to exempted discharges.

The following exemptions have been removed from Section B, per identification as a source and conveyance of pollutants to waters of the United States when discharged from the MS4: landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn watering. Therefore, these illicit discharges must be addressed per 40 CFR 122.26(B). These previously exempted discharges have been identified by Permittees as a source of pollutants and conveyance of pollutants to waters of the United States in the following:

The County of Orange conducted, per requirements of 401 Water Quality Certification 02C-055, a Drainage Area Reconnaissance and Urban Runoff Characterization study. From the reconnaissance and characterization, the County of Orange determined that "water quality results provided two important findings". First, "analytical data strongly indicates that irrigation overspray and drainage constitutes a very substantial source and conveyance mechanism for fecal indicator bacteria into Aliso Creek, and suggests that reduction measures for this source of urban runoff could provide meaningful reduction in bacteria loading to the stream". Aliso Creek, currently 303(d) listed as impaired for Indicator Bacteria, is included in the Bacteria Project I TMDL adopted by the San Diego Regional Board on December 12, 2007. Secondly, reclaimed water high in electrical conductivity and Nitrate was indicated as "the source water at three of the excessive runoff locations (P1,P2,J01P02). These dissolved nitrogen concentration and flow rates create relatively high nitrogen loadings, which have the potential to contribute to undesirable levels of periphytic algal growth in Aliso Creek".

The County of Orange, Cities of Orange County and Orange County Flood Control District on November 15, 2007 submitted their Unified Annual Progress Report for the 2006-2007 reporting period. Within the report, the Copermittees demonstrate that a "wide range of constituents exceeded the tolerance interval bounds", including orthophosphate. "These high levels of orthophosphate concentration are most likely the result of fertilizer runoff or reclaimed water runoff". Aliso Creek is currently 303(d) listed as impaired for phosphorous.

The County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District and Permittees within the San Juan Creek, Laguna Coastal Streams, Aliso Creek, and Dana Point Coastal Streams Watersheds on November 15, 2007 submitted their Watershed Action Plan Annual Reports for the 2006-2007 reporting period. San Juan Creek, Laguna Coastal Streams, Aliso Creek and Dana Point Coastal Streams are all currently 303(d) listed as impaired for Indicator Bacteria within the watershed and/or Pacific Ocean at the discharge point of the watershed. These locations are included in the Bacteria Project I TMDL adopted by the San Diego Regional Board on December 12, 2007. The Copermittees, within their Watershed Action Strategy Table for Fecal Indicator Bacteria "Support programs to reduce or eliminate the discharge of anthropogenic dry weather nuisance flow throughout the [...] watershed. Dry weather flow is the transport medium for bacteria and other 303(d) constituents of concern". Additionally, they state that "conditions in the MS4 contribute to high seasonal bacteria propagation in-pipe during warm weather. Landscape irrigation is a major contributor to dry weather flow, both as surface runoff due to over-irrigation and overspray onto pavements; and as subsurface seepage that finds its way into the MS4".

In 2006, the State Water Quality Control Board allocated Grant funding to the Smarttimer/Edgescape Evaluation Program (SEEP). Project partners include the cities of Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Nigel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita and San Juan Capistrano as well as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Department of Agriculture and ten south Orange County water districts. The project targets irrigation runoff by retrofitting existing development and documenting the conservation and runoff improvements. The Grant Application states that "Irrigation runoff contributes flow & pollutant loads to creeks and beaches that are 303(d) listed for bacteria indicators". Furthermore, the grant application states that "Regional program managers agree that the reduction and/or elimination of irrigation-related urban flows and associated pollutant loads may be key to successful attainment of water quality and beneficial use goals as outlined in the San Diego Basin Plan and Bacteria TMDL over the long term". This is reinforced in the project descriptions and objectives: "Elevated dry-weather storm drain flows, composed primarily in the South Orange County Region of landscape irrigation water wasted as runoff, carry pollutants that impair recreational use and aquatic habitats all along Southern California's urbanized coastline. Storm drain systems carry the wasted water, along with landscape derived pollutants such as bacteria, nutrients and pesticides, to local creeks and the ocean. Given the local Mediterranean climate, excessive perennial dry season stream flows are an unnatural hydrologic pattern, causing species shifts in local riparian communities and warm, unseasonal contaminated freshwater plumes in the near-shore marine environment". The basis of this grant project, conducted by the Permittees and additional water use partners, is that over-irrigation (landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn watering) into the MS4 is a source and conveyance of pollutants. In addition, they indicate that the alteration of natural flows is impacting the Beneficial Uses of waters of the State.

Section B.3 has been clarified by the recognition of building fire suppression system maintenance (e.g. fire sprinklers) as an illicit discharge. The Regional Board has found that such discharges contain waste, and as such the Regional Board is requiring these discharges be addressed as illicit discharges by the Copermittees. This is consistent with the Federal Regulations (55 Fed Reg 48037). Thus, the discharges are to be prohibited via ordinance, order or similar means and incorporated as part of the Copermittees IC/ID program.

C. Non Storm Water Dry Weather Action Levels

The following legal authority applies to Section C:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA section 402, 402(p)(3)(B)(ii), CWC §13377. 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F), and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority:
The Clean Water Act section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) provides that MS4 permits "shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers."

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B) provides that the proposed management program "shall be based on a description of a program including a schedule, to detect and remove (or require the discharger to the municipal storm sewer to obtain a separate NPDES permit for) illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a program, including inspections, to implement and enforce an ordinance, orders or similar means to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal storm sewer system; this program description shall address all types of illicit discharges, however the [listed exempt] category of non-storm water discharges or flows shall be addressed where such discharges are identified by the municipality as sources of pollutants to waters of the United States."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a description of procedures to conduct on-going field screening activities during the life of the permit, including areas or locations that will be evaluated by such field screens."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(3) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "procedures to be followed to investigate portions of the separate storm sewer system that, based on the results of the field scree, or other appropriate information, indicate a reasonable potential of containing illicit discharges or other sources of non-storm water."

Section C establishes non-storm water dry weather action levels (see also Finding C.14, Finding E.12, and the Discussion for those sections).

Non-exempted, non-storm water discharges are to be effectively prohibited from entering the MS4 or become subject to another NPDES permit (see Federal Register, Vol. 55, No. 222, pg. 47995). Conveyances which continue to accept non-exempt, non-storm water discharges do not meet the definition of MS4 and are not subject to

section 402(p)(3)(B) of the CWA unless the discharges are issued separate NPDES permits. Instead, conveyances that continue to accept non-exempt, non-storm water discharges that do not have a separate NPDES permit are subject to sections 301 and 402 of the CWA (see Federal Register, Vol. 55, No. 222, pg. 48037).

The Order requires the sampling of a representative percentage of major outfalls and other identified stations within each hydrologic subarea. While it is important to assess all major outfall discharges from the MS4 into receiving waters, to date the Copermittees have implemented a dry-weather monitoring program that has identified major outfalls that are representative of each hydrologic subarea and have randomly sampled other major outfalls. Thus, it is expected that the Copermittees will utilize past dry weather monitoring in the selection and annual sampling of a representative percentage of major outfalls in accordance with the requirements under Section C.4.

Background and Rationale for Requirements
The Regional Board developed the requirements for dry weather, non-storm water action levels based upon an evaluation of existing controls, monitoring and reporting programs (effluent and receiving water), special studies, and based upon Findings C.1 C.3, C.4, C.6, C.7 and C.14.

Water Quality Control Plan
Section 303(C) of the Clean Water Act requires the state to establish Water Quality Standards (WQS). WQS define the water quality goals of a waterbody, or part thereof, by designating their use or uses to be made of the water and by setting criteria necessary to protect those uses.

The Regional Board's Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters addressed through the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan was adopted by the Regional Board on September 8, 1994, and was subsequently approved by the State Board on December 13, 1994. Subsequent revisions to the Basin Plan have also been adopted by the Regional Board and State Board.

State Board Resolution No. 88-63 establishes state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal and domestic supplies. Requirements of this Order do not include effluent limitations reflecting municipal and domestic supply use as all waters within the County of Orange under this Order are specifically exempted from municipal and domestic supply as a Beneficial Use.

The State Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan) in 2005, it was approved by USEPA, and became effective on February 14, 2006. The Ocean Plan establishes Water Quality Objectives, general requirements for management of waste discharged to the ocean, effluent quality

requirements, discharge provisions, and general provisions. Limitations derived from the Ocean Plan have been included in this Order as action levels to protect the Beneficial Uses of enclosed bays and estuaries because their Beneficial Uses are similar

National Toxics Rule (NTR) and California Toxics Rule (CTR)
The USEPA adopted the NTR on December 22, 1992, which was amended on May 4, 1995, and November 9, 1999. The CTR was adopted by USEPA on May 18, 2000, and amended on February 13, 2001. These rules include water quality criteria for priority pollutants and are applicable to non-storm water discharges from the MS4. Criteria for 126 priority pollutants are established by the CTR. USEPA promulgated this rule to fill a gap in California water quality standards that was created in 1994 when a California court overturned the State's water quality control plans containing criteria for priority toxic pollutants. The federal criteria are legally applicable in the State of California for inland surface waters, enclosed bays and estuaries for all purposes and programs under the CWA.

Antidegradation Policy
Section 131.12 of 40 CFR requires that the State water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Board Resolution No. 68-16. Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing quality of waters be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Regional Boards' Basin Plans implement, and incorporate by reference, both the State and federal antidegradation policies. Permitted non-storm water discharges from the MS4 are consistent with the antidegradation provision of 40 CFR section 131.12 and State Board Resolution No. 68-16.

Monitoring and Reporting
40 CFR Section 122.48 requires that all NPDES permits specify requirements for recording and reporting monitoring results. Sections 13267 and 13383 of CWC authorize the Regional Boards to require technical and monitoring reports. The Monitoring and Reporting Program establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement state and federal regulations. The Monitoring and Reporting Program can be found as Attachment E of the Order.

Dilution or Mixing Zones
In order to protect the Beneficial Uses of receiving waters from pollutants as a result of non-storm water MS4 discharges, this Order does not provide for a mixing zone or a zone of initial dilution except when the discharge is to the surf zone.

The San Diego Region has predominately intermittent and ephemeral rivers and streams (Inland Surface Waters) which vary in flow volume and duration at spatial and temporal scales. Therefore, it is assumed that any non-storm water discharge from

the MS4 into the receiving water is likely to be of a quantity and duration that does not allow for dilution or mixing. For ephemeral systems, non-storm water discharges from the MS4 are likely to be the only surface flows present within the receiving water during the dry season.

MS4 discharge points to bays, estuaries and lagoons are not designed to achieve maximum initial dilution and dispersion of non-storm water discharges. Thus, initial dilution factors for non-storm water discharges from the MS4 into bays, estuaries, and lagoons are conservatively assumed to equal zero.

It is appropriate to base numeric action levels for dry weather non-storm water discharges on these considerations.

California Ocean Plan

A discharge to a surf zone occurs when the non-storm water discharge point from the MS4 discharges:

a) Directly into the ocean in a wave induced area subject to long-shore conditions; or
b) Across a primarily sandy substrate beach and subsequently directly into a wave induced area subject to long-shore conditions;

Establishment of Action Levels

Action levels in the Order are based upon numeric or narrative water quality objectives and criteria as defined in the Basin Plan, the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan), and the State Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The Regional Board recognizes that use of action levels will not necessarily result in detection of all unauthorized sources of non-storm water discharges because there may be some discharges in which pollutants do not exceed established action levels.

In June of 2006, the California Water Board's Blue Ribbon Storm Water Panel released its report titled 'The Feasibility of Numerical Effluent Limits Applicable to Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Municipal, Industrial and Construction Activities.' The report only examined numerical limits as applied to storm water and not non-storm water. In the recommendations, the Blue Ribbon panel proposed storm water action levels which are computed using statistical based population approaches. For example, Section D of the Permit uses a recommended statistical approach to develop storm water action levels. The Blue Ribbon panel did not examine the efficacy of action levels or recommendations for development of action levels for non-storm water discharges.

For discharges to inland surface waters, action levels are based on the EPA water quality criteria for the protection of aquatic species, the EPA water quality criteria for the protection of human health, water quality criteria and objectives in the applicable

State plans, effluent concentration available using best available technology, and 40 CFR 131.38. Since the assumed initial dilution factor for the discharge is zero and a mixing zone is not allowed, a non-storm water discharge from the MS4 could not cause an excursion from numeric receiving water quality objectives if the discharge is in compliance with the action levels contained in the Order. Likewise, discharges in compliance with action levels to the surf zone cannot cause excursions from water quality objectives.

Dry weather monitoring of non-storm water MS4 effluent conducted under the previous Order (R9-2002-001), which relies on BMPs as controls to protect water quality standards, has identified pollutants that are found in non-storm water discharges. Monitoring of pH, Dissolved Oxygen, Phosphorus, Nitrate, Turbidity and Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS) in non-storm water MS4 discharges has shown that the effluent exceeds state water quality criteria. It is appropriate to establish numeric action levels for these pollutants to ensure that the Copermittees are complying with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into the MS4s.

Water Quality Limited Segments on the current 303(d) list (2006) within the jurisdiction of this Order have been identified due to exceedances of Sulfate, Chloride and Total Dissolved Solids criteria from a source which is currently unknown (see Table 2a). These pollutants are not monitored for under the current non-storm water MS4 effluent monitoring program. While this Order does not establish a numeric action level for these constituents at this time, this Order now requires non-storm water MS4 discharge monitoring to include monitoring for Sulfates, Chlorides and Total Dissolved Solids.

Priority pollutants analyzed included Cadmium, Copper, Chromium, Lead, Nickel, Silver and Zinc. These priority pollutants are likely to be present in non-storm water MS4 discharges (see Finding C.3) and dissolved metal effluent monitoring is available from the previous Order. The most stringent applicable water quality criteria have been identified for these seven metals and, excluding Chromium (VI), and all are dependent on receiving water hardness. The conversion factors for Cadmium and Lead are also water hardness dependent (40 CFR 131.38(b)(2)). These levels are established as the action levels for these constituents.

While effluent monitoring is available from the previous Order, the monitoring was done for dissolved concentrations and lacked a measurement of receiving water hardness. Due to the multiple point source discharges of non-storm water from the MS4, a discharge may enter a receiving water whose hardness will vary temporally. In addition, hardness may vary spatially within and among receiving waters.

However, other information is available to determine the appropriateness of an action level. Existing effluent monitoring concentrations absent of receiving water data, no dilution credit or mixing zone allowance, current 303(d) listings of receiving waters for

other pollutants, receiving water monitoring data, and the classification of waters as critical habitat for endangered and species of concern, provide evidence that NALs are appropriate for these priority pollutants at this time in order to ensure that the Copermittees comply with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into the MS4s.

Existing effluent data (see attachment F), absent receiving water hardness, provides evidence that it is appropriate to include NALs based on a conservative hardness level. Absent receiving water hardness, all analyzed metals, are discharged at concentrations which may be in exceedance of CTR criteria depending on receiving water hardness. Chromium effluent data that is available is in the form of total Chromium. However, per the SIP, Chromium criteria are for Chromium III and Chromium VI. Therefore, the total Chromium measurement is inadequate, but can be used as an estimate of Chromium III and VI concentrations.

As discussed, inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries have conservatively been allotted a mixing zone and dilution credit of zero. As such, any discharge of these priority pollutants is likely to impact the receiving water, regardless of the quantity or rate of discharge.

As discussed in Finding C.7 and discussion, multiple receiving waters within the County of Orange are 303(d) listed for a number of pollutants, including toxicity. The 303(d) listing of a waterbody as impaired provides evidence that the receiving water(s) are already experiencing negative impacts. These water quality limited segments are more susceptible to degradation from the synergistic addition of more pollutants, even from upstream discharges. It is therefore appropriate to include numeric action levels designed to ensure that the Copermittees are complying with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized discharges of non-storm water into the MS4s.

Copermittees have monitored the receiving waters for MS4 discharges pursuant to requirements under Order R9-2002-0002. Dry weather receiving water data indicates poor conditions within waters receiving non-storm water MS4 discharges. Urban stream bioassessment conducted under the Order (2002-2008) has documented all non-reference sites as consistently having poor or very poor Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) scores, in part due to receiving water toxicity[168].

Receiving waters within the jurisdiction of this Order are classified as critical habitat, including being designated with the RARE beneficial use, for endangered, threatened and species of concern including, but not limited to, *O. mykiss irideus*, *E. newberryil, A. marmorata pallida* and *G. orcutti.*

[168] 2006-07 and 2007-08 Unified Annual Progress Reports.

The Regional Board evaluated discharges to the surf zone, per the California Ocean Plan, Appendix VI and in accordance with 40 CFR 122.44(d). Indicator bacteria, pH, turbidity (NTU), and metals were analyzed for the purpose of determining the levels of these constituents in non-storm water discharges from the MS4.

The Regional Board has determined that there is not sufficient information at this time to develop action levels for pH, turbidity and metals. While non-storm water MS4 effluent data is available, the data collected is for discharges to inland surface waters, enclosed bays and estuaries. Preliminary receiving water data and limited non-storm water MS4 discharge data collected under the Ambient Coastal Receiving Water Monitoring indicates some exceedances of criteria for metals in the discharge, and toxicity in receiving waters[169]. However, the Regional Board believes the level of data available is insufficient, and is requiring additional monitoring of pH, turbidity and metals in non-storm water MS4 discharges to ocean waters (discharges to the surf zone).

Water Quality Limited Segments on the current 303(d) list (2006) for the Pacific Ocean shoreline within the jurisdiction of this Order have been identified due to exceedances of Indicator Bacteria criteria whose known source includes non-storm water discharges from the MS4. These 303(d) listed segments support extensive REC-1 beneficial uses and are located within State Marine Reserves and Conservation Areas. The listing of receiving waters as 303(d) listed for bacteria supports the inclusion of action levels to ensure that the Copermittees are complying with the requirement to effectively prohibit all types of unauthorized non-storm water discharges into the MS4. In addition, no dilution credit or mixing zone allowance is included in developing numeric action levels for the discharge of a pollutant to waters which are 303(d) listed as impaired for that pollutant.

Dry Weather Non-Storm Water Action Levels Calculations for Discharges to Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries

On the basis of the foregoing discussion, the NALs were calculated with the following considerations and assumptions:

> No dilution credit is considered for the discharge. Therefore, the discharge must comply with the Water Quality Objective at the point of discharge.
>
> For NALs based on CTR, implementation was done using the procedure list as outlined in the SIP (see below example).

NAL CTR/SIP Calculation – Zinc Example:

Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants in the State of California is described in the CTR

[169] 2007-08 Unified Annual Progress Report.

table listed in 40 CFR 131.38.

A		B Freshwater		C Saltwater		D Human Health (10^{-6} risk for carcinogens) For consumption of:	
# Compound	CAS Number	Criterion Maximum Conc. [d] B1	Criterion Continuous Conc. [d] B2	Criterion Maximum Conc. [d] C1	Criterion Continuous Conc. [d] C2	Water & Organisms (µg/L) D1	Organisms Only (µg/L) D2
1. Antimony	7440360					14 a,s	4300 a,t
2. Arsenic [b]	7440382	340 i,m,w	150 i,m,w	69 i,m	36 i,m		
3. Beryllium	7440417					n	n
4. Cadmium [b]	7440439	4.3 e,i,m,w,x	2.2 e,i,m,w	42 i,m	9.3 i,m	n	n
5a. Chromium (III)	16065831	550 e,i,m,o	180 e,i,m,o			n	n
5b. Chromium (VI) [b]	18540299	16 i,m,w	11 i,m,w	1100 i,m	50 i,m	n	n
6. Copper [b]	7440508	13 e,i,m,w,x	9.0 e,i,m,w	4.8 i,m	3.1 i,m	1300	
7. Lead [b]	7439921	65 e,i,m	2.5 e,i,m	210 i,m	8.1 i,m	n	n
8. Mercury [b]	7439976	[Reserved]	[Reserved]	[Reserved]	[Reserved]	0.050 a	0.051 a
9. Nickel [b]	7440020	470 e,i,m,w	52 e,i,m,w	74 i,m	8.2 i,m	610 a	4600 a
10. Selenium [b]	7782492	[Reserved] p	5.0 q	290 i,m	71 i,m	n	n
11. Silver [b]	7440224	3.4 e,i,m		1.9 i,m			
12. Thallium	7440280					1.7 a,s	6.3 a,t
13. Zinc [b]	7440666	120 e,i,m,w,x	120 e,i,m,w	90 i,m	81 i,m		

Saltwater criterion maximum concentration (CMC) = 90 ug/L
Saltwater criterion continuous concentration (CCC) = 81 ug/L

These criteria are expressed in terms of the dissolved fraction of the metal in the water column. [See footnote "m" to Table in paragraph (b)(1) of 40 CFR 131.38].

40 CFR 122.45(c) requires that this Order include effluent limitations as total recoverable concentration; therefore it is appropriate to include action levels also as total recoverable concentration.

The SIP requires that if it is necessary to express a dissolved metal value as a total recoverable and a site-specific translator has not yet been developed, the Regional Board shall use the applicable conversion factor from 40 CFR 131.38.

The term "Conversion Factor" (CF) represents the recommended conversion factor for converting a metal criterion expressed as the total recoverable fraction in the water column to a criterion expressed as the dissolved fraction in the water column.

Total recoverable concentration * CF = Dissolved concentration criterion

or

Total recoverable concentration = Dissolved concentration criterion/ CF

§ 131.38 40 CFR Ch. I (7–1–08 Edition)

Metal	Conversion factor (CF) for freshwater acute criteria	CF for freshwater chronic criteria	CF for saltwater acute criteria	CF [a] for saltwater chronic criteria
Silver	0.85	[d]	0.85	[d]
Thallium	[d]	[d]	[d]	[d]
Zinc	0.978	0.986	0.946	0.946

CF for Zinc = .946, so the total recoverable concentrations for zinc:
90 ug/L dissolved (CMC)/ 0.946 (CF) = 95 ug/L total recoverable CMC
81 ug/L dissolved (CCC) / 0.946 (CF) = 86 ug/L total recoverable CCC

Effluent Variability multiplier and Coefficient of Variation (CV)
For each concentration based on an aquatic life criterion, the long-term average (LTA) is calculated by multiplying the concentration with a factor that adjusts for effluent variability. The multiplier can be found in Table 1 of the SIP. Since this Order does not have existing data to properly conduct a variability analysis in accordance with the SIP, the CV has been set equal to 0.6 per SIP requirements. The current effluent data is limited due to the small number of representative outfalls sampled, the lack of outfalls discharging to representative waterbodies within the Region, and the targeted nature of the sampling design.

Based upon a CV of 0.6, Table 1 of the SIP requires an effluent variability as follows:
Acute Multiplier = 0.321
Chronic Multiplier = 0.527

The long-term average (LTA) is calculated by multiplying the total recoverable concentrations for zinc with the acute and chronic multipliers:
LTA Acute = 95 ug/L * 0.321 = 30.5
LTA Chronic = 86 ug/L * 0.527 = 45.3
The MDAL and AMAL will be based on the most limiting of the acute and chronic LTA, in the case for copper the most limiting LTA is the acute of 30.5 ug/L

NALs are calculated by multiplying the most limiting LTA with a multiplier that adjusts for the averaging periods and exceedance frequencies of the criteria and the effluent limitations. The multiplier can be found in Table 2 of the SIP. Since this Order has insufficient data, the CV has been set to 0.6 and since sampling frequency is four times a month or less, n has been set equal to 4 per the SIP.

Table 2. Long-Term Average (LTA) Multipliers for Calculating Effluent Limitations

Coefficient of Variation	MDEL Multiplier	AMEL Multiplier			MDEL/AMEL Multiplier		
	99th Percentile Occurrence Probability	95th Percentile Occurrence Probability			MDEL = 99th Percentile AMEL = 95th Percentile Occurrence Probability		
(CV)		n = 4	n = 8	n = 30	n = 4	n = 8	n = 30
0.1	1.25	1.08	1.06	1.03	1.16	1.18	1.22
0.2	1.55	1.17	1.12	1.06	1.33	1.39	1.46
0.3	1.90	1.26	1.18	1.09	1.50	1.60	1.74
0.4	2.27	1.36	1.25	1.12	1.67	1.82	2.02
0.5	2.68	1.45	1.31	1.16	1.84	2.04	2.32
0.6	3.11	1.55	1.38	1.19	2.01	2.25	2.62

Therefore, from Table 2 of the SIP, the LTA multipliers will be as follows:
MDAL Multiplier = 3.11
AMAL Multiplier = 1.55

The MDAL and AMAL limits are calculated by multiplying the LTA with an LTA multiplier for each limit:
MDAL = 30.5 ug/L * 3.11 = 95 ug/L
AMAL = 30.5 ug/L * 1.55 = 47 ug/L

Dry Weather Non-Storm Water Action Levels Calculations for Discharges to the Surf Zone

Based on the foregoing discussion, the Average Monthly and Maximum Daily NALs were calculated with the following considerations and assumptions:

No dilution credit is considered for the discharge. Therefore, the discharge must comply with the Water Quality Objective at the point of discharge.

Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing Requirements

A WET limit is required if a discharge causes, has a reasonable potential to cause, or contributes to an exceedance of applicable water quality standards, including numeric and narrative. Since these types of discharges are prohibited under this Order, WET limits are not applicable.

Discussion of AMALs, MDALs and Instantaneous Maximums

Where practical, action levels in this Order have been expressed as both AMALs and MDALs. Certain action levels may not practicably be expressed as AMALs and MDALs due to specific BPO language, sampling requirements and/or a lack of Criteria. Based upon the likely sampling frequency of the Copermittees, the frequency of sampling will occur such that grab samples are taken once per sampling day. This single sample would then be subject to MDALs and Instantaneous Maximum levels. In this case, the more conservative action level would apply. In addition, it is expected that some effluent monitoring will occur less than or equal to once per month. In this scenario, the MDAL, AMAL and Instantaneous Maximum levels would need to be met based upon one sample, unless sampling did not occur. For some BPOs, AMALs have been excluded and only MDALs/Instantaneous Maximums set to prevent redundancy in action levels.

Compliance with Action levels (Priority Pollutants)

Compliance with action levels shall be determined as follows:

Dischargers shall be deemed out of compliance with this Order if the Copermittee failed to take the prescribed action in response to a concentration of the priority pollutant in the monitoring sample that is greater than the action level and greater than or equal to the reported Minimum Level (exceedance of an action level). Regardlss of the Copermittee's actions in response to an exceedance, they are still subject to the prohibitions found in Section A and B of the Order.

When determining to take an action in response to the AMALs and more than one sample result is available in a month, the discharger shall compute the arithmetic mean unless the data set contains one or more reported determinations of DNQ or ND. In those cases, the discharger shall compute the median in place of the arithmetic mean in accordance with the following procedure:

(1) The data set shall be ranked from low to high, reported ND determinations lowest, DNQ determinations next, followed by quantified values (if any). The order of the individual ND or DNQ determinations is unimportant.

(2) The median value of the data set shall be determined. If the data set has an odd number of data points then the median is the middle value. If the data set has an even number of data points, then the median is the average of the two values around the middle unless one or both of those points are ND or DNQ, in which case the median value shall be the lower of the two data points where DNQ is lower than a value and ND is lower than DNQ.

D. Storm Water Action Levels

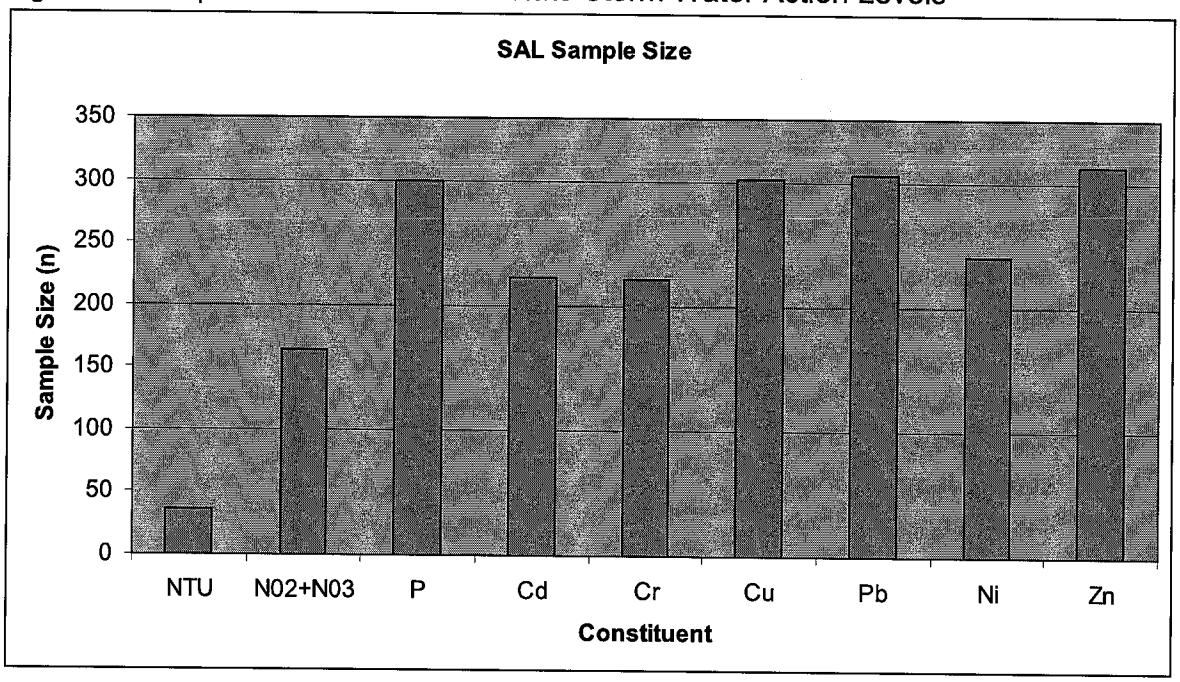
Section D has been added to establish storm water action levels (see also Finding D.1.h and Discussion).

Introduction
In response to comments at the initial public workshop, meetings with the principle Permittees, and comments from the July 01, 2009 Regional Board meeting, SAL concentrations, standards and constituents have been updated, Order language has been clarified and additions to the monitoring requirements have been made.

SAL Concentration/Standards Updates
SAL pollutant levels have been updated and now come from a regional subset of nationwide Phase I MS4 data. Regional Board staff have chosen to update SALs by using USEPA Climate Zone 6 (arid west) data when computing SALs. Utilizing data from USEPA Climate Zone 6 is expected to produce SALs which closely reflect the environmental conditions experienced in Orange County. The localized subset of data includes sampling events from multiple Southern California locations including Orange, San Diego, Riverside, Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. The dataset includes samples taken from highly built-out impervious areas and from storm events representative of Southern California conditions.

Additionally, utilization of regional data is appropriate due to the addition of data into the nationwide Phase I MS4 monitoring dataset in February 2008. This additional data increased the number of USEPA Climate Zone 6 samples to more than 400, and included additional monitoring events within Southern California (see Figure 2).

Figure 2. Sample Sizes Used to Calculate Storm Water Action Levels



Additional changes have been made by staff to update SALs to reflect the water quality standards in the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Basin Plan, the California Toxic Rule and USEPA Water Quality Criteria. Since it is the goal of the SALs, through the iterative and MEP process, to have outfall storm water discharges meet all applicable water quality objectives, the list of constituents to be tested and protocol for testing has been updated to provide a reference point to evaluate the iterative MEP process. As such, Kjedahl Nitrogen (TKN) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) have been removed from the SAL table. There currently are no appropriate criteria for TKN or TSS, and alternate constituents are available which do have BPOs for comparative purposes. Instead, Nitrate/Nitrite and Turbidity, which have BPOs of 1.0 mg/L and 20 NTUs respectively, are included with associated SALs.

Metals included in SALs include Cadmium, Chromium, Nickel, Zinc, Lead and Copper. In receiving water quality monitoring collected by the Copermittees to date, these metals have been detected and shown to contribute to toxicity at mass loading stations within Southern Orange County.

Monitoring Updates

SAL language has been updated to require the measurement of hardness and to provide more specificity in the assessment of samples with SALs for total metal concentrations. While USEPA Climate Region 6 data includes a large sample size for concentrations of total metals, the impact the concentration will have on receiving waters will vary with receiving water hardness. Since it is the goal of the SALs,

through the iterative and MEP process, to have MS4 storm water discharges meet all applicable water quality objectives, the hardness of the receiving water should be used when assessing the total metal concentration of a sample. Thus, when an exceedance of a SAL concentration is detected for a metal the Copermittee must determine if that exceedance is above the existing applicable water quality limitation based upon the hardness of the receiving water. The water quality limitations Permittees must use to assess total metal SAL exceedances are the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria for Freshwater Aquatic Life 1 hour maximum concentrations. The 1 hour maximum concentration is to be used for comparison since it is expected to most replicate the impacts to waters of the State from the first flush following a precipitation event.

E. Legal Authority

The following legal authority applies to section E:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(A) provides that the Copermittees shall develop and implement legal authority to "Control through ordinance, order or similar means, the contribution of pollutants to the municipal storm sewer by storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of storm water discharged from sites of industrial activity."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(D) provides that the Copermittees shall develop and implement legal authority to "Control through interagency agreements among coapplicants the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the municipal system to another portion of the municipal system."

Illicit discharge is defined under Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(b)(2) as "any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer) and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities."

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A - D) require municipalities to implement controls to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from commercial, residential, industrial, and construction land uses or activities.

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(ii) requires from the Copermittee "A description of existing legal authority to control discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system."

Section E.1.b Prohibit all identified illicit discharges not otherwise allowed pursuant to section B.2 including but not limited to:

(1) Sewage;
(2) Discharges of wash water resulting from the hosing or cleaning of gas stations, auto repair garages, or other types of automotive services facilities;
(3) Discharges resulting from the cleaning, repair, or maintenance of any type of equipment, machinery, or facility including motor vehicles, cement-related equipment, and port-a-potty servicing, etc.;
(4) Discharges of wash water from mobile operations such as mobile automobile washing, steam cleaning, power washing, and carpet cleaning, etc.;

(5) Discharges of wash water from the cleaning or hosing of impervious surfaces in municipal, industrial, commercial, and residential areas including parking lots, streets, sidewalks, driveways, patios, plazas, work yards and outdoor eating or drinking areas, etc.;
(6) Discharges of runoff from material storage areas containing chemicals, fuels, grease, oil, or other hazardous materials;
(7) Discharges of pool or fountain water containing chlorine, biocides, toxic amounts of salt, or other chemicals; discharges of pool or fountain filter backwash water;
(8) Discharges of sediment, pet waste, vegetation clippings, or other landscape or construction-related wastes; and

Duplicative language has been removed from this section.

Section E.1.j has been added to the Order to ensure that BMPs implemented by third parties are effective. Since the Copermittees cannot passively receive and discharge pollutants from third parties, the Copermittees must ensure discharges of storm water pollutants to the MS4 are reduced to the MEP. In order to achieve this, the Copermittees must be able to ensure that effective BMPs are being implemented by requiring the third parties to document BMP effectiveness. Regarding the Copermittees' ability to require documentation and reporting from third parties, USEPA states "municipalities should provide documentation of their authority to enter, sample, inspect, review, and copy records, etc., as well as demonstrate their authority to require regular reports."[170]

[170] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part 2 of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. EPA 833-B-92-002.

F. Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program

F.1. Development Planning

The following legal authority applies to section F.1:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWA section 402(a), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F), 40 CFR 131.12, and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2) provides that Copermittees develop and implement a management program which is to include "A description of planning procedures including a comprehensive master plan to develop, implement and enforce controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants from municipal separate storm sewers which receive discharges from areas of new development and significant redevelopment. Such plans shall address controls to reduce pollutants in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers after construction is completed."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1) requires municipal storm water permits to include any requirements necessary to "[a]cheive water quality standards established under section 303 of the CWA, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Sections F.1.a and F.1.b (General Plan and Environmental Review Process) require the Copermittees to update and revise their General Plan (or equivalent plan) and environmental review processes to ensure water quality and watershed protection principles are included. The Copermittees are required to detail any changes to the General Plan or environmental review process in their Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Reports.

The change made to these sections requires updating the General Plan and Environmental Review Process on an as-needed basis, is supported by information provided in the Copermittees' Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) and Annual Reports. Each Copermittee has either updated, is in the process of updating, or has assessed its General Plan to ensure the General Plans include the required principles and are in compliance with Order No. R9-2002-0001. The ROWD also states that although all the Copermittees have reviewed their environmental review processes, a number of Copermittees want the overall planning approval process to more effectively ensure that water quality protection is considered in the earliest phases of project consideration.

Section F.1.a has been modified to include redevelopment projects in the General Plan. This change requires Copermittees to update their General Plan to include water quality and watershed protection for all new development and redevelopment projects.

Section F.1.c (Approval Process Criteria and Requirements) requires that all development projects (regardless of size) implement BMPs to reduce storm water pollutant discharges to the MEP. Source control and site design BMP requirements were not clearly described in this section of Order No. R9-2002-0001. Additional detail has been added to this section to better describe the source control and site design BMPs needed for implementation. This additional detail is consistent with the requirements of the SSMP, known in Orange County as the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). However, only source control and site design BMPs that apply to all types of development projects are required (i.e., properly designed trash storage areas).

The requirements are consistent with Order No. R9-2002-0001, section F.1.b.1. However, some elements are not contained in the current or proposed DAMP[171] (e.g., buffer zones). One exception is that Order No. R9-2002-0001's requirement that applicants must provide evidence of coverage under the General Industrial Permit has been removed, since industrial tenants for a development project are usually not known during the planning stage.

The section has been modified to reflect the prohibition of over-irrigation runoff to the MS4, as well as LID requirements. Additionally, this section requires the use of native and/or low water use plants for landscaping, where feasible.

Sections F.1.d and F.1.d.(1) (Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plans) require the Copermittees to review and update their local SSMPs (also known in Orange County as Water Quality Management Plans – WQMPs) for compliance with the Order. The sections also require all Priority Development Projects falling under certain categories to meet SSMP requirements. The update is necessary to ensure that the Copermittees' local SSMPs are consistent with the changes that have been made to the Order's SSMP requirements. The requirement for the development/adoption of a Model SSMP has been removed since a model was completed and adopted in 2003.

The SSMP section of the Order has been reformatted for clarity. There are also some significant changes. Changes have been made in response to experience gained by the Orange County Storm Water program, USEPA program evaluations, recent BMP development and effectiveness studies, recent reports on the magnitude of problems caused by hydromodification, and reviews of annual reports and the ROWD submitted by the Copermittees.

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[171] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. *Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP) 2007.* July 21, 2006. The 2007 DAMP was submitted to the Regional Board with the Report of Waste Discharge as part of the application for NPDES Permit reissuance.

In addition, the Order requires that a one-acre threshold be phased in over three years for the priority development category. This threshold was selected to be consistent with the Phase II NPDES regulations for small municipalities. The one-acre determination applies to the amount of ground area disturbed, not the total size of the parcel or project. Each Copermittee may also lower this threshold if desired.

Section F.1.d.(2) (Priority Development Project Categories) includes several changes to improve, simplify, and clarify the Priority Development Project categories.

The most significant change is that where a new Development Project feature, such as a parking lot, falls into a Priority Development Project Category, the entire project footprint is subject to SSMP requirements. This criterion was not included in Order No. R9-2002-0001. It is included, however, in the Model San Diego SSMP that was approved by the Regional Board in 2002. It is included in this Order because existing development inspections by Orange County municipalities show that facilities included in the Priority Development Project Categories routinely pose threats to water quality. This permit requirement will improve water quality and program efficiency by preventing future problems associated with partly treated storm water runoff from redevelopment sites. This approach to improving storm water runoff from existing developments is practicable because municipalities have a better ability to regulate new developments than existing developments.

Industrial sites and retail gasoline outlets have been added to the priority development categories. This heavy industrial category was not included in Order No. R9-2002-0001 because industrial NPDES requirements already establish storm water criteria. This category is included in the Order to be consistent with Phase II rules and to close loopholes. A discussion of retail gasoline outlets is below.

The criterion for commercial developments has been lowered to one acre from 100,000 square feet (2.3 acres). It is modified in order to be consistent with USEPA Phase II guidance, and to reflect the findings from Permittees that smaller commercial developments pose high threats to storm water discharges.

Housing and restaurant criteria have been clarified. The two housing development categories are now combined into one category that includes 10 or more housing units. In addition, requirements which specifically apply to restaurants have been combined in this section. The section has been modified to clarify that restaurants with less than 5,000 square feet of development are subject to SSMP requirements, except for the treatment control BMP and hydromodification control requirements. This is consistent with Order No. R9-2002-0001's approach for applying SSMP requirements to restaurants.

Section F.1.d.(2)(j) includes Retail Gasoline Outlets (RGOs) as a Priority Development Project category because RGOs are points of confluence for motor vehicles for automotive related services such as repair, refueling, tire inflation, and radiator fill-up. RGOs consequently produce significantly greater pollutant loadings of hydrocarbons and trace metals (including copper and zinc) than other developed areas. To meet the storm water MEP standard, source control and structural treatment BMPs are needed at RGOs that meet the following criteria: (a) 5,000 square feet or more of developed area, or (b) a projected average daily traffic of 100 or more vehicles per day. These are appropriate thresholds since development size and volume of traffic are good indicators of potential impacts of runoff from RGOs on receiving waters. RGOs were proposed, but not included in Order No. R9-2002-0001 pending guidance from the State Board in its review of the San Diego MS4 Permit, Order No. 2001-0001.

In State Board WQ Order No. 2000-11, the State Board removed RGOs as a SSMP category because the State Board found that RGOs were already heavily regulated and limited in their ability to construct infiltration devices or perform treatment. Order No. 2000-11 also acknowledged that a threshold (size, average daily traffic, etc.) appropriate to trigger SSMP requirements should be developed, and that specific findings regarding RGOs should be included in MS4 permits to justify the requirement.[172] The State Board also removed the RGO category from the San Diego County MS4 permit (Order No. 2001-01) because the Regional Board did not specifically address the issues raised in WQ Order No. 2000-11.

As discussed further below, the LARWQCB and the Regional Board have adequately addressed these issues. RGOs have been included as a SSMP category in the Los Angeles County MS4 permit (Order No. R4-01-182), the statewide general Phase II MS4 permit (WQ Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ), and the Regional Board Southern Riverside County MS4 permit (Order No. R9-2004-001). The State Board also addressed the inclusion of RGOs through the appeals of MS4 permits issued by the Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay Area Regional Boards. The State Board held a workshop addressing RGOs and identified RGOs as significant sources of pollutants. The State Board then dismissed the petitions for removal of RGOs from the SSMP requirements in the Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay Area MS4 permits.

Inexpensive and effective structural treatment BMPs which reduce storm water pollutants and control peak flow rates and velocities are available for use at RGOs. Studies have shown that some catch basin inserts can remove hydrocarbons and heavy metals, which are typical pollutants of concern at RGOs. Sand or media filters have also been found to be effective and available for use at RGOs. Site design measures to control flow include cisterns, small weirs, baffles, and redirecting roof runoff to pervious areas.

[172] State Board, 2000. Order WQ 2000-11.

No evidence has been provided to indicate that use of these structural BMPs at RGOs will pose a safety risk. In fact, filter BMPs have been installed at RGOs in some municipalities without apparent adverse safety effects. In addition, similar BMPs such as oil/water separators have been used for years by RGOs without safety problems.

Threshold - Studies indicate that runoff from RGOs contains similar pollutants to runoff from commercial parking lots. In precedential WQ Order 2000-11, the State Board determined that parking lots with a size threshold of 5,000 square feet or more is an appropriate SUSMP category. Based in part on the similarity of pollutants, the 5,000 square feet size threshold was also included for RGOs in the Order. In addition, other municipalities currently use similar size thresholds for RGOs when requiring design standards to mitigate storm water runoff. To provide additional flexibility for the Copermittees, another threshold of 100 or more motor vehicles ADT has been added to the Order. This threshold is based on requirements used in Washington and Oregon for what are considered "high use" sites. This is an appropriate threshold since vehicular traffic is a good indicator of the amount of pollutants generated at a site.

The Regional Board followed the State Board's direction regarding RGOs by including the above discussion in this Fact Sheet, as well as a specific finding that justifies the regulation of runoff from RGOs that meet certain criteria. Considering all of the supporting documentation discussed above, it is appropriate to include RGOs as a Priority Development Project category.

Additional detailed supporting information can be found in the 2001 technical report titled *Retail Gasoline Outlets: New Development Design Standards for Mitigation of Storm Water Impacts* by the LARWQCB and the Regional Board.

Section F.1.d.(3) (Pollutants of Concern) requires Copermittees to update their procedures for identifying pollutants of concern for each Priority Development Project. This is important to do periodically because of changing water quality conditions and designations of impairments or areas of concern. Furthermore Copermittees continually learn more about pollutant-generating activities as they conduct inspections and investigations, and that information must be incorporated into the SSMP process.

Section F.1.d.(4) This Section has been modified to clarify some elements of low impact development. This section requires Copermittees to require or implement site design BMPs at Priority Development Projects in order to reduce the amount of polluted storm water runoff from those sites. The primary approach in site design BMPs is to limit the permanent loss of existing infiltration capacity because loss of infiltration is a major contributor to wet weather pollution discharges. General means to accomplish that goal include retaining natural infiltration areas of a site and limiting the amount of impervious surfaces. The Order does not require a specific or relative amount of pervious surfaces be added to a project. The Order seeks to retain on-site capture of the 85th percentile storm.

The site design BMP options listed in these sections are consistent with the site design BMPs currently required by the Copermittees in the Model WQMP. In the ROWD, the Copermittees propose to improve the process of selecting site design BMPs. Specifically, they propose to develop recommendations for incorporating low-impact design (LID) techniques and site design BMPs. However, the Model WQMP employs an open-ended approach to requirements for site design BMPs, requiring implementation of site design BMPs "where applicable and feasible" and "where appropriate." Unfortunately, this approach has proven to be ineffective in integrating site design BMPs in project designs. Audits conducted in 2005 of four Copermittees found that municipalities need to work with project applicants to improve the quality of site design BMPs.[173] As a result, the Order establishes two sets of site design BMP criteria.

First, section F.1.d.(4)(b) of the Order directs the Copermittees to require, rather than consider, new development projects to employ certain classes of site design BMPs. The required site design BMPs take advantage of features that are incorporated into the Priority Development Project, such as landscaping or walkways. It also requires that projects seek to maintain natural water drainage features rather than instinctively convey water in buried pipes and engineered ditches that eliminate natural water quality treatment functions. These types of site design BMPs are both effective and achievable. These requirements are consistent with the guidelines of Order No. R9-2002-0001 and both the 2003 and 2007 DAMPs.[174]

Next, section F.1.d.(4)(d) of the Order requires that LID BMPs be sized and designed to ensure onsite retention without runoff, of the volume of runoff produced from a 24-hour 85th percentile storm event. This is consistent with other municipal stormwater NPDES permits recently adopted by the Los Angeles and Santa Ana Regional Boards. In those permits, the stakeholders were involved in drafting the numerical performance criteria. The requirement for a numerical BMP design standard is well established for treatment control BMPs and is required in permits throughout the nation such as in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Georgia, and Washington D.C. Since the 85th percentile storm event has previously been used as the numeric design standard for treatment control BMPs; the same size storm event can be applied as the numeric design standard for LID BMPs. According to information provided by the County of Orange, the 24 hour, 85th percentile rainfall is between 0.7 to 0.8 inches of rain for the majority of the area covered by this permit.

[173] Tetra Tech, Inc. 2005. Program Evaluation Report. Orange County Storm Water Program: Cities of Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, and Rancho Santa Margarita.
[174] The 2003 and 2007 DAMPs include preserving natural drainage features as a recommended site design BMP requirement that was to be reviewed and used where applicable and feasible. The DAMPs note this as a way to mimic a site's natural hydrologic regime.

The retention of natural drainage features, such as ephemeral streams, wetlands, and depressions, can be particularly important because small tributaries are essential to the maintenance of the chemical, biological, and physical integrity of larger waterbodies.[175] The loss and modification of such natural water resources to accommodate post-development storm water management leads to direct and indirect adverse effects on water quality that are felt both on the project site and off the site within the watershed.[176,177,178] Effects to aquatic beneficial uses from altered drainage features can occur downstream and upstream. The length of upstream or downstream effect of channel modifications is dependant on the specific structure type and channel slope.[179] For instance, road culverts can act as partial barriers to upstream distribution of native aquatic macroinvertebrates in urban streams, while bridges can provide adequate passage.[180] As a result of the adverse effects to water quality and beneficial uses, the State of California nonpoint source pollution program management measures for urban areas includes limiting the destruction of natural drainage features and natural conveyance areas.[181]

Through its process of conditioning development projects under the CWA section 401 Water Quality Certification program, the Regional Board finds that the level of site design BMP implementation in the Order is feasible for all projects. This site design BMP requirement will help ensure that site design BMPs are implemented for new development projects. Site design BMPs are a critical component of storm water runoff management at new development projects, since the BMPs provide multiple benefits including preservation of hydrologic conditions, reduction of pollutant discharges, cost effectiveness, and green space.

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[175] Aquatic scientists comment letter (April 10, 2003) on the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) on the Clean Water Act Regulatory Definition of "Waters of the United States." (Docket ID No. OW-2002-0050). This letter is a synthesis of scientific information regarding ephemeral, intermittent, and headwater streams. It was written to USEPA by 85 leading aquatic scientists.

[176] Wright, Tiffany, et al. 2006. *Direct and Indirect Impacts of Urbanization on Wetland Quality.* Prepared by the Center for Watershed Protection for the USEPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans, an Watersheds. 81p. Available on-line at http://www.cwp.org

[177] Konrad, Christopher P. and Derek K. Booth, 2005. *Hydrologic Changes in Urban Streams and Their Ecological Significance.* American Fisheries Society Symposium. Vol. 45 pp.157-177.

[178] Coleman, Derrick, et al. 2005. *Effect of Increases in Peak Flows and Imperviousness on the Morphology of Southern California Streams.* Technical Report No. 450 of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project.

[179] Fischenich, J.C. 2001. "*Impacts of stabilization measures,*" EMRRP Technical Notes Collection (ERDC TNEMRRP- SR-32), U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS. http://www.wes.army.mil/el/emrrp

[180] Blakely, Tanya J., et al. 2006. *Barriers To The Recovery Of Aquatic Insect Communities In Urban Streams* Freshwater Biology Vol. 51(9), 1634–1645.

[181] California Nonpoint Source Encyclopedia, Management Measure 3.1.b. Runoff from Developing Areas, Site Development and Management Measure 3.3.a. Runoff from Existing Development, Existing Development.

The site design BMP options listed do not need to be costly.[182] Some design options, such as concave vegetated surfaces or routing rooftop or walkway runoff to landscaped areas, are cost neutral.[183] Other site design BMPs, such as minimizing parking stall widths or use of efficient irrigation devices, are oftentimes already required. In addition, use of site design BMPs reduces storm water runoff quantity, allowing for treatment control BMPs and other storm water infrastructure on site to be smaller, therefore savings costs for both developers and municipalities.[184,185]

Because of the potential economic and environmental benefits of using low-impact development site design, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research, developed "*The Practice of Low Impact Development (LID)*" to assist the housing industry during the land development process. [186] This document focuses specifically on technologies that affect both the cost impacts and environmental issues associated with land development. Much of the report focuses on storm water management because low-impact development storm water management systems can save capital costs for developers and maintenance costs for municipalities.[187] The executive summary of the HUD report notes:

> *This approach to land development, called Low Impact Development (LID), uses various land planning and design practices and technologies to simultaneously conserve and protect natural resource systems and reduce infrastructure costs. LID still allows land to be developed, but in a cost-effective manner that helps mitigate potential environmental impacts. LID is best suited for new, suburban development.*

Developers can use site and structure designs that reduce building footprints, decrease the amount of paved infrastructure, and provide for dispersed drainage and infiltration of runoff from impervious surfaces to reduce the effective impervious surface.[188] The concept of effective impervious surface is important, because when runoff from these surfaces is directed to pervious areas rather to an impervious drainage system (i.e., curbs, gutters, street surfaces, storm drain pipes), it can infiltrate, evaporate, or be taken up by vegetation, thereby reducing the total volume of storm water runoff leaving a site.

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[182] USEPA, 2000. Low-Impact Development: A literature review. EPA-841-B-00-005. 35p.
[183] Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association., 1999. Start at the Source. Forbes Custom Publishing. Available on-line at: http://www.scvurppp-w2k.com/basmaa_satsm.htm. pp. 149.
[184] National Association of Home Builders Research Center. *Builders Guide to Low Impact Development.* Available on-line at http://www.toolbase.org
[185] National Association of Home Builders Research Center. *Municipal Guide to Low Impact Development.* Available on-line at http://www.toolbase.org
[186] U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research, 2003. *The Practice of Low Impact Development."* Prepared by: NAHB Research Center, Inc. Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Contract No. H-21314CA.
[187] Ibid. Executive Summary, p.x.
[188] Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association. 2003. *Using Site Design Techniques to Meet Development Standards for Stormwater Quality.* Available on-line at: http://www.basmaa.org/

The Order continues to provide the Copermittees with flexibility in implementing site design BMP requirements by providing a LID BMP waiver program.

Section F.1.d.(5) (Source Control BMP Requirements) requires that Priority Development Projects implement minimum source control BMPs. This section has been added to provide more detail and clarify the Order's requirements for source control BMPs. The minimum source control BMPs listed in the section are consistent with the Model WQMP.

Section F.1.d.(6) (Treatment Control BMP Requirements) is consistent with Order No. R9-2002-0001, with two exceptions. First, the Order limits the selections of methods used to determine the appropriate volume of storm water runoff to be treated. The modification ensures that priority development project proponents utilize the most accurate information to determine the volume or flow of runoff which must be treated. Using detailed local rainfall data, the County of Orange has developed the 85th Percentile Precipitation Isopluvial Map, which exhibits the size of the 85th percentile storm event throughout Orange County.[189] Since this map uses detailed local rainfall data, it is more accurate for calculating the 85th percentile storm event than other methods which were included in Order No. R9-2002-0001. The other methods found in Order No. R9-2002-0001 were included as options to be used in the event that detailed accurate rainfall data did not exist for various locations within Orange County. The development of the 85th Percentile Precipitation Isopluvial Map makes these other less accurate methods superfluous. Therefore, these other methods for calculating the 85th percentile storm event have been removed from the current Order.

Second, the Order requires that treatment control BMPs selected for implementation at Priority Development Projects have a removal efficiency rating that is higher than the "low removal efficiency," as presented in the Model SSMP/WQMP. The requirement allows exceptions for those projects that, with a feasibility analysis, can justify the use of a treatment control BMP with a low removal efficiency for a Priority Development Project. This requirement is needed because to date, the Copermittees have generally approved low removal efficiency treatment control BMPs without justification or evidence that use of higher efficiency treatment BMPs was considered and found to be infeasible. Specifically, it has been found during audits of the Copermittees' SSMP programs that many SSMP reports do not adequately describe the selection of treatment control BMPs.[190] Moreover, USEPA's contractor Tetra Tech, Inc. recommends that "project proponents should begin with the treatment control that is most effective at removing the pollutants of concern [...] and provide justification if that treatment control BMP is not selected."[191]

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[189] The isopluvial map can be found as Exhibit 7.II in the Model WQMP.
[190] Tetra Tech, Inc. 2005. Program Evaluation Report. Orange County Storm Water Program: Cities of Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, and Rancho Santa Margarita.
[191] Tetra Tech, Inc., 2005. Program Evaluation Report –San Diego Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) Evaluation. P. 5.

In the ROWD, the Copermittees acknowledge the need for further attention to the selection and implementation of effective treatment BMPs. They propose to revise the model WQMP table of BMP effectiveness. The requirement is needed to provide clarification that selection of low efficiency treatment control BMPs over high efficiency BMPs without justification does not meet permit requirements and is not in compliance with the storm water MEP standard.

In addition, treatment control BMPs must be designed and implemented with measures to avoid the creation of nuisance or pollution associated with vectors, such as mosquitoes, rodents, and flies. Related guidelines are identified in guidance from CASQA.[192] Additional considerations are outlined in publications from the California Department of Health Services and University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources.[193]

Section F.1.d.(7). (Low-Impact Design BMP Waiver Program) allows Copermittees to develop a LID BMP waiver program, under which projects where it is technically infeasible to implement the required LID BMPs could substitute with treatment control BMPs and a mitigation project, payment into an in-lieu funding program, and/or watershed equivalent BMPs. Some sites may be technically infeasible to implement the required LID BMPs due to the site constraints. For this reason, the Regional Board has added to the Order a requirement for the Copermittees to develop such a program. The program would provide the opportunity for development projects to avoid partial or full LID BMP implementation in exchange for implementation of treatment control BMPs and mitigation. The program would maintain equal water quality benefits as properly implemented LID BMPs when partial LID BMPs are coupled with a mitigation project or in-lieu funding.

The Order includes specific minimum requirements so that the program will achieve similar water quality benefits. Any program which allows development projects to forgo LID BMP implementation must include provisions which will achieve similar water quality benefits. To ensure that this is the case for the LID BMP waiver program, minimum provisions for the program have been added to the Order

[192] For example, see the California Stormwater BMP Handbook guidelines for Extended Detention Basins (TC-22) at http://www.cabmphandbooks.org.
[193] Marco Metzger. "Managing Mosquitoes in Stormwater Treatment Devices." University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication No. 8125. Available at http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu.

Section F.1.d.(8). (BMP Design Standards) addresses a need for the Copermittees to develop and apply consistent criteria for the design and maintenance of structural treatment BMPs. Correct BMP design is critical to ensure that BMPs are effective and perform as intended. Without design criteria, there is no assurance that this will occur, since there is no standard for design or review. As an example, Ventura County has developed a BMP manual that includes standard design procedure forms for BMPs. Ventura County's *Technical Guidance Manual for Storm Water Quality Control Measures* is available at http://www.vcstormwater.org/ publications.htm."[194] California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) also confirms the necessity of design criteria when it includes such criteria in its New Development and Redevelopment BMP Handbook.[195] This issue is noted in the ROWD, and the Copermittees propose to develop standard design checklist/plans/details for selected source control and treatment BMPs.

Section F.1.d.(9). (Implementation process) requires the Copermittee to implement a process to verify compliance with SSMP requirements. As part of the SSMP, requires identification at what point in the planning process that projects must meet SUSMP requirements and what are roles/responsibilities of municipal departments. The intent of this requirement is to provide consistency in the application of the SSMPs between the Copermittees. This requirement was included in previous Order No. R9-2002-0001.

Section F.1.d.(10) (Annual Review of Treatment BMPs) requires Copermittees to keep their SSMPs up to date with BMP effectiveness studies for low-impact design and treatment control BMPs. The ROWD includes commitments to develop a library of BMP performance reports and to revise the model WQMP table for the latest information on BMPs. This requirement will ensure that two important types of information be included in those efforts: Site design BMPs and treatment BMPs that are assessed as part of contracts with the State Board and Regional Board. The later types of projects include those funded with Clean Beach Initiative grants and other grants. Projects funded with such state grants must include effectiveness assessments using a quality assurance plan. As a result, such studies generally provide reliable sources of local data and should be included in local SSMPs.

[194] Ibid.
[195] California Stormwater Quality Association, 2003. Stormwater Best Management Practice Handbook – New Development and Redevelopment.

Sections F.1.e and F.1.f. (BMP Verification and Treatment BMP Maintenance Tracking) are included in the Order to improve the effectiveness of the BMP requirements. They are included in response to findings from the Audits[196] and recommendations from USEPA.[197] The Copermittees recognize a need to improve the verification of post-construction BMPs. The 2007 DAMP proposes to verify 90 percent of WQMPs (including structural and non-structural BMPs) by inspection, self-certifications, surveys or other means. The Regional Board finds that 90 percent is a reasonable annual target, but considers inspections to be essential to achieve optimal results. Therefore, the Order requires high priority sites to be inspected annually, and allows other measures to be used for lower priority treatment control BMPs.

Section F.1.h. (Hydromodification) expands and clarifies current requirements for control of MS4 discharges to limit hydromodification effects caused by changes in runoff resulting from development and urbanization. The requirements are based on findings and recommendations of the Orange County Storm Water Program, the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC),[198,199] and the Storm Water Panel on Numeric Effluent Limits (Numeric Effluent Panel).[200] Added specificity is needed due to the current lack of a clear standard for controlling hydromodification resulting from development. More specific requirements are also warranted because hydromodification is increasingly recognized as a major factor affecting water quality and beneficial uses, and the Copermittees have proposed only vague and voluntary modifications to the Model WQMP. The Order is intended to ensure the intent of the proposed modifications is incorporated into each Copermittees' SSMP.

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[196] The 2005 audits performed by Tetra Tech, Inc. found that cities are not tracking post-construction BMPs. The final audit report recommended (Section 2.1.2) that each city should develop a system to verify implementation and track post-construction BMPs to ensure that they are adequately maintained.

[197] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68845. USEPA recommends such practices in the Phase II storm water regulations, promoting "inspections during construction to verify BMPs are built as designed."

[198] Coleman, Derrick, et al. 2005. *Effect of Increases in Peak Flows and Imperviousness on the Morphology of Southern California Streams.* Technical Report No. 450 of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project.

[199] Stein, Eric and Susan Zaleski. 2005. Managing Runoff to Protect Natural Streams: The Latest Developments on Investigation and Management of Hydromodification in California. Proceedings of a special technical workshop co-sponsored by California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA), Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC), and University of Southern California Sea Grant (USC Sea Grant). Technical Report No. 475 of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project.

[200] Storm Water Panel Recommendations to the California State Water Resources Control Board. 2006. The Feasibility of Numeric Effluent Limits Applicable to Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Municipal, Industrial, and Construction Activities.

Hydromodification is the change in a watershed's runoff characteristics resulting from development, together with associated morphological changes to channels receiving the runoff. As the total area of impervious surfaces increases, infiltration of rainfall decreases, causing more water to run off the surface and at a higher velocity. Runoff from developed areas can produce erosive flows in channels under rainfall conditions which were not previously problematic. Moreover, runoff from developed areas increases the duration of time that channels are exposed to erosive flows. The increase in the volume of runoff and the length of time that erosive flows occur ultimately intensify sediment transport, causing changes in sediment transport characteristics and the hydraulic geometry (width, depth, and slope) of channels.[201]

These types of changes have been documented in southern California. It has been reported that researchers studying flood frequencies in Riverside County have found that increases in watershed imperviousness of only 9-22 percent can result in increases in peak flow rates for the two-year storm event of up to 100 percent.[202] Such changes in runoff have significant impacts on channel morphology. It has recently been found that ephemeral/intermittent channels in southern California appear to be more sensitive to changes in imperviousness than channels in other areas. Morphology of small channels in southern California was found to change with only 2-3 percent watershed imperviousness, as opposed to 7-10 percent watershed imperviousness in other parts of the nation.[203]

Effects of hydromodification are evident in southern Orange County and recognized by the Copermittees. Analyses of bioassessment data, for example, indicate that physical changes to stream channels caused by hydromodification are likely responsible, in part, for the low bioassessment scores in urbanized settings.[204] It is important to recognize that the physical changes are a direct result of MS4 discharges, but that two separate mechanisms are involved. First, is a change in the flow regime caused by the increase in impervious surfaces and loss of natural conveyance systems. Discharges to receiving waters from the MS4 outfalls do not mimic the natural discharges from former tributaries to that receiving water, and the change results in erosion. Second, the physical stream habitat in many places has been severely modified in order to efficiently convey those increased storm water discharges to the ocean. Where streams are hardened and/or buried to convey storm water, they cannot provide adequate water quality and other necessary conditions to support beneficial uses. Both of these issues are addressed in the Order.

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[201] Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program, 2005. Hydromodification Management Plan. P. 1-1.
[202] Schueler and Holland, 2000. Storm Water Strategies for Arid and Semi-Arid Watersheds (Article 66). The Practice of Watershed Protection.
[203] Coleman, et. al., 2005. Effect of Increases in Peak Flows and Imperviousness on the Morphology of Southern California Streams. P. iv.
[204] See Chapter 11 of the ROWD and the 2005-06 Unified Annual Report for the analyses.

The Copermittees' recognize the need to improve management of hydromodification. The ROWD proposes to revise the Model WQMP to incorporate additional information from ongoing hydromodification studies conducted by the SMC. The Order allows the Copermittees to adopt criteria consistent with future SMC findings in the development of their Hydromodification Management Plan (see below).

Section F.1.h. requires the Copermittees to submit a Hydromodification Management Plan (HMP) within two years of permit adoption. This is consistent with other Southern California MS4 permits and in direct response to comments from the USEPA on Tentative Order R9-2008-001.

Section F.1.h (1) describes several elements that must be included in the HMP. For example, the HMP must identify a method for assessing susceptibility of channel segments which receive runoff discharges from Priority Development Projects, and include a channel standard to ensure that the stability of the channel is not compromised as a result of discharges from the Priority Development Projects. The HMP must also identify a range of flows where Priority Development Projects could cause hydromodification effects and subsequent stream instability.

Additionally, the HMP must require Priority Development Projects to implement hydrologic control measures (such as LID or detention basins) to prevent hydromodification and resultant degradation of stream conditions downstream of project sites. To compare post-project flow rates and durations to pre-project flow rates and durations, the HMP must specify that the pre-developed (naturally occurring) flow rates and durations shall be used when assessing pre-project conditions, so that the naturally occurring hydrology is eventually restored.

In cases where a stream has been armored with concrete, rip rap, or other man-made materials, the HMP shall require the assessment of a comparable soft-bottom channel as the channel standard, as opposed to using the characteristics of the hardened channel as the channel standard. This is to ensure that hydromodification management measures are already in place should any portion of the hardened channel be returned to its natural state, thereby restoring the physical integrity of the creek and its Beneficial Uses. For this reason, the waiver provision for hydromodification management measures for projects discharging into hardened channels was deleted from the Tentative Order. The remaining exception is for projects that discharge storm water runoff into underground storm drains discharging directly into bays or the ocean and for projects discharging to waters where the entire channel bed and banks have been concrete lined all the way to ocean receiving waters.

The HMP must also include metrics for assessing impacts to downstream watercourses from Priority Development Projects, as well as assessing improvements to these watercourses. One metric that must be included is the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) score for benthic macroinvertebrates. This is because historic hydromodification

impacts, such as concrete lining and channelization, have impacted the natural physical habitat of urban streams resulting in low IBI scores. The Copermittee's 2006-2007 monitoring indicated decreased IBI scores in the urbanized watersheds. In the absence of water chemistry and toxicity impacts, these low scores were attributed to be a result of poor physical habitat conditions.[205] Therefore, the IBI score will be a useful metric in terms of assessing both impacts to streams from Priority Development Projects and improvements due to implementation of management measures.

In addition to the hydrologic control measures that must be included in the HMP to prevent or minimize hydromodification effects from Priority Development Projects, the HMP must also include additional measures to be used on Priority Development Projects based on a prioritized consideration of the following elements in this order: 1) site-design hydrologic control measures, 2) on-site management measures, 3) the use of regional controls upstream of receiving waters, and lastly, 4) in-stream controls (not to include reinforcement with non-naturally occurring materials). The suite of management measures must also include stream restoration as a viable option to achieve the channel standard and subsequently restore Beneficial Uses.

Section F.1.h (5) describes interim hydromodification criteria that must be implemented by the Copermittees within one year of adoption of the Tentative Order and concurrent to development of the local HMP. The values chosen for the interim criteria are those currently being implemented by Copermittees in the San Diego area.

Finally, the requirements included in section F.1.h do not supersede the requirements for LID presented in section F.1.d. (4). In certain situations, the requirements to incorporate LID will satisfy the requirements for hydromodification management. For example, detention basins are a common BMP used to manage high flow rates but behave hydrologically different than distributed systems used in LID. Using LID is a viable option for both accomplishing hydromodification management and pollutant load reductions.

F.2. Construction

The following legal authority applies to section F.2:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

[205] Orange County Copermittees, November 15, 2007. 2006-2007 Unified Annual Progress Report Program Effectiveness Assessment (San Diego Region).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of a program to implement and maintain structural and non-structural best management practices to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from construction sites to the municipal storm sewer system."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(1) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of procedures for site planning which incorporate consideration of potential water quality impacts."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(2) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of requirements for nonstructural and structural best management practices."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(3) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of procedures for identifying priorities for inspecting sites and enforcing control measures which consider the nature of the construction activity, topography, and the characteristics of soils and receiving water quality."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(4) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of appropriate educational and training measures for construction site operators."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(A) provides that each Copermittee must demonstrate that it can control "through ordinance, permit, contract, order or similar means, the contribution of pollutants to the municipal storm sewer by storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of storm water discharged from site of industrial activity."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) provides that "The following categories of facilities are considered to be engaging in 'industrial activity' for the purposes of this subsection: [...] (x) Construction activity including cleaning, grading and excavation activities [...]."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires NPDES permits to include limitations to "control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Section F.2 has additions to ensure the protection of threatened and endangered species and requires the consideration of potential impacts from the use of Active Treatment Systems. These requirements were added to ensure additional protection of the Beneficial Uses of waters of the State.

Section F.2.a. (Ordinance Update) requires each Copermittee to review and update its grading and storm water ordinances as necessary to comply with the MS4 permit. By updating the grading and storm water ordinances, the Copermittees will have the necessary legal authority to require construction sites to implement effective BMPs that will reduce pollutant discharges to the maximum extent practicable. The Order allows the Copermittees 365 days to review and update their ordinances. The 365 days should be adequate to allow for the relatively minor changes that might be needed since their ordinances were last updated under Order No. R9-2002-0001.

Section F.2.b. (Source Identification) requires the Copermittees to develop and update a watershed based inventory of all construction sites regardless of size or ownership. This section has been modified to require the inventory be updated regularly, rather than annually. More frequent updates will ensure the Copermittees have a more accurate inventory of construction sites within their jurisdiction. A regularly updated inventory of active construction sites will assist the Copermittees in ensuring that all sites are inspected per Order requirements. The Order does not specify the frequency of updates, and instead relies on each Copermittee to develop updates appropriate to local construction activity. The 2007 DAMP proposes that the inventory be updated "at a minimum" prior to the start of the rainy season. Such a minimum standard may not be appropriate for each Copermittee. Failure to maintain a useful inventory would be a violation of the Order.

Section F.2.c. (Site Planning and Project Approval Process) requires Copermittees to incorporate consideration of potential water quality impacts prior to approval and issuance of construction and grading permits. The Copermittees[206] and our program evaluations in 2005[207] recommend that storm water requirements need to be better incorporated into the pre-construction process.

[206] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region), Section 7, New Development.
[207] Tetra Tech, Inc. 2005. Program Evaluation Report. Orange County Storm Water Program: Cities of Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, and Rancho Santa Margarita.

This section now requires the Copermittees to review project proponents' runoff management plans for compliance with local regulations, policies, and procedures. USEPA recommends that it is often easier and more effective to incorporate storm water quality controls during the site plan review process or earlier.[208] In the Phase I storm water regulations, USEPA states that a primary control technique is good site planning.[209] USEPA goes on to say that the most efficient controls result when a comprehensive storm water management system is in place.[210] To determine if a construction site is in compliance with construction and grading ordinances and permits, USEPA states that the "MS4 operator should review the site plans submitted by the construction site operator before ground is broken."[211] Site plan review aids in compliance and enforcement efforts since it alerts the "MS4 operator early in the process to the planned use or non-use of proper BMPs and provides a way to track new construction activities."[212] During audits of Orange County Copermittee storm water programs, it was found that site plan and SWPPP review were inadequate and inconsistent.[213]

Section F.2.d. (BMP Implementation) includes modifications to the requirements for each Copermittee to designate and ensure implementation of a set of minimum BMPs at construction sites. These modifications are based on Regional Board findings and experience during implementation of Order No. R9-2002-0001.

[208] USEPA, 1992. Guidance 833-8-92-002. Section 6.3.2.1.
[209] Federal Register / Vol. 55, No. 222 / Friday, November 16, 1990 / Rules and Regulations. P. 48034.
[210] Ibid.
[211] USEPA, 2000. Guidance 833-R-00-002. Section 4.6.2.4, P. 4-30.
[212] Ibid., P. 4-31.
[213] Tetra Tech, Inc. 2005. Program Evaluation Report. Orange County Storm Water Program: Cities of Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, and Rancho Santa Margarita.

Unlike Order No. R9-2002-0001, this Order does not require the Copermittee to designate a set of minimum BMPs for high, medium, and low threat to water quality construction sites. This change was made in recognition of most Copermittees' application of one consistent set of BMPs throughout their jurisdictions. The Copermittees also desire to move toward a risk-based approach to BMP requirements.[214] As a result, the Order requires a minimum set of BMPs to be designated for all sites and that enhanced BMPs, including advanced treatment systems, be designated for sites upstream of 303(d) impairments and ESAs. Advanced treatment has been effectively implemented extensively in the other states and in the Central Valley Region of California.[215] In addition, the Regional Board's inspectors have observed advanced treatment being effectively implemented at large sites greater than 100 acres and at small, less than 5 acre, in-fill sites. Advanced treatment is often necessary for Copermittees to ensure that discharges from construction sites are not causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards. For example, the Basin Plan lists the water quality objective for turbidity as 20 NTU for all hydrologic areas and subareas except for the Coronado HA (10.10) and the Tijuana Valley (11.10). For certain construction sites with large slopes and exposed areas, the only technology that is likely to meet 20 NTU is advanced treatment combined with erosion and sediment controls. To ensure the MEP standard and water quality standards are met, the requirement for implementation of advanced treatment at high threat construction sites has been added to the Order, while still providing sufficient flexibility for each Copermittee's unique program.

[214] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region), Section 8, Construction
[215] SWRCB, 2004. Conference on Advanced Treatment at Construction Sites.

The Order does not include seasonal restrictions on grading. Seasonal restrictions on grading for storm water are difficult to implement due to the conflict between seasonal grading restrictions, endangered birds' breeding seasons and the seasonal passage of endangered salmonids; therefore the seasonal grading restrictions have not been included with the other BMPs in the Order. Found in southern California, the Least Bell's Vireo and the Coastal California Gnatcatcher are listed as federally endangered and threatened, respectively.[216] Permits issued by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) restrict grading during these birds' breeding seasons, which is from April 10 to August 31 for the Least Bell's Vireo[217] and from February 15 to August 31 for the Coastal California Gnatcatcher.[218] Ideally storm water restrictions on grading would be during the wet season from October 1 through April 30.[219] Combined, these restrictions would limit construction grading to be during the month of September, which is infeasible. Section D.2.d of the Order still requires project proponents to minimize grading during the wet season and coincide grading with seasonal dry weather periods to the extent feasible.

Section F.2.e. (Inspections) establishes criteria for inspections based on risk factors including size, season, and location of the construction site. Modifications have been made to requirements of Order No. R9-2002-0001 based on the experience of the Copermittees and Regional Board construction programs.

The Order requires sites in active grading during the wet season that are over 30 acres be inspected every two weeks, rather than sites over 50 acres being inspected weekly. In south Orange County approximately 15 percent (34 sites) of construction sites over one acre are larger than 30 acres, whereas about 9 percent (21 sites) of sites are over 50 acres.[220] This may result in a net decrease of inspections of large sites, although more sites will be covered. The reduction in inspection frequency for sites greater than 50 acres is justified because the sites have generally improved their erosion and sediment control measures since adoption of Order No. R9-2002-0001. Biweekly inspections of these sites in the future should be sufficient to ensure compliance with local regulations.

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[216] State of California, Department of Fish and Game, 2005. State and Federally Listed Endangered and Threatened Animals of California.
[217] United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, 2001. Least Bell's Vireo Survey Guidelines.
[218] United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, 1997. Coastal California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica)* Presence/Absence Survey Guidelines.
[219] Regional Board, 2001. Order No. 2001-01, San Diego County MS4 Permit. Directive F.2.g.(2).
[220] Based on the State Board's database of sites covered by the Construction Storm Water General NPDES Permit, Order No. 99-08-DWQ. That general permit requires sites disturbing over one acre to file for coverage, so it provides a good basis for assessment.

The Order lowers the size of construction sites adjacent to or discharging directly to ESAs that receive scrutiny. Order No. R9-2002-0001 requires such sites five acres and more to be inspected weekly during the wet season. This Order requires such sites one acre and above to be inspected every two weeks during the wet season and once during August or September. The lower size threshold is consistent with Phase II storm water permits.

The Order omits Order No. R9-2002-0001's provision allowing a Copermittee to decrease the inspection frequency for high priority sites if the Copermittee certifies in writing to the Regional Board that they have recorded the site's Waste Discharge Identification Number, reviewed the site's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), assured the site's SWPPP is in compliance, and assured the SWPPP is properly implemented at the site. Under Order No. R9-2002-0001, the Regional Board never received from any of the Copermittees a certification to decrease the inspection frequency at high priority sites. Since the certification process was never used, the language has been deleted from the Order.

This section also requires the Copermittees to track the number of inspections for each inventoried construction site. This requirement has been added to ensure that the Copermittees can demonstrate that construction sites are inspected at the minimum frequencies.

Section F.2.g.2 includes an additional requirement for notification to the Regional Board regarding construction sites has been added to this section. Copermittees are required to annually notify the Regional Board of construction sites that have suspected violations. This was added to enhance Regional Board and Permittee communication and coordination in regulating construction sites.

F.3 Existing Development

F.3.a. Municipal
The following legal authority applies to section D.3.a:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(1) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of maintenance activities and a maintenance schedule for structural controls to reduce pollutants (including floatables) in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3) provides that the proposed management program include "A description for operating and maintaining public streets, roads and highways and procedures for reducing the impact on receiving waters of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems, including pollutants discharged as a result of de-icing activities."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(4) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of procedures to assure that flood management projects assess the impacts on the water quality of receiving water bodies and that existing structural flood control devices have been evaluated to determine if retrofitting the device to provide additional pollutant removal from storm water is feasible."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(5) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of a program to monitor pollutants in runoff from operating or closed municipal landfills or other treatment, storage or disposal facilities for municipal waste, which shall identify priorities and procedures for inspections and establishing and implementing control measures for such discharges."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of a program to reduce to the maximum extent practicable, pollutants in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers associated with the application of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizer which will include, as appropriate, controls such as educational activities, permits, certifications, and other measures for commercial applicators and distributors, and controls for application in public right-of-ways and at municipal facilities."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires NPDES permits to include limitations to "control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Section F.3.a.2. (General BMP Implementation) requires the Copermittees to designate minimum BMPs for general municipal areas and activities, regardless of their threat to water quality. The requirement that different types of BMPs be designated for different threats to water quality categories of municipal areas and activities has been removed from the Order. This was done to help simplify and clarify the Order's requirements. BMPs required to be implemented at a site can now be based on the sources or activities present at the site. This is closer to the approach taken by the Copermittees in their JRMPs. Threat to water quality is used to determine inspection frequencies in section F.3.a.(7).

Section F.3.a.3, F.3.a.4, and F.3.a.5. (Specific BMP Implementation Categories) establishes requirements for specific categories of activities and areas. These are selected based on the CWA and findings of the Permittees in annual reports and ROWD that identify these activities as warranting special attention.

Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizers. 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6) requires a description of a storm water program for pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. In addition, water quality data demonstrates widespread presence of such pollutants in receiving waters and MS4 discharges. In response to similar requirements of Order No. R9-2002-0001, the Copermittees have developed a specific model Integrated Pest Management, Pesticides, and Fertilizer guidelines.

Flood Control Structures. In order to more closely meet the intent of the federal regulations and guidance, the requirement has been modified. 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(4) requires "A description of procedures to assure that flood management projects assess the impacts on the water quality of receiving water bodies and that existing structural flood control devices have been evaluated to determine if retrofitting the device to provide additional pollutant removal from storm water is feasible." Retrofitting flood control devices can reduce storm water pollutants and improve water quality. Copermittees have conducted many flood control retrofit projects, many of which have been partially funded with State grant awards.

USEPA expands on the federal provision with the following information: "Storm water management devices and structures that focus solely on water quantity are usually not designed to remove pollutants, and may sometimes harm aquatic habitat and aesthetic values" (1992). As flood control structures and other elements of the MS4 age and retrofitting becomes necessary, opportunities for water quality improvements arise.

Conveyance systems which take water quality consideration into account (such as grassed swales, vegetated detention ponds, etc.) can often cost less to construct than traditional concrete systems. Evaluation of the applicability of such systems during retrofitting must occur to ensure that pollutants in storm water runoff are reduced to the maximum extent practicable. USEPA supports utilizing BMPs for pollution reduction in flood management projects, stating that "The proposed management program must demonstrate that flood management projects take into account the effects on the water quality of receiving water bodies. [...] Opportunities for pollutant reduction should be considered".[221]

[221] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. Washington D.C. EPA/833-B-92-002.

Existing Copermittee projects include two types of retrofits. The first type involves adding an engineered device to an existing structure in order to treat or divert runoff. Examples include catch basin inlet filters/screens, ultraviolet disinfection facilities, hydrodynamic separators, and diversions to the sanitary sewer. The second type involves re-installing pervious or natural treatment features to facilities. Examples include removing concrete portions of conveyances to create pervious conveyances; and creating treatment wetlands within flood detention facilities. The later type of retrofit is preferred by the Regional Board. They are likely more sustainable over the long-term because they may require less rigorous operation and maintenance than the former. They may also provide the additional benefit of providing significant or incidental opportunities for beneficial uses (e.g., recreation, wildlife, water supply).[222,223]

Sweeping of Municipal Areas. Sweeping municipal areas would likely be done in the absence of the Order. However, in certain cases it is an important component of a jurisdictional runoff management program. The Order contains requirements to ensure that the use of street sweeping is optimized for runoff applications if it is to be used and reported as a BMP. The criteria in the Order are taken from industry guidance as reported by the Permittees in the Aliso Creek watershed.[224]

Section F.3.a.(6). (Operation and Maintenance of MS4 and Structural Controls) requires the Copermittees to inspect and remove waste from their MS4s prior to the rainy season.

Maintenance is critical to the successful implementation of every storm water runoff management program. USEPA finds that "Lack of maintenance often limits the effectiveness of storm water structural controls such as detention/retention basins and infiltration devices. [...] The proposed program should provide for maintenance logs and identify specific maintenance activities for each class of control, such as removing sediment from retention ponds every five years, cleaning catch basins annually, and removing litter from channels twice a year.

[222] Burton, Carmen et al. 2005. Assessing Water Source and Channel Type as Factors Affecting Benthic Macroinvertebrate and Periphyton Assemblages in the Highly Urbanized Santa Ana River Basin, California. American Fisheries Society Symposium. Vol.47 pp.239-262.
[223] Stromberg, Juliet C. 2001. Restoration of Riparian Vegetation in the South-Western United States: the importance of flow regimes and fluvial dynamism. Journal of Arid Environments. Vol49, pp.17-34.
[224] See 20th and 21st quarterly reports for the Aliso Creek watershed bacteria investigation, prepared by the Orange County Copermittees within the Aliso Creek watershed.

If maintenance activities are scheduled infrequently, inspections must be scheduled to ensure that the control is operating adequately. In cases where scheduled maintenance is not appropriate, maintenance should be based on inspections of the control structure or frequency of storm events. If maintenance depends on the results of inspections or if it occurs infrequently, the applicant must provide an inspection schedule. The applicant should also identify the municipal department(s) responsible for the maintenance program".[225] The MS4 maintenance requirements are based on the above USEPA recommendations. This maintenance will help ensure that structural controls are in adequate condition to be effective year round, but especially at the beginning of and throughout the rainy season.

Two requirements have been added to the Order that were not within Order No. 2002-0001. Subsection (3) allows a decreased inspection frequency for facilities that are routinely clean, and Subsection (4) requires trash to be removed from channels in a timely manner. Typically, Copermittees have reported annual or semi-annual creek cleanups as significant BMPs. The large volumes of trash reported to be removed during these events demonstrates the significant amount of trash that accumulates in the channels. In addition, storm water runoff is a leading contributor to the accumulation of trash and debris along the beaches of Orange County.[226] In order to reduce the effect of the trash, the Order requires that trash be removed more frequently.

Section F.3.a.(7). (Sewage Infiltration) requires the Copermittees to implement controls and measures to prevent and eliminate sewage infiltration or seepage from municipal sanitary sewers to MS4s through thorough, routine preventive maintenance of the MS4. This requirement is in Order No. R9-2002-0001 in the section on Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (section F.5.i).

Sections F.3.a.(8) and F.3.a.(9). (Inspections and Enforcement) establishes a minimum set of municipal areas and activities for oversight and inspection by the Copermittees and requires that Copermittees properly enforce runoff requirements at municipal areas and activities.

[225] USEPA, 1992. Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Part II of the NPDES Permit Applications for Discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. Washington D.C. EPA/833-B-92-002.
[226] Moore, S.L., D. Gregorio, M. Carreon, S B. Weisberg, and M. K. Leecaster. 2001. *Composition and distribution of beach debris in Orange County, California*. Marine Pollution Bulletin 42(3): 241-245..

F.3.b. Industrial and Commercial
The following legal authority applies to section F.3.b:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C) provides that the proposed management program include "A description of a program to monitor and control pollutants in storm water discharges to municipal systems from municipal landfills, hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities, industrial facilities that are subject to section 313 of title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), and industrial facilities that the municipal permit applicant determines are contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the municipal storm sewer system."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C)(1) provides that the Copermittee must "identify priorities and procedures for inspections and establishing and implementing control measures for such discharges."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C)(2) provides that the proposed management program shall "Describe a monitoring program for storm water discharges associated with the industrial facilities identified in paragraph (d)(2)(iv)(C) of this section, to be implemented during the term of the permit, including the submission of quantitative data on the following constituents: any pollutants limited in effluent guidelines subcategories, where applicable; any pollutant listed in an existing NPDES permit for a facility; oil and grease, COD, pH, BOD5 , TSS, total phosphorus, total Kjeldhal nitrogen, nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen, and any information on discharges required under 40 CFR 122.21(g)(7)(iii) and (iv)."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(ii) provides that the Copermittee "Provide an inventory, organized by watershed of the name and address, and a description (such as Standard Industrial Classification [SIC] codes) which best reflects the principal products or services provided by each facility which may discharge, to the municipal separate storm sewer, storm water associated with industrial activity."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires NPDES permits to include limitations to "control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(A) provides that each Copermittee must demonstrate that it can control "through ordinance, permit, contract, order or similar means, the contribution of pollutants to the municipal storm sewer by storm water discharges associated with industrial activity and the quality of storm water discharged from site of industrial activity."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) provides that the Copermittee develop a proposed management program which includes "A description of structural and source control measures to reduce pollutants from runoff from commercial and residential areas that are discharged from the municipal storm sewer system that are to be implemented during the life of the permit, accompanied with an estimate of the expected reduction of pollutant loads and a proposed schedule for implementing such controls."

Section F.3.b. (Industrial and Commercial) requires the Copermittees to implement an industrial and commercial program to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from all industrial and commercial sites/sources. The industrial and commercial sections of Order No. 2002-0001 have been combined into one section in this Order. This change will streamline and simplify the Order, without negatively impacting water quality. This change is not unprecedented because industrial and commercial facilities are commonly addressed together. For example, the Southern Riverside County MS4 Permit[227] combined industrial and commercial programs into one section. In addition, in their Annual Reports and ROWD,[228] the Copermittees jointly address industrial and commercial components. USEPA contractor Tetra Tech also evaluated and reported on the industrial and commercial programs jointly during their program evaluations.[229]

Section F.3.b.(1)(a) (Source Identification) requires that building material retailers and storage, animal facilities, and power washing services be included in the Copermittees' inventory of commercial sites/sources. These activities have been identified annual MS4 program reports and quarterly Aliso Creek watershed reports as potentially significant sources of pollutants. This is not a significant change because Order No. R9-2002-0001 requires that any commercial site or source determined by a Copermittee to contribute a significant pollutant load to the MS4 be added to its inventory of commercial sites. Furthermore, the commercial BMP fact sheets developed by the Copermittees generally address the types of activities occurring at these facilities and practices.

[227] Regional Board, 2004. Order No. R9-2004-001; Riverside County MS4 Permit. Section H.2; P. 24.
[228] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region). Section 9.
[229] Tetra Tech, Inc., 2005. Program Evaluation Reports Orange County Storm Water Programs: Cities of Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Lake Forest, and Rancho Santa Margarita.

The Order has revised requirements for identifying industrial sites/sources. The revised requirements are identical to those found in the Southern Riverside County MS4 permit.[230] USEPA requires the same identification: "Measures to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to municipal separate storm sewers from municipal landfills, hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities, industrial facilities that are subject to section 313 of title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA)."[231] USEPA "also requires the municipal storm sewer permittee to describe a program to address industrial dischargers that are covered under the municipal storm sewer permit."[232] In order to more closely follow USEPA's guidance, this Order also includes operating and closed landfills, and hazardous waste treatment, disposal, storage and recovery facilities.

Section F.3.b.3. (Mobile Businesses) requires each Copermittee to develop and implement a program to reduce the discharge of storm water pollutants from mobile businesses to the MEP and to prevent the discharge of non-storm water. Mobile businesses are service industries that travel to the customer to perform the service rather than the customer traveling to the business to receive the service. Examples of mobile businesses are power washing, mobile vehicle washers, carpet cleaners, port-a-potty servicing, pool and fountain cleaning, mobile pet groomers, and landscapers. These mobile services produce waste streams that could potentially impact water quality if appropriate BMPs are not implemented.

Order No. R9-2002-0001 also requires BMP implementation for certain mobile businesses (e.g., mobile vehicle washing and mobile carpet cleaning). These storm water requirements of Order No. R9-2009-0002 are not significantly different from the existing requirements. The Order specifies mobile businesses must prevent non storm water dry weather flows from entering the MS4 (see C.1.b) for special attention based on reports from the Copermittees that mobile businesses have been difficult to control with existing programs.

Mobile businesses present a unique difficulty in storm water regulation. Due to the transient nature of the business, the regular, effective practice of unannounced inspections is difficult to implement. Also, tracking these mobile businesses is difficult because they are often not permitted or licensed and their services cross Copermittee jurisdictions. Mobile businesses that operate within a municipality may be based in another municipality or even outside the Region. The Order takes into account the difficulties in regulating mobile businesses.

Because BMPs have been developed already, but communication with mobile businesses may be difficult, the Order provides broad flexibility to the Copermittees for developing a targeted program within the Commercial portion of each JRMP.

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[230] Regional Board, 2004. Order No. R9-2004-001; Riverside County MS4 Permit. Section H.2.b)(2); P. 25.
[231] Federal Register / Vol. 55, No. 222 / Friday, November 16, 1990 / Rules and Regulations. P. 48056.
[232] Ibid.

Section F.3.b.4. (Inspections) includes requirements for inspections of industrial and commercial sites/sources. The Order is similar to the Southern Riverside County MS4 permit[233] in requiring that inspections check for coverage under the General Industrial Permit; assessment of compliance with Copermittee ordinances and permits related to storm water and non-storm water runoff; assessment of BMP implementation, maintenance, and effectiveness; visual observations for non-storm water discharges, potential illicit connections, and potential discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff; and education and outreach on storm water pollution prevention. The Order also requires that inspections include review of BMP implementation plans if the site uses or is required to use such a plan, and the review of facility monitoring data if the site monitors its runoff. Order No. 2002-0001 did not contain requirements for inspection procedures.

Changes in the Order's requirements for inspection procedures mimic USEPA's guidance: "Site inspections should include (1) an evaluation of the pollution prevention plan and any other pertinent documents, and (2) an onsite visual inspection of the facility to evaluate the potential for discharges of contaminated storm water from the site and to assess the effectiveness of the pollution prevention plan."[234] In 1999, USEPA "recognized visual inspection as a baseline BMP for over 10 years," and "visual inspections are an effective way to identify a variety of problems. Correcting these problems can improve the water quality of the receiving water."[235] Most, if not all, of the Order's procedures are being conducted by the Copermittees that follow the Model Existing Development Program of the DAMP.

With the exception of restaurants, the Order allows Copermittees to establish inspection frequencies, as long as at least 20 percent of the sites are inspected annually. Restaurants are now required to be inspected annually. Inspection frequencies in the Order have been modified from Order No. R9-2002-0001. Order No. R9-2002-0001 specifies frequencies for inspecting industrial sites based on threat to water quality and requires high priority commercial sites to be inspected as needed. Copermittees have been inspecting industrial sites according to Order No. R9-2002-0001. The Copermittees have been inspecting restaurants annually as part of the County Health Department inspections. For other commercial sites, the Copermittees have been focusing annual activities on certain commercial sectors, such as automobiles, with the goal of inspecting every high priority site at least once during the permit term. This change is not considered significant because it should allow the Copermittees to continue existing programs.

[233] Regional Board, 2004. Order No. R9-2004-001; Riverside County MS4 Permit. Section H.2.d)(3);
[234] USEPA, 1992. Guidance 833-8-92-002, section 6.3.3.4 "Inspection and Monitoring".
[235] USEPA, 1999. 832-F-99-046, "Storm Water Management Fact Sheet – Visual Inspection".

Reports from the Aliso Creek watershed Copermittees demonstrate that as-needed inspections for restaurants means at least annually. Restaurants have been found to present many threats to water quality and standard educational efforts are not effective because restaurants are subject to frequent management changes. For these reasons, the Order requires restaurants to be inspected annually.

An additional notification to the Regional Board regarding industrial sites has been added. Copermittees are required to annually notify the Regional Board of industrial sites that have suspected violations. This was added to enhance Regional Board and Permittee communication and coordination in regulating industrial sites.

Section F.3.b.(6). (Training and Education) requires training and education measures generally consistent with the existing storm water programs. One distinction is that the Order requires each Copermittee to notify the owner/operator of each inventoried industrial and commercial site/source of the BMP requirements applicable to the site/source. This requirement is necessary to ensure that the owners and operators of commercial sites stay informed of appropriate BMPs. This is especially important because sites may be inspected as little as once every five years.

Section F.3.c. (Residential Component)
The following legal authority applies to section F.3.c:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) provides that the Copermittee develop a proposed management program which includes "A description of structural and source control measures to reduce pollutants from runoff from commercial and residential areas that are discharged from the municipal storm sewer system that are to be implemented during the life of the permit, accompanied with an estimate of the expected reduction of pollutant loads and a proposed schedule for implementing such controls."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(i) requires NPDES permits to include limitations to "control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State water quality standard, including State narrative criteria for water quality."

Section F.3.c (Residential Component) moves the common interest areas / homeowners' association component and the requirement for proper management of used oil, toxic materials, and other household hazardous wastes to the residential section of the Order, since these requirements generally apply to residential areas. These changes improve the organization of the Order and have no net effect on its implementation and enforcement. Other requirements for prioritization, BMP implementation, and enforcement are consistent with Order No. R9-2002-01.

Section F.3.d. (Retrofitting Existing Development)

Legal Authority: The legal authority for retrofitting existing development is the same legal authority as that identified for municipal, industrial, commercial and residential development sections (See fact sheet discussion on those sections, F.3.a – c). In particular, CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), and CWC section 13377 give the Regional Board the legal authority to require retrofitting of existing development.

A section has been added to require the retrofit of existing development (see Finding D.3.i and Discussion). This section contains specific requirements for the retrofit process. Retrofitting existing development is a widespread practice across the United States. Successful retrofitting programs have been implemented in such diverse locations as Seattle, Washington[236]; Portland Oregon[237], Santa Monica, California[238]; Kansas City, Kansas[239]; and Montgomery County, MD[240]. When appropriately applied as the draft Tentative Order, retrofitting existing development meets the maximum extent practicable standard.

Existing BMPs are not sufficient, as evidenced by 303(d) listings and exceedances of Water Quality Objectives from the Copermittees monitoring reports. More advanced BMPs, including the retrofitting of existing development with LID, are part of the iterative process. Previous permits limited the requirement of treatment control BMPs to new development and redevelopment. Based on the current rate of redevelopment compared to existing BMPs, the use of LID only on new and redevelopment will not adequately address current water quality problems, including downstream hydromodification. Retrofitting existing development is practicable for a municipality through a systematic evaluation, prioritization and implementation plan focused on impaired water bodies, pollutants of concern, areas of downstream hydromodification, feasibility and effective communication and cooperation with private property owners.

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[236] SEA Street, http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/CityDesign/What_We_Do/Outreach/Folio/DPDS_008014.asp
[237] Clean River Rewards, http://www.portlandonline.com/BES/index.cfm?c=edeef
[238] City of Santa Monica, Urban Runoff program, http://www.smgov.net/Departments/OSE/categories/content.aspx?id=4007
[239] 10,000 Rain Gardens, http://www.rainkc.com/
[240] Rainscapes, http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Content/DEP/Rainscapes/home.html

F.4. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

The following legal authority applies to section F.4:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B) provides that the proposed management program "shall be based on a description of a program, including a schedule, to detect and remove (or require the discharger to the municipal storm sewer to obtain a separate NPDES permit for) illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a program, including inspections, to implement and enforce an ordinance, orders or similar means to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal storm sewer system."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a description of procedures to conduct on-going field screening activities during the life of the permit, including areas or locations that will be evaluated by such field screens."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(3) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "procedures to be followed to investigate portions of the separate storm sewer system that, based on the results of the field screen, or other appropriate information, indicate a reasonable potential of containing illicit discharges or other sources of non-storm water."

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(4) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a description of procedures to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into the municipal separate storm sewer."

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(5) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a description of a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or water quality impacts associated with discharges from municipal separate storm sewers."

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(6) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a description of educational activities, public information activities, and other appropriate activities to facilitate the proper management and disposal of used oil and toxic materials."

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(7) provides that the Copermittee include in its proposed management program "a description of controls to limit infiltration of seepage from municipal sanitary sewers to municipal separate storm sewer systems where necessary."

Section F.4.a-b. (Prevent and Detect Illicit Discharges) requires the Copermittees to implement a program to actively seek and eliminate illicit connections and discharges (IC/ID). Additional wording has been added to this section to clarify and ensure that all appropriate (i.e., field personnel) municipal personnel are utilized in the program to observe and report these illicit discharges and connections. requirement has been added requiring submittal of the GIS layers of the MS4 map within 365 days of Order adoption.

Section F.4.e (Investigations) requires the Copermittees to conduct follow up investigations and inspect portions of the MS4 for illicit discharges and connections, based on dry weather effluent analytical monitoring results. The section also requires the Copermittees to establish criteria for triggering follow up investigations. Additional language has been added to this section to clarify the minimum level of effort and timeframes for follow up investigations when dry weather limitations are exceeded. Timely investigation and follow up of exceedances is necessary to identify sources of illicit discharges, especially since many of the discharges are transitory. The requirements for a 48-hour minimum response time when action levels are exceeded and for immediate response to obvious illicit discharges is necessary to ensure timely response by the Copermittees.

The Copermittees currently use action levels to facilitate the determination of when source investigation studies are warranted based on data from the dry-weather monitoring program. One set of criteria is based on regional averages of constituent concentrations that were developed based on randomly selected storm drains. Another set of criteria is based on trends at a particular station. These are reasonable criteria if decision-makers are properly trained and action levels set by the County are in compliance with dry weather non-storm water action levels as required in Section C. The ability of the local managers to interpret dry-weather monitoring data collected by the County has greatly improved in the last two years, and continued training is required in section F.4.i.

Section F.4.h. (Spill Response) requires each Copermittee to implement measures to prevent and respond to spills into its MS4. These requirements are similar to Order No. R9-2002-0001 and based on federal regulations at 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(4). Those federal NPDES regulations clearly require that owners and operators of MS4s have procedures to prevent, contain, and respond to spills that may discharge into the municipal separate storm sewer.

The Tentative Order includes sewage and non-sewage spills in the requirement for spill prevention and response. Federal regulations clearly define sewage as an illicit discharge that must be addressed by municipalities (see Phase II Final Rule, p.68758). Sewage is an illicit discharge to the MS4 that threatens public health. As such, the Copermittees must implement measures to prevent sewage from entering the MS4 system and must respond to illicit discharges that have entered the system. This section has been revised to clarify that management measures and procedures must be implemented to prevent, respond to, and cleanup spills.

This same requirement was adopted by the Regional Board in Order No, 2002-0001, but was subsequently stayed by the State Board in Order WQO 2002-0014. The City of Mission Viejo challenged the requirement to prevent and respond to sewage spills on the grounds that since the sanitary sewer systems in the City are operated by three water districts already regulated by a NPDES permit from the Regional Board, this requirement would cause delayed spill responses as the City and agencies try to determine jurisdiction and responsibilities. The State Board found that the costs of this requirement did not constitute harm, but agreed that harm could ensue from potential response delay and confusion. Although the entire permit requirement was stayed, neither the State Board, nor the Petitioner discussed spills other than sewage.

Subsequently, the Copermittees and the local sewer agencies have developed mature relationships and implemented procedures for spill response and sewage spill response.[241]. As a result, the concerns expressed by the State Water Board are no longer warranted. The Model Sewage Spill Response Procedure is outlined in the Copermittees' Proposed 2007 Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP). According to the 2007 DAMP, regardless of where the spill originates, if the spill has entered or may enter the storm drain system, the Copermittees respond to assist with the cleanup and remediation of the area.

Only three Permittees (Laguna Beach, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano) own or operate their own sewage collection systems, yet all Copermittees implement the programs for spill response. For the Copermittees that do not own or operate sewage systems, the Regional Board expects that they will continue to respond appropriately to reported or identified spills to the MS4 system.

[241] Sections 10.2.4 and 10.2.5 in the 2007 DAMP.

Section F.3.a.7 of the Tentative Order includes requirements for measures that must be taken to prevent sewage spills. Examples of measures being implemented by Copermittees include inspections of fats, oils, and grease management at restaurants. Other preventative measures can be implemented during routine planning efforts for new development and redevelopment projects. Similarly, building permit inspections should be used to verify the integrity of the sanitary and storm sewer infrastructure and ensure that cross-connections between the two are avoided.

G. Watershed Runoff Management Programs

The following legal authority applies to section G:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(a)(3)(ii) states: "The Director may [...] issue distinct permits for appropriate categories of discharges [...] including, but not limited to [...] all discharges within a system that discharge to the same watershed [...]"

Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(a)(3)(v) states: "Permits for all or a portion of all discharges from large or medium municipal separate storm sewer systems that are issued on a system-wide, jurisdiction-wide, watershed, or other basis may specify different conditions relating to different discharges covered by the permit, including different management programs for different drainage areas [watersheds] which contribute storm water to the system."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(a)(5) states: "The Director may issue permits for municipal separate storm sewers that are designated under paragraph (a)91)(v) of this section on a system-wide basis, a jurisdiction-wide basis, watershed basis, or other appropriate basis."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) states: "Proposed programs may impose controls on a system-wide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls."

Section G. (Watershed Runoff Management Program) requires Copermittees to continue implementation of their watershed runoff management programs (WRMPs), however the implementation approach has changed. Order No. R9-2002-01 required watershed RMPs to include a collaborative strategy to abate the sources and reduce the discharges causing high priority water quality problems. This strategy was to guide Watershed Copermittee's selection and implementation of Watershed Activities, so that the activities selected and implemented would remove that pollutant contribution responsible for the identified high priority water quality problem. Outcomes of these requirements were not able to demonstrate improvements to water quality.

Revised language in Order R9-2009-002 attempts to focus watershed copermittee's efforts and resources on addressing the highest water quality problems in the watershed by focusing attention on the health of the receiving water body and the most efficient use of the Watershed Copermittee's time and resources. Order R9-2009-002 requires the Watershed Copermittee's to follow a workplan approach towards assessing receiving water body conditions, prioritizing the Watershed Management Area's (WMAs) highest priority water quality problems, implementing effective BMPs, and measuring water quality improvement in the receiving water.

G1. (Lead Watershed Copermittee Identification) requires the watershed copermittee's to identify a Lead Watershed Copermittee for their WMA.

This requirement is the same to that found in Order 2002-01.

G.2 a-f. (Watershed Workplan) requires the Watershed Copermittees to develop and implement a collective watershed strategy to assess and prioritize the water quality problems within the watershed's receiving waters, identify and model sources of the highest priority water quality problem(s), develop a watershed-wide BMP implementation strategy to abate highest priority water quality problems, and a monitoring strategy to evaluate BMP effectiveness and changing water quality prioritization in the WMA. Development of a workplan rather than watershed activities will allow the Copermittees flexibility to iteratively modify their watershed strategy over the course of future planning years as priorities change.

G.3. Watershed Workplan Implementation – Watershed Copermittee's shall begin implementing the Watershed Workplan within 30-days of approval by the Regional Board Executive Officer. Since the Copermittees are already familiar with the watershed program requirements implementing the watershed workplan within 30-days of approval by the Regional Board Executive Officer is reasonable.

G.4. Copermittee Collaboration – Watershed Copermittees shall collaborate to develop and implement the Watershed Workplan. Watershed Copermittee collaboration shall include frequent regularly scheduled meetings.

This requirement is the same to that found in Order 2002-01.

G.5. Public Participation – Watershed Copermittees shall implement a watershed-specific public participation mechanism within each watershed. A required component of the watershed-specific public participation shall be a minimum 30-day public review of the Watershed Workplan. Opportunity for the public to review and comment on the Watershed Workplan must occur before the workplan is implemented.

This requirement is similar to that found in Order 2002-01.

G.6. Watershed Workplan Review and Updates – Watershed Copermittees shall

review and update the Watershed Workplan annually to identify need changes to the prioritized water quality problem(s) listed in the workplan. All updates to the Watershed Workplan shall be presented during an Annual Watershed Review Meeting. Annual Watershed Review Meetings shall be conducted by the Watershed Copermittees, open to the public and adequately noticed, and occur once every calendar year. Individual Watershed Copermittees shall also review and modify their jurisdictional programs and JRMP Annual Reports, as necessary, so that they are consistent with the updated Watershed Workplan.

This section requires the copermittee's to review and update their workplan each year to incorporate changing priorities and evolving watershed strategies. This requirement is meant to take the place of Order No. 2002-01 requirement to submit Watershed Annual Reports.

G.7. Aliso Creek Watershed RMP Provisions. This requirement is the same to that found in Order 2002-01.

H. Fiscal Analysis

The following legal authority applies to section H:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(vi) provides that "[The Copermittee must submit] for each fiscal year to be covered by the permit, a fiscal analysis of the necessary capital and operation and maintenance expenditures necessary to accomplish the activities of the programs under paragraphs (d)(2)(iii) and (iv) of this section. Such analysis shall include a description of the source of funds that are proposed to meet the necessary expenditures, including legal restrictions on the use of such funds."

Section H has been expanded in order to develop more useful and meaningful fiscal reporting. The Copermittees have identified a need to assess the current fiscal reporting process and have proposed to prepare a fiscal reporting strategy to better define the expenditure and budget line items included in the fiscal reports.[242] The Regional Board agrees that the process should be improved. A revamped fiscal reporting strategy will provide the Regional Board and the Copermittees with better capability to manage performance of the programs.

The Copermittees' effort is expected to provide standardization of reporting so that figures between Copermittees are comparable, which is one of many types of information which can be used by the Regional Board to better understand Copermittee program implementation. Standardization and comparison of fiscal analysis reporting is supported by the State Board funded NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey, which finds that "standards for reporting costs and stormwater activities are needed to allow accurate cost comparisons to be made between stormwater activities."[243] This document also provides guidance regarding categorization of expenditures for tracking and reporting.

The Order establishes criterion for when Copermittees must add narrative evaluations to the tables. This will address some of the variability in reporting and will provide the public and Regional Board with improved understanding of how resources are shifted in response to annual assessments. This will also help ensure that projected annual costs adequately reflect planned program modifications described in the annual reports.

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[242] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region), section 2.3.4.
[243] Currier, et al., 2005. *NPDES Storm Water Cost Survey Final Report.* Prepared for California State Water Resources Control Board by Office of Water Programs, California State University, Sacramento. P. 63.

The Regional Board has chosen not to require a description of fiscal benefits realized from implementation of the storm water protection program. This is a recommendation from the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies.[244] For instance, the current fiscal assessment does not address city-wide fiscal benefits of protection (e.g., public health, tourism, property values, economic activity, beneficial uses, etc.), even though many costs currently reported to the Regional Board are for related activities. This type of assessment may help Copermittees improve the allocation of resources and it may help the Copermittees secure adequate funding for the program. Finally, it will provide a clearer picture of the storm water and non-storm water runoff program to the public and Regional Board. However, qualitative assessments could be overly subjective and most Copermittees likely lack the ability to provide accurate quantitative assessments. The Regional Board encourages Copermittees to consider means for conducting assessments of fiscal benefits derived from the programs. Such assessments could be conducted on a regional scale similar to studies of program costs conducted by the State Water Board[245] or community indicators by the Community Indicators Project.[246]

Currently, each Orange County municipality's annual report includes a table based on a template developed by the principal Copermittee. The template was meant to facilitate reporting consistency among the 13 Copermittees. The annual report table contains estimates of spending during the reported period and estimates of the next year's spending. The tables separate capital costs from operations and maintenance costs and are arranged by program element. In addition to the tables, each municipality reports on the sources of the funds, (e.g., general fund, special fee, grants, etc.) to demonstrate that resources have been secured. There is very heavy reliance on general funds.

Review of the fiscal analysis tables included in the annual reports has not been as straightforward as expected, and the value of the information is moderate. Generally, questions regarding the financial reporting process of individual Permittees have been adequately resolved during meetings to discuss the annual reports. Based on those meetings, the Regional Board staff has found that cities do not use consistent methods to fill in the tables because they use different accounting and budgeting processes, and certain stormwater program expenditures are not easily categorized into the table formats. Furthermore, stormwater permit-related activities involve several departments, which makes it difficult for the storm water manager to gather and decipher actual costs.

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[244] National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies. 2006. *Guidance for Municipal Stormwater Funding.* Prepared under a grant provided by the USEPA.
[245] State Water Board, 2005. NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey.
[246] Orange County 2006 Community Indicators Project. 2006. Sponsored by the County of Orange, the Orange County Business Council, and the Children and Families Commission of Orange County. Available on-line at www.oc.ca.gov/ceocommunity.asp

These issues also make it difficult for the Copermittees to accurately compartmentalize expenditures within the format. The Copermittees are aware of the reporting discrepancies and have planned to modify the reporting template and guidelines. As a result, the current financial reporting provides estimates at best and cannot be reliably used to compare program implementation among most municipalities.

I. Total Maximum Daily Loads

This section has been added to address any TMDLs that are adopted by the Regional Board. See Finding E.10 and Discussion.

J. Program Effectiveness Component

The following legal authority applies to section J:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(v) provides that the Copermittees must include "Estimated reductions in loadings of pollutants from discharges of municipal storm sewer constituents from municipal storm sewer systems expected as the result of the municipal storm water quality management program. The assessment shall also identify known impacts of storm water controls on ground water." Under Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.42(c) applicants must provide annual reports on the progress of their storm water management programs.

Section J.1 (jurisdictional program effectiveness assessments) of the Order requires the Copermittees to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of their jurisdictional programs and activities. The section requires that the effectiveness strategy of the programs be designed around four classes of objectives and that the results are used to direct program modifications. The section does not specify the assessments to be conducted, but does require that assessment measures conform to the guidance developed by the California Storm Water Quality Association (CASQA). The Orange County Storm Water Program is supportive of the CASQA effort, and use of CASQA assessment techniques is consistent with the methodology proposed in the ROWD.[247] [248]

The section is also consistent with the plan of the Copermittees to improve the efficacy of the assessment process.[249] The Copermittees currently report a series of metrics for spatial and temporal assessments across the County. The Program Effectiveness requirements of the Order provide the Copermittees with the framework for improving their standard assessment metrics.

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[247] The structure of planned program effectiveness is proposed in section 1.2.2 of the 2007 ROWD. The ROWD then identifies current and potential assessment outcome levels within each major program chapter (e.g., new development, construction, etc.).
[248] CASQA 2007. Municipal Stormwater Program Effectiveness Assessment Guidance.
[249] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region), section 3.3.2.

The Order provides focus to the assessment methodology by requiring that impaired waterbodies and environmentally-sensitive areas are specifically addressed. In this way, the high priority water quality issues will receive a high level of attention, consistent with USEPA and CASQA guidance for prioritization. The Order provides flexibility to establish the actual metrics for each assessment outcome level. The Order also provides the Copermittees flexibility to develop objectives for the general program components based on the CASQA guidance, as is proposed in the ROWD and DAMP.

In addition, Section J.1 requires that an effectiveness assessment strategy is developed and implemented in response to actions taken by a Copermittee to comply with Section A.3 (Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations) of the Order. Section A.3 outlines the procedure for addressing instances when jurisdictional programs implement control actions in response to determinations that discharges from the MS4 are causing or contributing to violations of water quality standards.

This section includes a requirement for the Copermittees to develop and implement a workplan identifying and addressing the highest priority issues in the watershed. The workplan requirement in the JRMP section has been added to ensure Copermittees are allocating resources and effort to address priority problems and pollutants identified in the watershed analysis. This section has been added to ensure Copermittees use the annual watershed water quality assessment to asses, adjust and tailor their JRMP programs.

Section J.2 (program modification) of the Order requires the Copermittees to improve jurisdictional activities or BMPs when they are found to be ineffective or when water quality impairments are continuing. This requirement fulfills the purpose of conducting effectiveness assessments – to improve and refine the Copermittees' programs. The requirement is consistent with USEPA's Phase II regulations, which state: "If the permittee determines that its original combination of BMPs are not adequate to achieve the objectives of the municipal program, the MS4 should revise its program to implement BMPs that are adequate [...]."[250]

Section J.3 (reporting) of the Order describes the information required to be submitted in jurisdictional annual reports pertaining to program effectiveness assessments, review, and response. The reporting will demonstrate whether Copermittees have appropriately responded to the effectiveness assessments.

[250] Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68762.

K. Reporting

The following legal authority applies to section K:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.42(c) requires that "The operator of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system or a municipal separate storm sewer system that has been designated by the director under § 122.26(a)(1)(v) of this part must submit an annual report by the anniversary of the date of the issuance of the permit for such system. The report shall include: (1) The status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions; (2) Proposed changes to the storm water management program that are established as permit condition. Such proposed changes shall be consistent with § 122.26(d)(2)(iii) of this part; (3) Revisions, if necessary, to the assessment of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under § 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (d)(2)(v) of this part; (4) A summary of data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year; (5) Annual expenditures and budget for year following each annual report; (6) A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs; (7) Identification of water quality improvements or degradation."

California Water Code section 13267 provides that "the Regional Board may require than any person who has discharged [...] shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring reports which the regional board requires."

Section K.1 (Jurisdictional Runoff Management Plans and Watershed Workplans) outlines the process and due dates for submitting plans. The information to be included in the Jurisdictional and Watershed plans must be sufficient to demonstrate the capacity to implement the requirements of Section G and Section J, respectively, of the Order.

Two general modifications from Order No. R9-2002-0001 result in reduced reporting effort by the Copermittees. First, in many cases, the requirements of the Order should not necessitate a complete rewrite of the plans, as was basically done in 2003. Only sections of the Order which are new or have been significantly changed should warrant rewriting of plans' sections. Second, the WRMP annual reporting is no longer due in January. Annual reporting will occur during a watershed review meeting conducted some time during the calendar year. The Regional Board plans to work with the Copermittees and provide guidance regarding where JRMPs must be updated in accordance with the Order. This will help ensure that rewriting, reporting, and review efforts are minimized.

The reporting requirements include two significant additions. The first addition is a summary reporting checklist which has been added to the reporting requirements. The checklist has been added to ensure that Copermittees evaluate and demonstrate compliance with all requirements in the Order.
Section K.2 (Other Required Reports) include requirements for information to be included in the SSMP update and the Report of Waste Discharge for the next permit reissuance. The Order requires submittal of a ROWD prior to the expiration of the Order. The section identifies the minimum information to be included in the ROWD, based on USEPA's May 17, 1996 guidance "Interpretive Policy Memorandum on Reapplication Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems."

Section K.3 (Annual Reports) outlines the process and roles of the Copermittees for developing and submitting the JRMP annual report. Information to be included in the annual reports is described in Section K.3.a.3. The due dates have been changed. The JRMP is due approximately six weeks earlier than under Order No. R9-2002-0001. This change is necessary because the existing timelines prevented efficient response by the Copermittees to comments from the Regional Board and the Copermittees' own review. However, the Copermittees may propose alternate reporting criteria and schedules, as part of their updated JRMP, for the Executive Officer's acceptance.

Each Copermittee is required to maintain records demonstrating that Permit activity requirements have been met, which allows the Regional Board to confirm compliance as needed, such as via inspections, program audits, or requests for information per California Water Code Sections 13225 and 13267.

Reporting requirements in the Order focus on results and responses to the effectiveness assessments conducted by the Copermittees. This will allow the Regional Board to determine how appropriately municipalities adapt and tailor their programs to findings from activities and monitoring results. Assessment of progress toward meeting the objectives is possible because the data collected by the Copermittees under Order No. R9-2002-0001 can be used to establish baseline conditions. Compared to activity-based reporting, this will greatly enhance the ability of the Regional Board, Copermittees, and the public to determine whether the programs are successful.

The Order reduces the amount of program activity-based reporting from Order No. R9-2002-0001. Under the CASQA assessment model, activity-based reporting includes primarily outcomes that document compliance with permit requirements (Level 1 outcomes), rather than being indicators of the impact of activity implementation.[251] This approach is consistent with guidance from the USEPA, which notes that annual reports should highlight program effectiveness as well as describing activities.[252] This emphasis is also consistent with recommendations from the National Academy of Public Administration in its report to USEPA on Evaluating Environmental Progress, which suggest that reviewing activities data provides limited value when evaluating the effectiveness of programs and resulting environmental conditions.[253]

The Order maintains some reporting requirements for certain activity-based outcomes. These are mostly focused on activities that establish or revise municipal processes related to storm water runoff and management. The processes required by the Order are especially important in situations where sustaining water quality improvements may require activities that extend beyond the five-year period of the NPDES permit.

In addition, the Order maintains many activity-based reporting requirements related to enforcement of local requirements, with an emphasis on the results from such activities. This is intended to facilitate review of the contributions that inspection and enforcement activities have made toward meeting the goals of the Order. Reporting of these types of activities is supported by recommendations from the National Academy of Public Administration in its report to the USEPA: *Evaluating Environmental Progress: How EPA and the States Can Improve the Quality of Enforcement and Compliance Information* (June 2001).[254] Other activity-based reporting has been reduced to selected items based on consideration of program priorities.

Another source of prioritization for activity-based reporting is the *Storm Water Panel Recommendations to the California State Water Resources Control Board The Feasibility of Numeric Effluent Limits Applicable to Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Municipal, Industrial and Construction Activities* (June 19, 2006). In particular, the panel highlighted needs to improve the design, maintenance, and inspections of best management practices.

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[251] Level 1 outcomes under the CASQA guidance include documentation that required activities have been implemented.
[252] USEPA 2007. *MS4 Program Evaluation Guidance.* USEPA Office of Wastewater Management EPA-833-R-07-003. January 2007 field test version.
[253] National Academy of Public Adminstration 2001. Evaluating Environmental Progress: How EPA and the States Can Improve the Quality of Enforcement and Compliance Information (June 2001). http://www.napawash.org
[254] The National Academy of Public Administration report is available on-line at http://www.napawash.org

L. Modification of Programs

The following legal authority applies to section L:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Section L of the Order provides a process for the Copermittees to modify their runoff management programs. This process will be useful so that the Copermittees can continue to refine and improve their programs based on the findings of their annual program effectiveness assessments. The process allows for minor modifications to the Copermittees' programs where the Copermittees can exhibit that the modifications meet or exceed existing legal requirements under the Order. Such a process avoids lengthy and time consuming formal approvals of proposed modifications before the Regional Board, while still ensuring compliance with applicable legal standards and the Order. The process included in the Order is based on a process utilized by the San Francisco Bay Area Regional Water Quality Control Board in their MS4 permit for Alameda County.[255]

[255] San Francisco Bay Area Regional Water Quality Control Board, 2003. Order No. R2-2003-0021. P. 45.

M. Principal Permittee Responsibilities

The following legal authority applies to section M:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(a)(3)(iii)(C) provides that "A regional authority may be responsible for submitting a permit application."

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(D) provides that "[The Copermittee must demonstrate that it can control] through interagency agreements among coapplicants the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the municipal system to another portion of the municipal system."

No significant changes were made to this section.

N. Receiving Waters Monitoring and Reporting

The following legal authority applies to section N:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402, 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Copermittees must conduct a comprehensive monitoring program as required under Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii) and 122.44.

See section T of this Fact Sheet/Technical Report for a discussion of changes to the Receiving Waters Monitoring and Reporting Program.

O. Standard Provisions, Reporting Requirements, And Notifications

The following legal authority applies to section O:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Standard provisions, reporting requirements, and notifications are consistent to all NPDES permits and are generally found in Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.41.

Section L.2 of the Order has been changed to remove the statement that all plans and reports submitted in compliance with the Order are an enforceable part of the Order. This statement has been removed because it is unnecessary. The Order itself contains sufficient detailed requirements to ensure that compliance with discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, non-storm water action levels and the narrative standard of MEP for storm water are achieved. Implementation by the Copermittees of programs in compliance with the Order's requirements, prohibitions, and receiving water limitations is the pertinent compliance standard to be used under the Order, as opposed to assessing compliance by reviewing the Copermittees' implementation of their plans alone.

Rather than being substantive components of the Order itself, the Copermittees' management plans are simply descriptions of their runoff management programs required under the Order. These plans serve as procedural correspondence which guides program implementation and aids the Copermittees and Regional Board in tracking implementation of the programs. In this manner, the plans are not functional equivalents of the Order. For these reasons, the Copermittees' runoff management plans need not be an enforceable part of the Order.

P. Attachment A – Basin Plan Prohibitions

The following legal authority applies to Attachment A:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: California Water Code Section 13243 provides that "A regional board, in a water quality control plan or in waste discharge requirements, may specify certain conditions or areas where the discharge of waste, or certain types of waste, will not be permitted."

California Water Code Section 13263(a) provides that waste discharge requirements prescribed by the SDRWQCB implement the Basin Plan.

No significant changes were made to this attachment.

Q. Attachment B – Standard Provisions

The following legal authority applies to Attachment B:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Specific Legal Authority: Standard provisions, reporting requirements, and notifications are consistent to all NPDES permits and are generally found in Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.41.

Attachment B includes Standard Provisions which have been developed by the State Board. These Standard Provisions ensure that NPDES permits are consistent and compatible with USEPA's federal regulations. Some Standard Provisions sections specific to publicly owned sewage treatment works are not included in Attachment B.

R. Attachment C – Definitions

The following legal authority applies to Attachment C:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Attachment C contains definitions for terms found in the Order. In addition, definitions for terms previously defined in Order No. R9-2002-0001 Attachment D, but which are not found in the current Order, have been deleted.

An additional section which includes acronyms and abbreviations has been added. This is to ensure clarity and prevent confusion of terms. Definitions have been added for new terms used in the permit to provide a clear understanding of their meaning and use.

S. Attachment D – Summary of Submittals

The following legal authority applies to Attachment D:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, 13383, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and 122.44(i).

Specific Legal Authority: Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.42(c) requires that "The operator of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system or a municipal separate storm sewer system that has been designated by the director under § 122.26(a)(1)(v) of this part must submit an annual report by the anniversary of the date of the issuance of the permit for such system. The report shall include: (1) The status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions; (2) Proposed changes to the storm water management program that are established as permit condition. Such proposed changes shall be consistent with § 122.26(d)(2)(iii) of this part; (3) Revisions, if necessary, to the assessment of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under § 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (d)(2)(v) of this part; (4) A summary of data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year; (5) Annual expenditures and budget for year following each annual report; (6) A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs; (7) Identification of water quality improvements or degradation."

California Water Code section 13267 provides that "the regional board may require than any person who has discharged [...] shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring reports which the regional board requires."

Attachment D to the Order provides a table summary of scheduled submittals required by the Order. Unscheduled submittals are no longer added to the table, since there is no proper due date for such submittals. A task summary has not been created for the Order, since the previous task summary was found to be redundant, repeating information found in the submittal summary and elsewhere in the Order.

A Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program (JRMP) Annual Report Checklist has been added to the reporting requirements. This addition is to determine and ensure that all requirements of the permit are being met. A Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program (JRMP) Annual Report Checklist has been added to the reporting requirements. This addition is to determine and ensure that all requirements of the permit are being met.

T. Attachment E - Receiving Waters and MS4 Discharge Monitoring and Reporting Program

The following legal authority applies to the Receiving Waters and MS4 Discharge Monitoring and Reporting Program:

Broad Legal Authority: CWA sections 402, 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii), CWC section 13377, and Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B, C, E, and F) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv), 122.44 and 122.45.

Specific Legal Authority: Copermittees must conduct a comprehensive monitoring program as required under Federal NPDES regulations 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii).

Federal NPDES regulation 40 CFR 122.42(c) requires that "The operator of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system or a municipal separate storm sewer system that has been designated by the director under § 122.26(a)(1)(v) of this part must submit an annual report by the anniversary of the date of the issuance of the permit for such system. The report shall include: (1) The status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions; (2) Proposed changes to the storm water management program that are established as permit condition. Such proposed changes shall be consistent with § 122.26(d)(2)(iii) of this part; (3) Revisions, if necessary, to the assessment of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under § 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (d)(2)(v) of this part; (4) A summary of data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year; (5) Annual expenditures and budget for year following each annual report; (6) A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs; (7) Identification of water quality improvements or degradation."

California Water Code section 13267 provides that "the regional board may require than any person who has discharged [...] shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring reports which the regional board requires."

1. Purpose

According to USEPA, the benefits of sampling data include, but are not limited to:

1. Providing a means for evaluating the environmental risk of storm water discharges by identifying types and amounts of pollutants present;
2. Determining the relative potential for storm water discharges to contribute to water quality impacts or water quality standard violations;
3. Identifying potential sources of pollutants; and

4. Eliminating or controlling identified sources more specifically through permit conditions.[256]

Equally important, monitoring programs are an essential link in the improvement of storm water management efforts. Data collected from monitoring programs can be assessed to determine the effectiveness of management programs and practices, which is vital for the success of the iterative approach used to meet the MEP standard for storm water. Specifically, when data indicates that a particular BMP or program component is not effective, improved efforts can be selected and implemented. Also, when water quality data indicate that water quality standards or objectives are being exceeded, particular pollutants, sources, and drainage areas can be identified and targeted for specific management efforts.

Considering the benefits described above, the Receiving Waters Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) has been designed to determine impacts to receiving water quality and beneficial uses from storm water runoff and to use the results to refine the Copermittees' storm water runoff management programs for the reduction of storm water pollutant loadings to the MEP. For non-storm water discharges, monitoring has been designed for the identification of prohibited illicit discharges and to determine appropriate actions to take in response to dry weather non-storm water action levels. Additionally, the results from dry weather non-storm water monitoring can be used to evaluate exempted non-storm water discharges as a source or conveyance of pollutants. The primary goals of the MRP include:

1. Assess compliance with Order No. R9-2009-0002;
2. Measure and improve the effectiveness of the Copermittees' runoff management programs;
3. Assess the chemical, physical, and biological impacts of receiving waters from MS4 discharges;
4. Characterize storm water runoff discharges;
5. Identify sources of specific pollutants;
6. Prioritize drainage and sub-drainage areas that need management actions;
7. Detect and eliminate illicit discharges and illicit connections to the MS4;
8. Assess the overall health of receiving waters; and
9. Provide information to implement required BMP improvements

[256] USEPA, 1992. NPDES Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document. EPA/833-B-92-001.

Each of the components of the MRP is necessary to meet the objectives listed above. In addition, the MRP has been designed in accordance with the guidance provided by the Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition's Model Monitoring Technical Committee in its August 2004 "Model Monitoring Program for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems in Southern California." This guidance document was developed in response to Senate Bill 72 (Kuehl), which addressed the standardization of sampling and analysis protocols in municipal stormwater monitoring programs. The technical committee which developed the guidance included representatives from Southern California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (including San Diego), municipal storm water Permittees (including the County of Orange), Heal the Bay, and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project.

As its title suggests, the guidance essentially developed a model municipal storm water monitoring program for use in Southern California. The model program is structured around five fundamental management questions, outlined below. The MRP is designed as an iterative step towards ensuring that the Copermittees' monitoring program can fully answer each of the five management questions.

1. Are conditions in receiving waters protective, or likely to be protective, of beneficial uses?
2. What is the extent and magnitude of the current or potential receiving water problems?
3. What is the relative storm water runoff contribution to the receiving water problem(s)?
4. What are the sources of storm water runoff that contribute to receiving water problem(s)?
5. Are conditions in receiving waters getting better or worse?

The justifications for each component of the monitoring program are discussed below.

2. Monitoring Program

Mass Loading Station Monitoring

The intent of current mass loading monitoring as conducted by the Copermittees is to use water chemistry data from storm events and dry weather flows to calculate pollutant loads and to assess water quality with respect to applicable acute and chronic toxicity criteria from the California Toxics Rule (CTR).[257]

[257] Orange County Storm Water Permittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge, section C-11.3.2.

Section II.A.1 of the MRP requires mass loading and toxicity monitoring at monitoring stations located at the bottom of major watersheds within Orange County. The mass loading monitoring will provide data representing event mean concentrations of pollutants, total pollutant loadings, and toxicity conditions from specific drainage areas. Mass loading monitoring stations are recommended by the Model Monitoring Technical Committee in order to answer management questions 1, 2, and 5.[258] The stations are also expected to contribute towards meeting MRP goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8. The locations of the mass loading monitoring stations are not changed from Order No. R9-2002-0001. However, the frequency of monitoring has been changed, and some revisions to the constituents have been made.

The frequency of mass loading monitoring in Order No. 2009-0002 has been modified to include two wet and two dry weather events. Currently three wet events have been targeted (though usually two or less have been sampled). This modification is not expected to affect long-term trend analyses for storm events since the monitoring to date has been sporadic.[259] Dry weather monitoring is necessary because dry-weather flows in these watersheds are now perennial and changes have been made to the Order for non-storm water discharges. The addition of dry weather monitoring provides a more comprehensive temporal view of the watershed, which will improve the Copermittees' ability to understand the dynamics of annual pollutant loading.

In addition, the required constituents include some revisions to Order No. R9-2002-0001. The changes are made to be compatible with the federal NPDES regulations and in response to data collected during the current permit term. The changes include:

1. All events must now include Biological Oxygen Demand, 5-day Chemical Oxygen Demand, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Organic Carbon. These are specifically identified in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(B), but were omitted from Order No. R9-2002-01.

2. Carbamate and Pyrethroid pesticides must initially be monitored in Prima Deshecha and Segunda Deshecha watersheds. If carbamate and/or pyrethroid pesticides are found to correlate with observed acute or chronic toxicity, then sampling and analysis for that pesticide must be added to all stations displaying toxicity. The Copermittees suggest adding these pesticides to Prima and Segunda Deshecha watersheds in an attempt to find a cause for observed persistent toxicity at those stations.[260] If these pesticides are found in these watersheds, then they will likely be present in the other developed watersheds of the Region.

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[258] Model Monitoring Technical Committee, 2004. Model Monitoring Program for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems in Southern California. Chapter 5.
[259] Mass loading monitoring has been hampered by technical difficulties. For instance, only four of six stations were operational during the 2004-05 season, and only three stations were operational during 2002-04 season.
[260] Orange County Storm Water Permittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge, section C-11.4.1.

3. Impaired water body pollutants. Specific pollutants have been added in response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approval of California's 2004-2006 Section 303(d) Water Quality Limited Waters List. Monitoring for these pollutants is specific to the watershed in which the impairment is located.

4. Dimethoate monitoring has been eliminated because data collected to date has not observed any significant levels at the mass emissions stations.

5. A requirement to collect a grab sample for total petroleum hydrocarbons whenever a sheen is observed has been added at the suggestion of the County of Orange.

Bioassessment

Section II.A.2 of the MRP requires the Copermittees to conduct bioassessment monitoring. Bioassessment monitoring is a cost-effective tool that measures the effects of water quality over time.[261] It is an important indicator of stream health and impacts from storm water and non-storm water runoff. It can detect impacts that chemical and toxicity monitoring cannot. USEPA encourages permitting authorities to consider requiring biological monitoring methods to fully characterize the nature and extent of impacts from runoff.[262] Therefore, the Regional Board commonly requires bioassessment monitoring in MS4 and other types of discharge permits.

Bioassessment is the direct measurement of the biological condition, physical condition, and attainment of beneficial uses of receiving waters (typically using benthic macroinvertebrates, periphyton, and fish). Bioassessment monitoring integrates the effects of both water chemistry and physical habitat impacts (e.g., sedimentation or erosion) of various discharges on the biological community native to the receiving waters. Moreover, bioassessment is a direct measurement of the impact of cumulative, sub-lethal doses of pollutants that may be below reasonable water chemistry detection limits, but that still have biological affects.

[261] California Department of Fish and Game, 2002. California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region 2002 Biological Assessment Report: Results of May 2001 Reference Site Study and Preliminary Index of Biotic Integrity.
[262] USEPA, 1999. Rapid Bioassessment Protocols for Use in Wadeable Streams and Rivers. EPA 841-B-99-002. P. 2-5.

Because bioassessment focuses on communities of living organisms as integrators of cumulative impacts resulting from water quality or habitat degradation, it defines the ecological risks resulting from storm water and non-storm water MS4 runoff. Bioassessment not only identifies that an impact has occurred, but also measures the effect of the impact and tracks recovery when control or restoration measures have been taken. These features make bioassessment a powerful tool to assess compliance, evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs, and to track both short and long-term trends (MRP goals 1,2,3, and 8). Bioassessment can also help answer management questions 1, 2, and 5.

The Order also identifies the most current established protocol to be used in identifying bioassessment reference stations. The protocol referenced in the Order is specified because it provides a qualitative and repeatable method for identifying reference sites. Moreover, the protocol is well established, since it has been peer reviewed and published.

The Order includes four modifications to the bioassessment monitoring required under Order 2002-0001. These changes include:

1. Bioassessment monitoring must utilize the targeted riffle composite approach, which is consistent with the State Board's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) Quality Assurance Management Plan (QAMP), as amended. Through SWAMP, various bioassessment methods were evaluated and it was found that the targeted riffle composite approach was a particularly efficient method, providing accurate data in a cost efficient manner.

2. Bioassessment monitoring to include assessment of periphyton (algae). Advantages of bioassessment using periphyton include: (1) they have rapid reproduction rates and very short life cycles, making them valuable indicators of short-term impacts; (2) as primary producers, they are most directly affected by physical and chemical factors; (3) sampling is easy and inexpensive; and (4) algal assemblages are sensitive to some pollutants which may not visibly affect other aquatic assemblages.[263] Future bioassessment must use algal IBI scores, when developed.

[263] USEPA, 1999. Rapid Bioassessment Protocols for Use in Wadeable Streams and Rivers. EPA 841-B-99-002. P. 3-3.

3. One of the two required annual monitoring events has been eliminated for streams exhibiting perennial flows. The Copermittees suggest this approach in response to analyses that indicate that the physical habitat conditions are better correlated than aquatic chemistry data with IBI scores.[264] The Copermittees analyses indicate that although biological communities are different in the Fall and Spring, both seasonal communities indicate the same common relationships to spatial biological patterns and potential variables that explain the differences. For instance, downstream urbanized locations which exhibit perennial flows display lower IBI scores than reference sites regardless of the season, even if the biological community at a downstream site differs between the Fall and Spring.

4. The number of bioassessment stations has been reduced from 12 to six. This will allow resources to be available to implement the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition's program for Regional Monitoring of Southern California's Coastal Watersheds (Section II.D.3). The Regional Monitoring program calls for six sites to be sampled each year and includes each of the basic elements within the Copermittees' bioassessment monitoring program. Although the amount of toxicity tests are reduced, wetland status analyses will also be analyzed. The Regional Monitoring program is discussed in Section II.D.3 below.

Follow-up Analyses and Actions

Section II.A.3 of the MRP requires the Copermittees to use the results of the chemistry, toxicity, and bioassessment monitoring to determine if impacts from MS4 discharges are occurring and when follow-up actions are necessary. The triad approach allows a wide range of measurements to be combined to more efficiently identify pollutants, their sources, and appropriate follow-up actions. Results from the three types of monitoring shall be assessed to evaluate the extent and causes of pollution in receiving waters and to prioritize management actions to eliminate or reduce the sources. The framework provided is to be used to determine conclusions from the data and appropriate follow-up actions. The framework is proposed by the Copermittees and derived from the Model Monitoring Program for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems in Southern California.[265] These follow-up actions are expected to primarily help answer management questions 2 and 4, as well as address MRP goals 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

[264] Orange County Storm Water Copermittees. 2006. Report of Waste Discharge (San Diego Region), section 11 and 2005-06 Annual Report section 11.3
[265] Model Monitoring Technical Committee, 2004. Model Monitoring Program for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems in Southern California. P. 5-61.

When, based on the framework in Table 2 of the M&R Program, data indicates the presence of toxic pollutants in runoff, the Copermittees are required to conduct a Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE). A TIE is a set of procedures used to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity to aquatic organisms. When discharges are toxic to a test organism, a TIE must be conducted to confirm potential constituents of concern and rule out others, therefore allowing Copermittees to determine and prioritize appropriate management actions. If a sample is toxic to more than one species, it is necessary to determine the toxicant(s) affecting each species. If the type and source of pollutants can be identified based on the data alone and an analysis of potential sources in the drainage area, a TIE is not necessary.

When a TIE identifies a pollutant associated with MS4 discharge as a cause of toxicity, it is then necessary to conduct follow-up actions to identify the causative agents of toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity. Follow-up actions should analyze all potential source(s) causing toxicity, potential BMPs to eliminate or reduce the pollutants causing toxicity, and suggested monitoring to demonstrate that toxicity has been removed.

Ambient Coastal Receiving Waters Monitoring

The Copermittees have been implementing a phased Ambient Coastal Monitoring Program that initially involved monitoring chemistry and aquatic toxicity of dry and storm water discharges to ecologically sensitive areas along the coastline. Later, aerial photographs of storm water plumes were taken to estimate the spatial extent of the impact of storm water runoff. The results were used to identify storm drains for source and toxicity identification studies, including sampling of storm water plumes.

Section II.A.4 of the MRP allows the Copermittees to continue the existing program, while requiring that the special studies be consistent with the MRP goals and that stations be located within Areas of Special Biological Significance.

Coastal Storm Drain Monitoring

Section II.A.5 of the MRP has been extensively modified and changed to a Regional Monitoring Program.

Section II.A.5.a. Coastal storm drain monitoring has been replaced with a Regional Bacteria Monitoring section. Coastal storm drain monitoring is critical because one of the primary impacts to coastal receiving waters is the loss of recreational beneficial uses resulting from high levels of bacteria in storm water and non-storm water MS4 runoff. The regional monitoring program is expected to help answer management questions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, as well as address MRP goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

The changes to the coastal storm drain monitoring program have been made in response to the Copermittees' request. The Copermittees recommend participation in the regional program to save cost, prevent redundancy, improve notification times and provide more effort toward intensive investigations of problematic storm drains.[266] This section has been modified to allow the Copermittees to participate in the development and subsequent regional bacteria monitoring program upon review and approval from the Executive Officer. An adaptive approach is consistent with the Model Monitoring Technical Committee's recommendations.

High Priority Inland Aquatic Habitats

Section II.A.6 of the MRP has been removed.

Wet Weather MS4 Runoff Discharge Monitoring

Section II.B of the MRP requires the Copermittees to develop and implement a program to monitor and characterize pollutant discharges from MS4 outfalls. Currently the Copermittees do not monitor the discharge of storm water from the MS4 outfalls. As a result, a substantial amount of information regarding the quality of MS4 effluent is unknown. The collection of wet-weather data will enable the Copermittees to assess the effectiveness of existing storm water BMP measures. This data can be used to more effectively target storm water management program efforts. The MRP also requires compliance with Section D of the Order for Storm Water Action Levels.

The monitoring of outfalls is expected to be used to identify storm drains that are discharging pollutants in concentrations that may pose a threat to receiving waters. Source investigations are expected to be conducted as a response to the data.

The MRP provides the Copermittees great flexibility in assigning stations for wet-weather monitoring. Copermittees are to choose the number and frequency of monitoring stations, thus determining the overall cost of their program.

The monitoring requirements also include a requirement to measure receiving water hardness when comparing storm water MS4 discharge data to Storm Water Action Levels for priority pollutants (e.g. metals). The effect of these constituents upon receiving waters will vary depending upon the hardness of receiving waters.

[266] Ibid

Section II.B.2 requires the Copermittees to develop and implement a program to identify sources of discharges of pollutants causing the high priority water quality problems within each watershed. This requirement should be easily met because of the foundation already developed by the Copermittees in response to Order No. R9-2002-0001. To some extent, the Copermittees do conduct follow-up monitoring in response to dry-weather outfall data. The ROWD and 2007 DAMP describe some guidance that is provided by the County to the Copermittees, and it is expected that the Copermittees will develop follow-up monitoring programs for storm water discharges. The ROWD does recommend that additional training be provided for the municipalities with respect to interpreting and using the data collected by the County. In addition, many of the Copermittees have developed procedures and experience in conducting follow-up investigations in response to the bacteria investigations in the Aliso Creek watershed.[267]

Identification of sources causing high priority water quality problems is a central purpose of storm water runoff management programs. Monitoring which enables the Copermittees to identify sources of water quality problems aids the Copermittees in focusing their management efforts, improving their programs and choosing additional and/or better BMPs. In turn, the Copermittees' programs can abate identified sources, which will improve the quality of storm water runoff discharges and receiving waters. This monitoring is needed to address management question 4. Moreover, in its review of the San Diego County Copermittees' monitoring proposal, Tetra Tech, Inc. finds that "after some years of assessment monitoring, it is time to look more systematically at determining the relative urban contributions and the sources of urban runoff that contribute to identified receiving water problems."[268]

Non-storm Water Dry Weather Action Levels

Section II.C of the MRP describes the monitoring to be conducted by the Copermittees to determine compliance with dry weather, non-storm water action levels.

Section II.B.3 has been changed by removal of the Dry Weather Field Screening and Analytical Monitoring and subsequent replacement with section II.C for Dry Weather Non-Storm Water Action Level Monitoring. This change is required to assess compliance with action levels for non-storm water discharges from the MS4 into receiving waters. The required sampling frequency has been changed to allow Copermittees to sample a representative number of discharge points and the sampling methodology has been changed to grab sampling. This is expected to allow Copermittees to maintain a cost-neutral dry weather monitoring program that is similar to their existing IC/ID monitoring program.

[267] Copermittees in the Aliso Creek watershed include the County of Orange and the Cities of Aliso Viejo, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, and Mission Viejo.
[268] Tetra Tech Inc., 2006. Review of San Diego County MS4 Monitoring Program.

Special Studies

Section II.D.1 of the MRP absorbs the bacteria monitoring and reporting program currently in place in the Aliso Creek watershed.[269] This monitoring effort has been required by the Regional Board pursuant to authorities provided under California Water Code sections 13225 and 13267. The monitoring and reporting is focused solely on the MS4s in the Aliso Creek watershed and has effectively been integrated already into the Copermittees' programs. Inclusion of it into the MRP is done for organizational purposes and will have no other net effect.

Section II.D.3 includes a requirement to participate in the program for Regional Monitoring of Southern California's Coastal Watersheds developed by the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition. That program calls for the sampling of six locations within the Permit area each year. All sampling will be SWAMP comparable. Sampling includes water chemistry, aquatic toxicity (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*), physical habitat, benthic macroinvertebrates, wetland status (based on California Rapid Assessment Method protocols), and periphyton.

Section II.D.4 includes a requirement that the Copermittees conduct a sediment toxicity special study. This study has been added to the Monitoring and Reporting requirements to assess the quality of urban stream sediments and possible contamination due to runoff from the MS4. Toxicity tests focusing on aqueous toxicity may not account for the full toxicity of receiving waters if constituents, such as heavy metals or pesticides, are bound to sediments. Southern California studies have shown that stream sediments can exhibit significant levels of toxic metals and pesticides.[270,271]

Section II.D.5 includes a requirement that the Copermittees conduct a Trash and Litter Impairment Investigation (see Finding C.8 and Discussion).

Monitoring Provisions

Section II.E of the MRP includes monitoring provisions which are standard requirements for all municipal storm water permits.

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[269] On October 12, 2005, the Regional Board accepted the revised Aliso Creek watershed bacteria monitoring plan proposal from the MS4 Permittees. The Regional Board concluded that the scope of the current bacteria monitoring in the watershed was no longer warranted and that the proposed changes would constitute an effective interim program until adoption of a Total Maximum Daily Load, requiring a bacteria reduction and assessment program for the watershed. In addition, the Regional Board recognized that as a result of reduced monitoring costs, the municipalities expect to direct additional resources toward implementation of management practices to reduce indicator bacteria and pathogens.

[270] Holmes, R.W., Anderson, B.S., Phillips, B.M., Hunt, J.W., Crane, D.B., Mekebri, A. and V. Connor. 2008. Statewide Investigation of the Role of Pyrethroid Pesticides in Sediment Toxicity in California's Urban Waterways. *Environmental Science Technology* 42: 7003-7009..

[271] Crane, D.B. and C. Younghans-Haug. 1992. Oxadiazon residue concentrations in sediment, fish, and shellfish from a combined residential/agricultural area in Southern California. *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology.* Volume 48, no. 4.

2. Reporting Program

Section III of the MRP discusses submittal of the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Reports and the Receiving Waters Monitoring Annual Reports. In effect, a description of the monitoring program will be submitted with the Jurisdictional RMPs, and the monitoring data and assessment will be submitted one month later. The MRP continues the reporting approach utilized under the requirements of Order No. R9-2002-0001, where Lead Permittees for each watershed submit their annual reports to the Principal Permittee to be unified into one document.

The reporting requirements for the Aliso Creek watershed are also specified in this section. These reporting requirements are identical to the current reporting required by the Regional Board for the bacteria investigation. They are specified in this section because the requirements are more specific than reporting required for other watershed RMPs.

U. Attachment F - Source Data

Attachment F contains data utilized for the development of Storm Water Action Levels and Non-storm Water Action Levels.

Tab 2

40 CFR 122.21

This document is current through the May 10, 2017 issue of the Federal Register. Pursuant to 82 FR 8346 ("Regulatory Freeze Pending Review"), certain regulations will be delayed pending further review. See Publisher's Note under affected rules. Title 3 is current through May 5, 2017.

§ 122.21 Application for a permit (applicable to State programs, see § 123.25).

(a) Duty to apply.

(1) Any person who discharges or proposes to discharge pollutants or who owns or operates a "sludge-only facility" whose sewage sludge use or disposal practice is regulated by part 503 of this chapter, and who does not have an effective permit, except persons covered by general permits under § 122.28, excluded under § 122.3, or a user of a privately owned treatment works unless the Director requires otherwise under § 122.44(m), must submit a complete application to the Director in accordance with this section and part 124 of this chapter. The requirements for concentrated animal feeding operations are described in § 122.23(d).

(2) Application Forms: (i) All applicants for EPA-issued permits must submit applications on EPA permit application forms. More than one application form may be required from a facility depending on the number and types of discharges or outfalls found there. Application forms may be obtained by contacting the EPA water resource center at (202) 260-7786 or Water Resource Center, U.S. EPA, Mail Code 4100, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460 or at the EPA Internet site *www.epa.gov/owm* pdes.htm. Applications for EPA-issued permits must be submitted as follows:

(A) All applicants, other than POTWs and TWTDS, must submit Form 1.

(B) Applicants for new and existing POTWs must submit the information contained in paragraph (j) of this section using Form 2A or other form provided by the director.

(C) Applicants for concentrated animal feeding operations or aquatic animal production facilities must submit Form 2B.

(D) Applicants for existing industrial facilities (including manufacturing facilities, commercial facilities, mining activities, and silvicultural activities), must submit Form 2C.

(E) Applicants for new industrial facilities that discharge process wastewater must submit Form 2D.

(F) Applicants for new and existing industrial facilities that discharge only nonprocess wastewater must submit Form 2E.

(G) Applicants for new and existing facilities whose discharge is composed entirely of storm water associated with industrial activity must submit Form 2F, unless exempted by § 122.26(c)(1)(ii). If the discharge is composed of storm water and non-storm water, the applicant must also submit, Forms 2C, 2D, and/or 2E, as appropriate (in addition to Form 2F).

(H) Applicants for new and existing TWTDS, subject to paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this section must submit the application information required by paragraph (q) of this section, using Form 2S or other form provided by the director.

(ii) The application information required by paragraph (a)(2)(i) of this section may be electronically submitted if such method of submittal is approved by EPA or the Director.

(iii) Applicants can obtain copies of these forms by contacting the Water Management Divisions (or equivalent division which contains the NPDES permitting function) of the EPA Regional Offices. The Regional Offices' addresses can be found at § 1.7 of this chapter.

(iv) Applicants for State-issued permits must use State forms which must require at a minimum the information listed in the appropriate paragraphs of this section.

(b) Who applies? When a facility or activity is owned by one person but is operated by another person, it is the operator's duty to obtain a permit.

(c) Time to apply.

(1) Any person proposing a new discharge, shall submit an application at least 180 days before the date on which the discharge is to commence, unless permission for a later date has been granted by the Director. Facilities proposing a new discharge of storm water associated with industrial activity shall submit an application 180 days before that facility commences industrial activity which may result in a discharge of storm water associated with that industrial activity. Facilities described under § 122.26(b)(14)(x) or (b)(15)(i) shall submit applications at least 90 days before the date on which construction is to commence. Different submittal dates may be required under the terms of applicable general permits. Persons proposing a new discharge are encouraged to submit their applications well in advance of the 90 or 180 day requirements to avoid delay. See also paragraph (k) of this section and § 122.26(c)(1)(i)(G) and (c)(1)(ii).

(2) Permits under section 405(f) of CWA. All TWTDS whose sewage sludge use or disposal practices are regulated by part 503 of this chapter must submit permit applications according to the applicable schedule in paragraphs (c)(2)(i) or (ii) of this section.

(i)A TWTDS with a currently effective NPDES permit must submit a permit application at the time of its next NPDES permit renewal application. Such information must be submitted in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section.

(ii) Any other TWTDS not addressed under paragraphs (c)(2)(i) of this section must submit the information listed in paragraphs (c)(2)(ii)(A) through (E) of this section to the Director within 1 year after publication of a standard applicable to its sewage sludge use or disposal practice(s), using Form 2S or another form provided by the Director. The Director will determine when such TWTDS must submit a full permit application.

Tab 3

40 CFR 123.22

This document is current through the May 10, 2017 issue of the Federal Register. Pursuant to 82 FR 8346 ("Regulatory Freeze Pending Review"), certain regulations will be delayed pending further review. See Publisher's Note under affected rules. Title 3 is current through May 5, 2017.

§ 123.22 Program description.

Any State that seeks to administer a program under this part shall submit a description of the program it proposes to administer in lieu of the Federal program under State law or under an interstate compact. The program description shall include:

(a)A description in narrative form of the scope, structure, coverage and processes of the State program.

(b)A description (including organization charts) of the organization and structure of the State agency or agencies which will have responsibility for administering the program, including the information listed below. If more than one agency is responsible for administration of a program, each agency must have statewide jurisdiction over a class of activities. The responsibilities of each agency must be delineated, their procedures for coordination set forth, and an agency may be designated as a "lead agency" to facilitate communications between EPA and the State agencies having program responsibility. If the State proposes to administer a program of greater scope of coverage than is required by Federal law, the information provided under this paragraph shall indicate the resources dedicated to administering the Federally required portion of the program.

(1)A description of the State agency staff who will carry out the State program, including the number, occupations, and general duties of the employees. The State need not submit complete job descriptions for every employee carrying out the State program.

(2) An itemization of the estimated costs of establishing and administering the program for the first two years after approval, including cost of the personnel listed in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, cost of administrative support, and cost of technical support.

(3) An itemization of the sources and amounts of funding, including an estimate of Federal grant money, available to the State Director for the first two years after approval to meet the costs listed in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, identifying any restrictions or limitations upon this funding.

(c)A description of applicable State procedures, including permitting procedures and any State administrative or judicial review procedures;

(d) Copies of the permit form(s), application form(s), and reporting form(s) the State intends to employ in its program. Forms used by States need not be identical to the forms used by EPA

but should require the same basic information, except that State NPDES programs are required to use standard Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR). The State need not provide copies of uniform national forms it intends to use but should note its intention to use such forms.

NOTE: States are encouraged to use uniform national forms established by the Administrator. If uniform national forms are used, they may be modified to include the State Agency's name, address, logo, and other similar information, as appropriate, in place of EPA's.

(e)A complete description of the State's compliance tracking and enforcement program.

(f) In the case of Indian Tribes eligible for treatment as a State under § 123.33(b), if a State has been authorized by EPA to issue permits on the Federal Indian reservation in accordance with § 123.23(b), a description of how responsibility for pending permit applications, existing permits, and supporting files will be transferred from the State to the eligible Indian Tribe. To the maximum extent practicable, this should include a Memorandum of Agreement negotiated between the State and the Indian Tribe addressing the arrangements for such transfer.

(g)A state, tribe, or territory that newly seeks to implement an NPDES program after March 21, 2016 must describe whether the state, tribe, or territory will be the initial recipient of electronic NPDES information from NPDES-regulated facilities for specific NPDES data groups (see *40 CFR 127.2(c)* and *127.27*). In this program description, the state, tribe, or territory must identify the specific NPDES data groups for which the state, tribe, or territory will be the initial recipient of electronic NPDES information from NPDES-regulated facilities and how the electronic data system of the state, tribe, or territory will be compliant with 40 CFR part 3 (including, in all cases, subpart D to part 3), § 123.26, and 40 CFR part 127.

Statutory Authority

AUTHORITY NOTE APPLICABLE TO ENTIRE PART:

Clean Water Act, *33 U.S.C. 1251* et seq.

History

[48 FR 14178, Apr. 1, 1983; *50 FR 6941,* Feb. 19, 1985, as amended at *54 FR 18784,* May 2, 1989; *58 FR 67981,* Dec. 22, 1993; *59 FR 64343,* Dec. 14, 1994; *63 FR 45114, 45122,* Aug. 24, 1998; *80 FR 64064, 64099,* Oct. 22, 2015]

Annotations

Notes

[EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE:

63 FR 45114, 45122, Aug. 24, 1998, removed paragraph (f) and redesignated paragraph (g) as paragraph (f), effective Sept. 23, 1998; *80 FR 64064, 64099,* Oct. 22, 2015, added paragraph (g), effective Dec. 21, 2015.]

Tab 4

40 CFR 123.25

§ 123.25 Requirements for permitting.

(a) All State Programs under this part must have legal authority to implement each of the following provisions and must be administered in conformance with each, except that States are not precluded from omitting or modifying any provisions to impose more stringent requirements:

(1)§ 122.4 -- (Prohibitions):

(2)§ 122.5(a) and (b) -- (Effect of permit);

(3)§ 122.7(b) and (c) -- (Confidential information);

(4)§ 122.21 (a)-(b), (c)(2), (e)-(k), (m)-(p), (q), and (r) -- (Application for a permit);

(5)§ 122.22 -- (Signatories);

(6)§ 122.23 -- (Concentrated animal feeding operations);

(7)§ 122.24 -- (Concentrated aquatic animal production facilities);

(8)§ 122.25 -- (Aquaculture projects);

(9)§ 122.26 -- (Storm water discharges);

(10)§ 122.27 -- (Silviculture);

(11)§ 122.28 -- (General permits), Provided that States which do not seek to implement the general permit program under § 122.28 need not do so.

(12) Section 122.41 (a)(1) and (b) through (n) -- (Applicable permit conditions) (Indian Tribes can satisfy enforcement authority requirements under § 123.34);

(13)§ 122.42 -- (Conditions applicable to specified categories of permits);

(14)§ 122.43 -- (Establishing permit conditions);

(15)§ 122.44 -- (Establishing NPDES permit conditions);

(16)§ 122.45 -- (Calculating permit conditions);

(17)§ 122.46 -- (Duration);

(18)§ 122.47(a) -- (Schedules of compliance);

(19)§ 122.48 -- (Monitoring requirements);

(20)§ 122.50 -- (Disposal into wells);

(21)§ 122.61 -- (Permit transfer);

(22)§ 122.62 -- (Permit modification);

(23)§ 122.64 -- (Permit termination);

(24)§ 124.3(a) -- (Application for a permit);

(25)§ 124.5 (a), (c), (d), and (f) -- (Modification of permits);

(26)§ 124.6 (a), (c), (d), and (e) -- (Draft permit);

(27)§ 124.8 -- (Fact sheets);

(28)§ 124.10 (a)(1)(ii), (a)(1)(iii), (a)(1)(v), (b), (c), (d), and (e) -- (Public notice);

(29)§ 124.11 -- (Public comments and requests for hearings);

(30)§ 124.12(a) -- (Public hearings); and

(31)§ 124.17 (a) and (c) -- (Response to comments);

(32)§ 124.56 -- (Fact sheets);

(33)§ 124.57(a) -- (Public notice);

(34)§ 124.59 -- (Comments from government agencies);

(35)§ 124.62 -- (Decision on variances);

(36) Subparts A, B, D, H, I, J, and N of part 125 of this chapter;

(37)40 CFR parts 129, 133, and subchapter N;

(38) For a Great Lakes State or Tribe (as defined in *40 CFR 132.2*), 40 CFR part 132 (NPDES permitting implementation procedures only);

(39)§ 122.30 (What are the objectives of the storm water regulations for small MS4s?);

(40)§ 122.31 (For Indian Tribes only) (As a Tribe, what is my role under the NPDES storm water program?);

(41)§ 122.32 (As an operator of a small MS4, am I regulated under the NPDES storm water program?);

(42)§ 122.33 (If I am an operator of a regulated small MS4, how do I apply for an NPDES permit? When do I have to apply?);

(43)§ 122.34 (As an operator of a regulated small MS4, what will my NPDES MS4 storm water permit require?);

(44)§ 122.35 (As an operator of a regulated small MS4, may I share the responsibility to implement the minimum control measures with other entities?);

(45)§ 122.36 (As an operator of a regulated small MS4, what happens if I don't comply with the application or permit requirements in §§ 122.33 through 122.35?); and

(46)40 CFR part 3 (Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Regulation) and 40 CFR part 127 (NPDES Electronic Reporting Requirements).

Note to paragraph (a): Except for paragraph (a)(46) of this section, states need not implement provisions identical to the above listed provisions. Implemented provisions must, however, establish requirements at least as stringent as the corresponding listed provisions. While States may impose more stringent requirements, they may not make one requirement more lenient as a tradeoff for making another requirement more stringent; for example, by requiring that public hearings be held prior to issuing any permit while reducing the amount of advance notice of such a hearing.

State programs may, if they have adequate legal authority, implement any of the provisions of parts 122 and 124. See, for example, §§ 122.5(d) (continuation of permits) and 124.4 (consolidation of permit processing) of this chapter.

For example, a State may impose more stringent requirements in an NPDES program by omitting the upset provision of § 122.41 of this chapter or by requiring more prompt notice of an upset.

(b) State NPDES programs shall have an approved continuing planning process under *40 CFR 130.5* and shall assure that the approved planning process is at all times consistent with the CWA.

(c) State NPDES programs shall ensure that any board or body which approves all or portions of permits shall not include as a member any person who receives, or has during the previous 2 years received, a significant portion of income directly or indirectly from permit holders or applicants for a permit.

(1) For the purposes of this paragraph:

(i) Board or body includes any individual, including the Director, who has or shares authority to approve all or portions of permits either in the first instance, as modified or reissued, or on appeal.

(ii) Significant portion of income means 10 percent or more of gross personal income for a calendar year, except that it means 50 percent or more of gross personal income for a calendar year if the recipient is over 60 years of age and is receiving that portion under retirement, pension, or similar arrangement.

(iii) Permit holders or applicants for a permit does not include any department or agency of a State government, such as a Department of Parks or a Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(iv) Income includes retirement benefits, consultant fees, and stock dividends.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (c) of this section, income is not received "directly or indirectly from permit holders or applicants for a permit" when it is derived from mutual fund payments, or from other diversified investments for which the recipient does not know the identity of the primary sources of income.

Statutory Authority

AUTHORITY NOTE APPLICABLE TO ENTIRE PART:

Clean Water Act, *33 U.S.C. 1251* et seq.

Tab 5

40 CFR 124.8

This document is current through the May 10, 2017 issue of the Federal Register. Pursuant to 82 FR 8346 ("Regulatory Freeze Pending Review"), certain regulations will be delayed pending further review. See Publisher's Note under affected rules. Title 3 is current through May 5, 2017.

§ 124.8 Fact sheet.

(Applicable to State programs, see §§ 123.25 (NPDES), 145.11 (UIC), 233.26 (404), and 271.14 (RCRA).)

(a)A fact sheet shall be prepared for every draft permit for a major HWM, UIC, 404, or NPDES facility or activity, for every Class I sludge management facility, for every 404 and NPDES general permit (§§ 237.37 and 122.28), for every NPDES draft permit that incorporates a variance or requires an explanation under § 124.56(b), for every draft permit that includes a sewage sludge land application plan under *40 CFR 501.15(a)(2)(ix)*, and for every draft permit which the Director finds is the subject of wide-spread public interest or raises major issues. The fact sheet shall briefly set forth the principal facts and the significant factual, legal, methodological and policy questions considered in preparing the draft permit. The Director shall send this fact sheet to the applicant and, on request, to any other person.

(b) The fact sheet shall include, when applicable:

(1)A brief description of the type of facility or activity which is the subject of the draft permit;

(2) The type and quantity of wastes, fluids, or pollutants which are proposed to be or are being treated, stored, disposed of, injected, emitted, or discharged.

(3) For a PSD permit, the degree of increment consumption expected to result from operation of the facility or activity.

(4)A brief summary of the basis for the draft permit conditions including references to applicable statutory or regulatory provisions and appropriate supporting references to the administrative record required by § 124.9 (for EPA-issued permits);

(5) Reasons why any requested variances or alternatives to required standards do or do not appear justified;

(6)A description of the procedures for reaching a final decision on the draft permit including:

(i) The beginning and ending dates of the comment period under § 124.10 and the address where comments will be received;

(ii) Procedures for requesting a hearing and the nature of that hearing; and

(iii) Any other procedures by which the public may participate in the final decision.

(7) Name and telephone number of a person to contact for additional information.

(8) For NPDES permits, provisions satisfying the requirements of § 124.56.

(9) Justification for waiver of any application requirements under § 122.21(j) or (q) of this chapter.

Statutory Authority

AUTHORITY NOTE APPLICABLE TO ENTIRE PART:

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, *42 U.S.C. 6901* et seq.; Safe Drinking Water Act, *42 U.S.C. 300f* et seq.; Clean Water Act, *33 U.S.C. 1251* et seq.; Clean Air Act, *42 U.S.C. 7401* et seq.

History

[48 FR 14264, Apr. 1, 1983, as amended at *54 FR 18786,* May 2, 1989; *64 FR 42434, 42470,* Aug. 4, 1999, as corrected at *64 FR 43426,* Aug. 10, 1999; *65 FR 43586, 43661,* July 13, 2000, withdrawn at *68 FR 13608, 13614,* Mar. 19, 2003; *66 FR 53044, 53048,* Oct. 18, 2001]

Annotations

Case Notes

LexisNexis® Notes

Administrative Law : Agency Rulemaking : Rule Application & Interpretation : General Overview
Administrative Law : Judicial Review : Administrative Record : General Overview
Contracts Law : Negotiable Instruments : General Overview
Environmental Law : Litigation & Administrative Proceedings : Jurisdiction & Procedure
Environmental Law : Water Quality : General Overview
Environmental Law : Water Quality : Clean Water Act : Discharge Permits : Public Participation

Administrative Law : Agency Rulemaking : Rule Application & Interpretation : General Overview

United States v. Metropolitan Dist. Com., 1985 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16232 (D Mass Sept. 5, 1985).

Overview: *A publicly owned treatment works was enjoined from further discharge of sludge into navigable waterways because it failed to voluntarily comply with an administrative order, a permit, and statutory prohibitions against such discharge.*

- The Code of Federal Regulations sets out extensive regulatory procedures that must be followed before a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit can be modified. 40 C.F.R. § 122.15 et seq. For example, the Environmental Protection Agency must prepare a fact

Tab 6

Cal Evid Code § 452

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > EVIDENCE CODE > *Division 4. Judicial Notice*

§ 452. Matters which may be judicially noticed

Judicial notice may be taken of the following matters to the extent that they are not embraced within Section 451:

(a) The decisional, constitutional, and statutory law of any state of the United States and the resolutions and private acts of the Congress of the United States and of the Legislature of this state.

(b) Regulations and legislative enactments issued by or under the authority of the United States or any public entity in the United States.

(c) Official acts of the legislative, executive, and judicial departments of the United States and of any state of the United States.

(d) Records of (1) any court of this state or (2) any court of record of the United States or of any state of the United States.

(e) Rules of court of (1) any court of this state or (2) any court of record of the United States or of any state of the United States.

(f) The law of an organization of nations and of foreign nations and public entities in foreign nations.

(g) Facts and propositions that are of such common knowledge within the territorial jurisdiction of the court that they cannot reasonably be the subject of dispute.

(h) Facts and propositions that are not reasonably subject to dispute and are capable of immediate and accurate determination by resort to sources of reasonably indisputable accuracy.

History

Enacted Stats 1965 ch 299 § 2, operative January 1, 1967.

Historical Derivation:

(a) Former CCP § 1827, as enacted Stats 1872.

(b) Former CCP § 1875, as enacted Stats 1872, amended Stats 1927 p 110, Stats 1957 ch 249 § 1.

(c) Former CCP § 2102, as enacted Stats 1872.

Tab 7

Cal Gov Code § 11515

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > *GOVERNMENT* CODE > *Title 2. Government of the State of California* > *Division 3. Executive Department* > *Part 1. State Departments and Agencies* > *Chapter 5. Administrative Adjudication: Formal Hearing*

§ 11515. Official notice

In reaching a decision official notice may be taken, either before or after submission of the case for decision, of any generally accepted technical or scientific matter within the agency's special field, and of any fact which may be judicially noticed by the courts of this State. Parties present at the hearing shall be informed of the matters to be noticed, and those matters shall be noted in the record, referred to therein, or appended thereto. Any such party shall be given a reasonable opportunity on request to refute the officially noticed matters by evidence or by written or oral presentation of authority, the manner of such refutation to be determined by the agency.

History

Added Stats 1945 ch 867 § 1.

End of Document

Tab 8

Cal Wat Code § 13170.2

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > WATER CODE > *Division 7.* Water *Quality* > *Chapter 3. State* Water *Quality Control* > *Article 4. Other Powers and Duties of the State Board*

§ 13170.2. California Ocean Plan

(a) The state board shall formulate and adopt a water quality control plan for ocean waters of the state which shall be known as the California Ocean Plan.

(b) The plan shall be reviewed at least every three years to guarantee that the current standards are adequate and are not allowing degradation to indigenous marine species or posing a threat to human health.

(c) In formulating the plan, the state board shall develop bioassay protocols to evaluate the effect of municipal and industrial waste discharges on the marine environment.

(d) The state board shall adopt the bioassay protocols and complementary chemical testing methods and shall require their use in the monitoring of complex effluent ocean discharges. For purposes of this section, "complex effluent" means an effluent in which all chemical constituents are not known or monitored. The state board shall adopt bioassay protocols and complementary chemical testing methods for complex effluent ocean monitoring by January 1, 1990, and shall require their use in monitoring complex effluent ocean discharges by entities discharging 100 million gallons per day or more by January 1, 1991. The state board shall also adopt a schedule for requiring the use of these protocols for complex effluent ocean discharges of under 100 million gallons per day by January 1, 1992.

History

Added Stats 1986 ch 1478 § 2.

End of Document

Tab 9

Cal Wat Code § 13201

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > WATER CODE > *Division 7.* Water *Quality* > *Chapter 4. Regional* Water *Quality Control* > *Article 1. Organization and Membership of Regional Boards*

§ 13201. Regional boards established; Appointment and qualifications of members; Vacancies

(a) There is a regional board for each of the regions described in Section 13200. Each board shall consist of seven members appointed by the Governor, each of whom shall represent, and act on behalf of, all the people and shall reside or have a principal place of business within the region.

(b) Except as specified in subdivision (c), each member shall be appointed on the basis of his or her demonstrated interest or proven ability in the field of water quality, including water pollution control, water resource management, water use, or water protection. The Governor shall consider appointments from the public and nonpublic sectors. In regard to appointments from the nonpublic sector, the Governor shall consider including members from key economic sectors in a given region, such as agriculture, industry, commercial activities, forestry, and fisheries.

(c) At least one member shall be appointed as a public member who is not required to meet the criteria established pursuant to subdivision (b).

(d) All persons appointed to a regional board shall be subject to Senate confirmation, but shall not be required to appear before any committee of the Senate for purposes of such confirmation unless specifically requested to appear by the Senate Committee on Rules.

(e) Insofar as practicable, appointments shall be made in such manner as to result in representation on the board from all parts of the region.

(f) Insofar as practicable, appointments shall be made in a manner as to result in representation on the board from diverse experiential backgrounds.

(g) Each member shall be appointed on the basis of his or her ability to attend substantially all meetings of the board and to actively discharge all duties and responsibilities of a member of the board.

(h) The reduction in the number of members of each regional board required by the act that added this subdivision shall be achieved according to the ordinary expiration of the terms of incumbents and other vacancies. Notwithstanding Section 13202 the Governor shall not fill a vacancy on any regional board until the number of members serving on that regional board falls below seven members. When the numbers of members serving on the regional board falls below seven members, the Governor shall appoint or reappoint individuals pursuant to this section.

History

Added Stats 1969 ch 482 § 18, operative January 1, 1970. Amended Stats 1978 ch 622 § 1; Stats 1979 ch 721 § 1. Amended *Stats 2003 ch 272 § 1 (SB 196)*; *Stats 2012 ch 39 § 117 (SB 1018)*, effective June 27, 2012.

Historical Derivation:

Former § 13041, as added Stats 1949 ch 1549 § 1, amended Stats 1959 ch 1299 § 10, Stats 1967 ch 1447 § 7.

End of Document

Tab 10

Cal Wat Code § 13240

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > WATER CODE > *Division 7.* Water *Quality* > *Chapter 4. Regional* Water *Quality Control* > *Article 3. Regional* Water *Quality Control Plans*

§ 13240. Formulation, adoption, and revision of plans

Each regional board shall formulate and adopt water quality control plans for all areas within the region. Such plans shall conform to the policies set forth in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 13000) of this division and any state policy for water quality control. During the process of formulating such plans the regional boards shall consult with and consider the recommendations of affected state and local agencies. Such plans shall be periodically reviewed and may be revised.

History

Added Stats 1969 ch 482 § 18, operative January 1, 1970.

Historical Derivation:

Former § 13053, as added Stats 1949 ch 1549 § 1.

End of Document

Tab 11

Cal Wat Code § 13260

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > WATER CODE > *Division 7.* Water *Quality* > *Chapter 4. Regional* Water *Quality Control* > *Article 4. Waste Discharge Requirements*

§ 13260. Reports; Fees; Recoverable Costs; Waiver; Exemptions

(a) Each of the following persons shall file with the appropriate regional board a report of the discharge, containing the information that may be required by the regional board:

(1) A person discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, within any region that could affect the quality of the waters of the state, other than into a community sewer system.

(2) A person who is a citizen, domiciliary, or political agency or entity of this state discharging waste, or proposing to discharge waste, outside the boundaries of the state in a manner that could affect the quality of the waters of the state within any region.

(3) A person operating, or proposing to construct, an injection well.

(b) No report of waste discharge need be filed pursuant to subdivision (a) if the requirement is waived pursuant to Section 13269.

(c) Each person subject to subdivision (a) shall file with the appropriate regional board a report of waste discharge relative to any material change or proposed change in the character, location, or volume of the discharge.

(d)

(1)

(A) Each person who is subject to subdivision (a) or (c) shall submit an annual fee according to a fee schedule established by the state board.

(B) The total amount of annual fees collected pursuant to this section shall equal that amount necessary to recover costs incurred in connection with the issuance, administration, reviewing, monitoring, and enforcement of waste discharge requirements and waivers of waste discharge requirements.

(C) Recoverable costs may include, but are not limited to, costs incurred in reviewing waste discharge reports, prescribing terms of waste discharge requirements and monitoring requirements, enforcing and evaluating compliance with waste discharge requirements and waiver requirements, conducting surface water and groundwater monitoring and modeling, analyzing laboratory samples, adopting, reviewing, and revising water quality control plans and state policies for water quality control, and reviewing documents prepared for the purpose of regulating the discharge of waste, and administrative costs incurred in connection with carrying out these actions.

(D) In establishing the amount of a fee that may be imposed on a confined animal feeding and holding operation pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, a dairy farm, the state board shall consider all of the following factors:

(i) The size of the operation.

(ii) Whether the operation has been issued a permit to operate pursuant to Section 1342 of Title 33 of the United States Code.

(iii) Any applicable waste discharge requirement or conditional waiver of a waste discharge requirement.

(iv) The type and amount of discharge from the operation.

(v) The pricing mechanism of the commodity produced.

(vi) Any compliance costs borne by the operation pursuant to state and federal water quality regulations.

(vii) Whether the operation participates in a quality assurance program certified by a regional water quality control board, the state board, or a federal water quality control agency.

(2)

(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund, which is hereby created. The money in the fund is available for expenditure by the state board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, solely for the purposes of carrying out this division.

(B)

(i) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the fees collected pursuant to this section from stormwater dischargers that are subject to a general industrial or construction stormwater permit under the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) shall be separately accounted for in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund.

(ii) Not less than 50 percent of the money in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund that is separately accounted for pursuant to clause (i) is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for expenditure by the regional board with jurisdiction over the permitted industry or construction site that generated the fee to carry out stormwater programs in the region.

(iii) Each regional board that receives money pursuant to clause (ii) shall spend not less than 50 percent of that money solely on stormwater inspection and regulatory compliance issues associated with industrial and construction stormwater programs.

(3) A person who would be required to pay the annual fee prescribed by paragraph (1) for waste discharge requirements applicable to discharges of solid waste, as defined in *Section 40191 of the Public Resources* Code, at a waste management unit that is also regulated under Division 30 (commencing with *Section 40000) of the Public Resources* Code, shall be entitled to a waiver of the annual fee for the discharge of solid waste at the waste management unit imposed by paragraph (1) upon verification by the state board of payment of the fee imposed by *Section 48000 of the Public Resources* Code, and provided that the fee established pursuant

to *Section 48000 of the Public Resources* Code generates revenues sufficient to fund the programs specified in *Section 48004 of the Public Resources* Code and the amount appropriated by the Legislature for those purposes is not reduced.

(e) Each person that discharges waste in a manner regulated by this section shall pay an annual fee to the state board. The state board shall establish, by regulation, a timetable for the payment of the annual fee. If the state board or a regional board determines that the discharge will not affect, or have the potential to affect, the quality of the waters of the state, all or part of the annual fee shall be refunded.

(f)

(1) The state board shall adopt, by emergency regulations, a schedule of fees authorized under subdivision (d). The total revenue collected each year through annual fees shall be set at an amount equal to the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act for this activity. The state board shall automatically adjust the annual fees each fiscal year to conform with the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act for this activity. If the state board determines that the revenue collected during the preceding year was greater than, or less than, the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act, the state board may further adjust the annual fees to compensate for the over and under collection of revenue.

(2) The emergency regulations adopted pursuant to this subdivision, any amendment thereto, or subsequent adjustments to the annual fees, shall be adopted by the state board in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with *Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government* Code. The adoption of these regulations is an emergency and shall be considered by the Office of Administrative Law as necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare. Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with *Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government* Code, any emergency regulations adopted by the state board, or adjustments to the annual fees made by the state board pursuant to this section, shall not be subject to review by the Office of Administrative Law and shall remain in effect until revised by the state board.

(g) The state board shall adopt regulations setting forth reasonable time limits within which the regional board shall determine the adequacy of a report of waste discharge submitted under this section.

(h) Each report submitted under this section shall be sworn to, or submitted under penalty of perjury.

(i) The regulations adopted by the state board pursuant to subdivision (f) shall include a provision that annual fees shall not be imposed on those who pay fees under the national pollutant discharge elimination system until the time when those fees are again due, at which time the fees shall become due on an annual basis.

(j) A person operating or proposing to construct an oil, gas, or geothermal injection well subject to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) shall not be required to pay a fee pursuant to subdivision (d) if the injection well is regulated by the Division of Oil and Gas of the Department of Conservation, in lieu of the appropriate California regional water quality control board, pursuant to the memorandum of understanding, entered into between the state board and the Department of Conservation on May 19, 1988. This subdivision shall remain operative until the memorandum of understanding is revoked by the state board or the Department of Conservation.

(k) In addition to the report required by subdivision (a), before a person discharges mining waste, the person shall first submit both of the following to the regional board:

(1) A report on the physical and chemical characteristics of the waste that could affect its potential to cause pollution or contamination. The report shall include the results of all tests required by regulations adopted by the board, any test adopted by the Department of Toxic Substances Control pursuant to *Section 25141 of the Health and Safety* Code for extractable, persistent, and bioaccumulative toxic substances in a waste or other material, and any other tests that the state board or regional board may require, including, but not limited to, tests needed to determine the acid-generating potential of the mining waste or the extent to which hazardous substances may persist in the waste after disposal.

(2) A report that evaluates the potential of the discharge of the mining waste to produce, over the long term, acid mine drainage, the discharge or leaching of heavy metals, or the release of other hazardous substances.

(l) Except upon the written request of the regional board, a report of waste discharge need not be filed pursuant to subdivision (a) or (c) by a user of recycled water that is being supplied by a supplier or distributor of recycled water for whom a master recycling permit has been issued pursuant to Section 13523.1.

History

Added Stats 1969 ch 482 § 18, operative January 1, 1970. Amended Stats 1980 ch 656 § 1; Stats 1984 ch 268 § 32.8, effective June 30, 1984; Stats 1985 ch 653 § 1, ch 1591 § 4; Stats 1986 ch 31 § 1, effective March 21, 1986, ch 1013 § 5, effective September 23, 1986; *Stats 1988 ch 1026 § 1*; *Stats 1989 ch 627 § 1*, ch 642 § 5. Supplemented by the Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1991 § 194, effective July 17, 1991. Amended *Stats 1992 ch 211 § 2 (AB 3012)*; *Stats 1993 ch 656 § 57 (AB 1220)*, effective October 1, 1993; *Stats 1995 ch 28 § 20 (AB 1247)*; *Stats 1997 ch 775 § 1 (AB 1186)*; *Stats 2002 ch 1124 § 56 (AB 3000)*, effective September 30, 2002. Amended Stats 2003 1st Ex Sess 2003-2004 ch 1 § 3 (AB 10X); *Stats 2011 ch 2 § 28 (AB 95)*, effective March 24, 2011.

Historical Derivation:

(a) Former Wat C § 13054, as added Stats 1949 ch 1549 § 1, amended Stats 1951 ch 1139 § 3, Stats 1959 ch 1299 § 15, Stats 1967 ch 1447 § 9.

(b) Former Wat C § 13054.1, as added Stats 1959 ch 1299 § 16, amended Stats 1967 ch 1447 § 10.

Tab 12

Cal Wat Code § 13263

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > WATER CODE > *Division 7.* Water *Quality* > *Chapter 4. Regional* Water *Quality Control* > *Article 4. Waste Discharge Requirements*

§ 13263. Requirements prescribed by board; Review, revision, and notice; Absence of vested right to discharge waste

(a) The regional board, after any necessary hearing, shall prescribe requirements as to the nature of any proposed discharge, existing discharge, or material change in an existing discharge, except discharges into a community sewer system, with relation to the conditions existing in the disposal area or receiving waters upon, or into which, the discharge is made or proposed. The requirements shall implement any relevant water quality control plans that have been adopted, and shall take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected, the water quality objectives reasonably required for that purpose, other waste discharges, the need to prevent nuisance, and the provisions of Section 13241.

(b) A regional board, in prescribing requirements, need not authorize the utilization of the full waste assimilation capacities of the receiving waters.

(c) The requirements may contain a time schedule, subject to revision in the discretion of the board.

(d) The regional board may prescribe requirements although no discharge report has been filed.

(e) Upon application by any affected person, or on its own motion, the regional board may review and revise requirements. All requirements shall be reviewed periodically.

(f) The regional board shall notify in writing the person making or proposing the discharge or the change therein of the discharge requirements to be met. After receipt of the notice, the person so notified shall provide adequate means to meet the requirements.

(g) No discharge of waste into the waters of the state, whether or not the discharge is made pursuant to waste discharge requirements, shall create a vested right to continue the discharge. All discharges of waste into waters of the state are privileges, not rights.

(h) The regional board may incorporate the requirements prescribed pursuant to this section into a master recycling permit for either a supplier or distributor, or both, of recycled water.

(i) The state board or a regional board may prescribe general waste discharge requirements for a category of discharges if the state board or that regional board finds or determines that all of the following criteria apply to the discharges in that category:

(1) The discharges are produced by the same or similar operations.

(2) The discharges involve the same or similar types of waste.

(3) The discharges require the same or similar treatment standards.

(4) The discharges are more appropriately regulated under general discharge requirements than individual discharge requirements.

(j) The state board, after any necessary hearing, may prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with this section.

History

Added Stats 1969 ch 482 § 18, operative January 1, 1970. Amended *Stats 1992 ch 211 § 3 (AB 3012)*; *Stats 1995 ch 28 § 21 (AB 1247)*, ch 421 § 2 (SB 572).

Historical Derivation:

(a) Former Wat C § 13002, as added Stats 1949 ch 1549 § 1, amended Stats 1959 ch 1299 § 4, Stats 1967 ch 1447 § 5.3.

(b) Former Wat C § 13054.2, as added Stats 1959 ch 1299 § 17.

(c) Former Wat C § 13054.3, as added Stats 1959 ch 1299 § 18, amended Stats 1967 ch 1447 § 11.

End of Document

Tab 13

Cal Wat Code § 13374

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code Annotated > WATER CODE > Division 7. Water Quality > Chapter 5.5. Compliance With the Provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as Amended in 1972

§ 13374. "Waste discharge requirements"

The term "waste discharge requirements" as referred to in this division is the equivalent of the term "permits" as used in the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended.

History

Added Stats 1972 ch 1256 § 1, effective December 19, 1972.

End of Document

Tab 14

Cal Wat Code § 13376

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > WATER CODE > *Division 7.* Water *Quality* > *Chapter 5.5. Compliance With the Provisions of the Federal* Water *Pollution Control Act as Amended in 1972*

§ 13376. Reports as to discharge of pollutants to navigable waters

A person who discharges pollutants or proposes to discharge pollutants to the navigable waters of the United States within the jurisdiction of this state or a person who discharges dredged or fill material or proposes to discharge dredged or fill material into the navigable waters of the United States within the jurisdiction of this state shall file a report of the discharge in compliance with the procedures set forth in Section 13260. Unless required by the state board or a regional board, a report need not be filed under this section for discharges that are not subject to the permit application requirements of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended. A person who proposes to discharge pollutants or dredged or fill material or to operate a publicly owned treatment works or other treatment works treating domestic sewage shall file a report at least 180 days in advance of the date on which it is desired to commence the discharge of pollutants or dredged or fill material or the operation of the treatment works. A person who owns or operates a publicly owned treatment works or other treatment works treating domestic sewage, which treatment works commenced operation before January 1, 1988, and does not discharge to navigable waters of the United States, shall file a report within 45 days of a written request by a regional board or the state board, or within 45 days after the state has an approved permit program for the use and disposal of sewage sludge, whichever occurs earlier. The discharge of pollutants or dredged or fill material or the operation of a publicly owned treatment works or other treatment works treating domestic sewage by any person, except as authorized by waste discharge requirements or dredged or fill material permits, is prohibited. This prohibition does not apply to discharges or operations if a state or federal permit is not required under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended.

History

Added *Stats 1987 ch 1189 § 6.* Amended *Stats 2010 ch 288 § 32 (SB 1169)*, effective January 1, 2011.

Former Sections:

Former § 13376, similar to the present section, was added Stats 1972 ch 1256 § 1, effective December 19, 1972, amended Stats 1978 ch 746 § 2, and repealed *Stats 1987 ch 1189 § 5.*

End of Document

Tab 15

Cal Wat Code § 13377

Deering's California Codes are current with urgency legislation through Chapter 4 of the 2017 Regular Session.

Deering's California Code *Annotated* > WATER CODE > *Division 7.* Water *Quality* > *Chapter 5.5. Compliance With the Provisions of the Federal* Water *Pollution Control Act as Amended in 1972*

§ 13377. Boards' issuance of requirements pursuant to federal act

Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board or the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge requirements and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.

History

Added Stats 1972 ch 1256 § 1, effective December 19, 1972. Amended Stats 1978 ch 746 § 3.

End of Document

Tab 16

Miss. River Revival, Inc. v. City of Minneapolis

United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

October 10, 2002, Submitted ; February 7, 2003, Filed

No. 01-2511

Reporter

319 F.3d 1013 *; 2003 U.S. App. LEXIS 2140 **; 33 ELR 20143; 55 ERC (BNA) 2047

Mississippi River Revival, Inc.; West Side River Watch, Inc.; Mississippi Corridor Neighborhood Coalition, Inc., Plaintiffs - Appellants, v. City of Minneapolis, Minnesota; City of St. Paul, Minnesota, Defendants - Appellees, United States of America, Intervenor on Appeal.

Subsequent History: Rehearing denied by *Miss. River Revival, Inc. v. City of Minneapolis, 2003 U.S. App. LEXIS 6880 (8th Cir. Minn., Apr. 10, 2003)*

Prior History: [**1] Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota.

Miss. River Revival, Inc. v. City of Minneapolis, 145 F. Supp. 2d 1062, 2001 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 6164 (D. Minn., 2001)

Disposition: Affirmed.

Core Terms

Cities, violations, storm water, mootness, permits, civil penalty, citizen suit, discharges, pollutant, district court, plaintiffs', permit application, injunctive relief, storm sewer

Case Summary

Procedural Posture

Plaintiff environmental organizations brought citizen suits alleging that defendant cities were violating the Clean Water Act by discharging storm waters through storm sewer systems without permits. After the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issued storm water permits, the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota dismissed the complaints as moot, and denied the organizations' motion to amend. The organizations appealed.

Overview

The organizations argued that the cities were liable for civil penalties for discharging without permits and that these claims were not moot. The only violations alleged were the cities' discharges without a permit. The instant court found that the failure to issue permits within the deadlines under *33 U.S.C.S. § 1342(p)* was caused solely by the MPCA's delay in acting. Because the MPCA issued permits, the only violations alleged by the organizations could not have reasonably been expected to recur. Assuming without deciding that the cities were in technical violation of *§ 1342(p)*, the cities simply could not have stopped the unpermitted discharges. The organizations were not entitled to an award of civil penalties because they chose to sue only the cities, who were guilty at most of technical and unavoidable violations in discharging without storm water permits. The district court did not abuse its discretion in denying the motion to amend as untimely under its pretrial scheduling order. Finally, the proposed amended claims would have been futile because the state court held that the cities' new storm water permits complied with federal and state law.

Outcome

The judgment of the district court was affirmed. The organizations' motion to supplement the record on appeal was denied.

LexisNexis® Headnotes

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Discharge Permits > Effluent Limitations

HN1[] The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters unless the discharge complies with the terms of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. *33 U.S.C.S. §§ 1311(a), 1342*. NPDES permits establish discharge conditions aimed at maintaining the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. *33 U.S.C.S. § 1251(a)*.

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

HN2[] For point sources located in the State of Minnesota, the Environmental Protection Agency has delegated its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting authority to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. *33 U.S.C.S. § 1342(c)*; *39 Fed. Reg. 26,061 (July 16, 1974)*; *Minn. Stat. § 115.03, subd. 5*.

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Discharge Permits > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Discharge Permits > Storm Water Discharges

Governments > Local Governments > Licenses

HN3[] In the Water Quality Act of 1987, Pub. L. No. 100-4, 101 Stat. 7, codified at *33 U.S.C.S. § 1342(p)*, Congress amended the Clean Water Act to require that cities obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for their separate storm sewer systems. The amendment established deadlines by which permitting agencies shall issue or deny each such permit to cities of various sizes. *33 U.S.C.S. § 1342(p)(4)*.

Civil Procedure > ... > Declaratory Judgments > Federal Declaratory Judgments > General Overview

Civil Procedure > Remedies > General Overview

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Discharge Permits > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Discharge Permits > Storm Water Discharges

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > Grounds for Citizen Suits

Business & Corporate Compliance > ... > Clean Water Act > Enforcement > Civil Penalties

Business & Corporate Compliance > ... > Clean Water Act > Enforcement > Injunctions

Governments > Local Governments > Claims By & Against

HN4[] When a plaintiff prevails in a Clean Water Act citizen suit, the district court may apply any appropriate civil penalties. *33 U.S.C.S. § 1365(a)*.

Civil Procedure > Preliminary Considerations > Justiciability > General Overview

Civil Procedure > ... > Justiciability > Mootness > General Overview

Civil Procedure > ... > Justiciability > Standing > General Overview

Civil Procedure > Remedies > General Overview

Constitutional Law > ... > Case or Controversy > Mootness > General Overview

Constitutional Law > ... > Case or Controversy > Standing > General Overview

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > Grounds for Citizen Suits

Business & Corporate Compliance > ... > Clean Water Act > Enforcement > Civil Penalties

HN5[] The Clean Water Act does not permit citizen suits for wholly past violations. Indeed, citizen suit plaintiffs lack U.S. Const. art. III standing to recover civil penalties for past violations because the payment of money to the United States Treasury does not redress any injury to them caused by the violations. Citizen suit plaintiffs do have standing to seek civil penalties for continuing and future violations because to the extent that civil penalties encourage defendants to discontinue current violations and deter them from committing future ones, they afford redress to citizen plaintiffs who are injured or threatened with injury as a consequence of ongoing unlawful conduct. However, such a claim is moot if subsequent events during the pendency of the lawsuit made it absolutely clear that the allegedly wrongful behavior could not reasonably be expected to recur.

Civil Procedure > Remedies > General Overview

Constitutional Law > ... > Case or Controversy > Mootness > General Overview

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > Grounds for Citizen Suits

Business & Corporate Compliance > ... > Clean Water Act > Enforcement > Civil Penalties

Governments > Local Governments > Claims By & Against

HN6[] The Clean Water Act authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency to seek civil penalties for past violations, and such a claim would not be mooted by a defendant's subsequent compliance. But the Act limits citizen suit plaintiffs to remedies that will redress ongoing and future injury, so the Laidlaw mootness standard applies.

Civil Procedure > Remedies > General Overview

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Business & Corporate Compliance > ... > Clean Water Act > Enforcement > Civil Penalties

HN7[] See *33 U.S.C.S. § 1319(d)*.

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

HN8[] Under Minnesota law cities have an affirmative duty to keep their sewer systems in good repair and free from obstructions.

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Clean Water Act > Coverage & Definitions > Pollutants

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Discharge Permits > Storm Water Discharges

HN9[] The Clean Water Act broadly defines the

term "pollutant" to include, for example, chemical wastes, biological materials, sand, and cellar dirt. *33 U.S.C.S. § 1362(6)*.

Environmental Law > Water Quality > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Discharge Permits > Storm Water Discharges

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > General Overview

Environmental Law > ... > Enforcement > Citizen Suits > Grounds for Citizen Suits

Business & Corporate Compliance > ... > Clean Water Act > Enforcement > Civil Penalties

Governments > Federal Government > Claims By & Against

HN10[↓] A Clean Water Act citizen suit is meant to supplement rather than to supplant governmental action.

Counsel: For Mississippi River Revival, Inc., West Side River Watch, Inc., Mississippi Corridor Neighborhood Coalition, Inc., Plaintiffs - Appellants: Richard B. Bates, BATES LAW OFFICE, St. Paul, MN.

For United States of America, Movant Below: R. Justin Smith, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Washington, DC.

For City of Minneapolis, MN, Defendant - Appellee: Corey Morse Conover, CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, Minneapolis, MN. Carol E. Lansing, MINNEAPOLIS CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, Minneapolis, MN.

For United States of America, Intervenor on Appeal: David C. Shilton, Greer S. Goldman, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Environment & Natural Resources Division, Washington, DC. R. Justin Smith, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Washington, DC.

For City of St. Paul, MN, Defendant - Appellee: Peter G. Mikhail, ST. PAUL CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, St. Paul, MN.

Judges: Before LOKEN, BEAM, and MELLOY, Circuit Judges.

Opinion by: **[*1014]** LOKEN

Opinion

LOKEN, Circuit Judge.

Three environmental organizations brought citizen suits against the Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul alleging that the Cities were violating the Clean Water Act by discharging **[**2]** storm waters through their storm sewer systems without required permits. After the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issued storm water permits, the district court [1] dismissed the complaints as moot, including plaintiffs' claims for civil penalties. *Miss. River Revival, Inc. v. City of Minneapolis, 145 F. Supp. 2d 1062, 1065-67 (D. Minn. 2001)*. The court also denied plaintiffs' motion to amend their complaints to allege that the new permits do not meet all Clean Water Act requirements. Plaintiffs appeal those rulings. Because the Cities' alternative defense challenged the constitutionality of the Act as applied, the United States has intervened on appeal to support the district court's dismissal. We affirm.

I.

HN1[↑] The Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters unless the discharge complies with the terms of an NPDES permit. *See* **[**3]** *33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(a), 1342; City of Milwaukee v. Illinois, 451 U.S. 304, 310-11, 68 L. Ed. 2d 114, 101 S. Ct. 1784 (1981)*. [2] NPDES **[*1015]** permits establish discharge conditions aimed at maintaining

[1] The HONORABLE DONALD D. ALSOP, United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota.

[2] NPDES is an acronym for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters. *See* 33 U.S.C. § 1251(a); *EPA v. California ex rel. State Water Res. Control Bd.*, 426 U.S. 200, 202-09, 48 L. Ed. 2d 578, 96 S. Ct. 2022 (1976). ***HN2***[↑] For point sources located in the State of Minnesota, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has delegated its NPDES permitting authority to the MPCA. *See* 33 U.S.C. § 1342(c); 39 Fed. Reg. 26,061 (July 16, 1974); Minn. Stat. § 115.03, subd. 5.

HN3[↑] In the Water Quality Act of 1987, Congress amended the Act to require that cities obtain NPDES permits for their separate storm sewer systems. *See* Pub. L. No. **[**4]** 100-4, 101 Stat. 7, codified at 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p). The amendment established deadlines by which permitting agencies "shall issue or deny each such permit" to cities of various sizes. *See* § 1342(p)(4). The Cities completed filing timely NPDES storm water permit applications with the MPCA in 1992 and 1993, but the MPCA failed to issue or deny storm water permits within the one year required by the applicable EPA regulation. *See* 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(e)(7)(ii)-(iii). Not surprisingly, rain and snow continued to fall, resulting in continuing storm water discharges into the Cities' storm sewer systems. The Cities paid the annual permit fees to the MPCA while their permit applications were pending.

Frustrated by the lengthy permitting delay, plaintiffs filed these suits in October 1999 after giving the Cities and the EPA notice of their intent to bring citizen suits under the Clean Water Act. *See* 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a). Plaintiffs named the Cities and the EPA as defendants but did not join the MPCA. Plaintiffs alleged the Cities were violating the Act by discharging without a permit and the EPA was violating **[**5]** the Act by failing to issue or deny permits within the statutory deadlines. Plaintiffs sought a declaratory judgment, injunctive relief, civil penalties, and an award of costs, attorney's fees, and expert witness fees.

The district court initially dismissed the EPA on the ground that citizen suits may only challenge the agency's failure to perform non-discretionary duties, *see* 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a)(2), and the EPA has delegated its permitting duty to the MPCA. *Miss. River Revival, Inc. v. EPA*, 107 F. Supp. 2d 1008, 1013 (D. Minn. 2000). However, the court criticized the EPA and the MPCA for the unexplained six-year permitting delay. It denied St. Paul's motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim but invited the Cities to seek summary judgment under the liability standard articulated by the Eleventh Circuit in *Hughey v. JMS Dev. Corp.*, 78 F.3d 1523 (11th Cir. 1996). 107 F. Supp. 2d at 1014-15 & n.5. A few months later, the MPCA issued NPDES storm water permits to the Cities, and the parties filed cross motions for summary judgment. Plaintiffs also filed their motion to amend, which was untimely under the court's **[**6]** pretrial scheduling order. The district court then issued the rulings at issue on appeal.

II.

The Clean Water Act violations alleged in plaintiffs' complaint were the Cities' continuing discharge of storm waters without NPDES storm water permits. Because permits have now issued, plaintiffs concede that their initial claims for injunctive and declaratory relief are moot. ***HN4***[↑] When the plaintiff prevails in a Clean Water Act citizen suit, the district court may "apply any appropriate civil penalties." 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a). Therefore, plaintiffs argue that the Cities are liable for civil penalties for discharging without permits and that these claims are not moot. The Cities and the United States as intervenor respond that plaintiffs' civil penalty claims **[*1016]** are moot under the standard adopted by the Supreme Court in *Friends of the Earth, Inc. v. Laidlaw Envt'l Servs. (TOC), Inc.*, 528 U.S. 167, 189-94, 145 L. Ed. 2d 610, 120 S. Ct. 693 (2000). We agree.

HN5[↑] The Clean Water Act "does not permit citizen suits for wholly past violations." *Gwaltney of Smithfield, Ltd. v. Chesapeake Bay Found., Inc.*, 484 U.S. 49, 64, 98 L. Ed. 2d 306, 108 S. Ct. 376

(1987). [**7] Indeed, citizen suit plaintiffs lack Article III standing to recover civil penalties for past violations because the payment of money to the United States Treasury does not redress any injury to them caused by the violations. *Steel Co. v. Citizens for a Better Env't, 523 U.S. 83, 106-07, 140 L. Ed. 2d 210, 118 S. Ct. 1003 (1998)*. In *Laidlaw*, limiting the no-standing rule of *Steel Co.* to claims for past violations, the Court held that citizen suit plaintiffs do have standing to seek civil penalties for continuing and future violations because "to the extent that [civil penalties] encourage defendants to discontinue current violations and deter them from committing future ones, they afford redress to citizen plaintiffs who are injured or threatened with injury as a consequence of ongoing unlawful conduct." *528 U.S. at 186*. However, the Court explained, such a claim is moot "if subsequent events [during the pendency of the lawsuit] made it absolutely clear that the allegedly wrongful behavior could not reasonably be expected to recur." *Id. at 189* (quotation omitted).

In support of their mootness argument, plaintiffs first posit [**8] that civil penalties "attach irrevocably to a violator at the time of the violation," and therefore it is "irrelevant whether, at this time, there is no likelihood that the Cities will commit any future violations." This contention simply ignores the above-quoted mootness standard adopted by the Supreme Court in *Laidlaw*. ***HN6***[↑] The Clean Water Act authorizes the EPA to seek civil penalties for past violations, and such a claim would not be mooted by the defendant's subsequent compliance. *See Gwaltney, 484 U.S. at 58*. But the Act limits citizen suit plaintiffs to remedies that will redress ongoing and future injury, so the *Laidlaw* mootness standard applies. [3]

[**9] Alternatively, plaintiffs argue that the Cities have not met their heavy burden of establishing mootness under *Laidlaw* because the Cities are already violating their storm water permits. Therefore, it is not "absolutely clear that the allegedly wrongful behavior could not reasonably be expected to recur." This contention ignores the limited nature of plaintiffs' claims. The only violations alleged were the Cities' discharges without a permit. There is no evidence that discharges without a permit will resume and overwhelming evidence to the contrary. The Cities timely filed their storm water permit applications and are not alleged to have hindered the MPCA's review of those applications. Thus, the failure to issue permits within the deadlines established by Congress was caused solely by the MPCA's delay in acting. The [*1017] MPCA has now issued permits. Though the permits have expiration dates, the Cities have a public duty to operate their storm sewer systems, and the Clean Water Act requires the MPCA (or the EPA) to issue storm water permits. We refuse to speculate that these public bodies will allow the resumption of discharges without a permit. *Cf.* Minn. R. 7001.0160. Thus, the [**10] only violations alleged by plaintiffs cannot reasonably be expected to recur.

In addition, plaintiffs argue that claims for civil penalties cannot be moot because "penalties punish a polluter for violating the law." We doubt this argument affects the mootness analysis under *Laidlaw*. Instead, it goes to the merits of plaintiffs' claim for civil penalties, assuming that claim is not moot. But even if the argument is relevant to the issue of mootness, we conclude it is without merit. The Clean Water Act provides that, ***HN7***[↑] "in determining the amount of a civil penalty the court shall consider the seriousness of the violation or violations, the economic benefit (if any) resulting

[3] In *Laidlaw*, the Court quoted *United States v. Concentrated Phosphate Exp. Ass'n, 393 U.S. 199, 203, 21 L. Ed. 2d 344, 89 S. Ct. 361 (1968)*, for its mootness standard, a case that involved a claim for injunctive relief. Traditionally, claims for money damages have not been mooted by subsequent events that mooted companion claims for injunctive relief. Prior to *Laidlaw*, a number of circuits had applied this principle in holding that citizen suit claims for civil penalties were not mooted by the defendant's subsequent compliance. *See Comfort Lake Ass'n, Inc. v. Dresel Contracting, Inc., 138 F.3d 351, 355-56 (8th Cir. 1998)*, and cases cited. In our view, *Laidlaw* has overruled these decisions, at least in part, by equating citizen suit claims for civil penalties and claims for injunctive relief for mootness purposes.

from the violation, any history of such violations, any good-faith efforts to comply with the applicable requirements, the economic impact of the penalty on the violator, and such other matters as justice may require." *33 U.S.C. § 1319(d)*.

The Cities complied with their storm water permit obligations by timely filing permit applications. The MPCA caused the violations alleged by plaintiffs when it failed to act on the permit applications. Assuming without deciding that the Cities were **[**11]** then in technical violation of *§ 1342(p)*, the appropriateness of assessing civil penalties under *§ 1319(d)* is far different here than in cases that have considered whether industrial or commercial point source operators should be held absolutely liable for permitting delays attributable to the permitting agency. *Compare Sierra Club, Lone Star Chapter v. Cedar Point Oil Co., 73 F.3d 546 (5th Cir. 1996), with Driscoll v. Adams, 181 F.3d 1285 (11th Cir. 1999), and Hughey v. JMS Dev. Corp., 78 F.3d 1523 (11th Cir. 1996)*. In those cases, the polluters had the alternative of not discharging until the NPDES permit issued, and they benefitted economically from continuing to discharge without a permit.

Here, on the other hand, the Cities operate extensive storm water sewer systems containing hundreds of miles of storm sewers and thousands of catch basins and storm water outfalls. The Cities cannot stop rain and snow from falling and cannot stop storm waters carrying "pollutants" such as sediment and fertilizer from running downhill and draining into the Mississippi River. [4] If the Cities do nothing, storm waters will flow into their sewer **[**12]** systems. On the other hand, any attempt to prevent discharge through established storm drains would, according to affidavits submitted by the Cities' experts, harm public health and the environment. Indeed, ***HN8***[↑] under Minnesota law the Cities have an affirmative duty to keep their sewer systems in good repair and free from obstructions. *See Pettinger v. Village of Winnebago, 239 Minn. 156, 58 N.W.2d 325, 329 (Minn. 1953)*. Thus, unlike industrial and commercial point source operators, the Cities simply could not stop the unpermitted discharges.

In these circumstances, if these lawsuits had been filed by the EPA or the MPCA, it would be inequitable, to say the least, to order the taxpayers of Minneapolis **[**13]** and St. **[*1018]** Paul to pay monetary penalties to the United States Treasury because these federal and state agencies failed to make timely permitting decisions. Because ***HN10***[↑] a Clean Water Act citizen suit "is meant to supplement rather than to supplant governmental action," *Gwaltney, 484 U.S. at 60*, we likewise conclude that plaintiffs could not obtain an award of civil penalties as a matter of law. Plaintiffs chose not to sue the MPCA under *§ 1365(a)(2)* for failure to perform its arguably nondiscretionary duty to act on the Cities' storm water permit applications in timely fashion. Plaintiffs are not now entitled to an award of civil penalties because they chose to sue only the Cities, who were guilty at most of technical and unavoidable violations in discharging without storm water permits.

III.

Finally, plaintiffs argue that the district court erred in denying their motion for leave to amend their complaints to assert claims for injunctive relief based upon alleged violations contained in the Cities' new NPDES permits. We disagree. The court did not abuse its discretion in denying the motion to amend as untimely under the court's pretrial scheduling order. Moreover, **[**14]** the claims asserted in the proposed amended claims were defective because they went far beyond the notices plaintiffs were required to give prior to commencing these citizen suits. *See 40 C.F.R. § 135.3(a); Save Our Health Org. v. Recomp of Minn., Inc., 37 F.3d 1334, 1337-38 (8th Cir. 1994)*.

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[4] ***HN9***[↑] The Clean Water Act broadly defines the term "pollutant" to include, for example, chemical wastes, biological materials, sand, and cellar dirt. *See 33 U.S.C. § 1362(6)*. The Cities concede that storm water run-off will necessarily contain "pollutants" as defined by the Act.

Finally, as the district court noted, the Minnesota Court of Appeals has held that the Cities' new storm water permits comply with federal and state law, so the proposed amended claims as pleaded would be futile. *See* *Miss. River Revival, Inc. v. MPCA, 2001 Minn. App. LEXIS 855*, No. C1-01-23 (Minn. App. July 31, 2001).

The judgment of the district court is affirmed. Plaintiffs' motion to supplement the record on appeal is denied.

End of Document

Tab 17

Arreola v. County of Monterey

Court of Appeal of California, Sixth Appellate District

June 25, 2002, Decided ; June 25, 2002, Filed

No. H021339.

Reporter

99 Cal. App. 4th 722 *; 122 Cal. Rptr. 2d 38 **; 2002 Cal. App. LEXIS 4319 ***; 2002 Cal. Daily Op. Service 5668; 2002 Daily Journal DAR 7131

JAMES ARREOLA et al., Plaintiffs and Respondents, v. COUNTY OF MONTEREY et al., Defendants and Appellants. [And five other cases. *]

Subsequent History: Order Modifying Opinion and Denying Petition for Rehearing July 23, 2002, Reported at: *2002 Cal. App. LEXIS 4423*.

Review Denied September 18, 2002, Reported at: *2002 Cal. LEXIS 6194*.

Prior History: Superior Court of Monterey County. Super. Ct. Nos. 105661, 106592, 106782, 106829, 107040 and 107041. Robert A. O'Farrell, Judge.

Disposition: The judgment is affirmed.

Core Terms

Counties, flooding, channel, highway, trial court, drainage, plaintiffs', levee, storm, river, inverse condemnation, deliberate, flood control, entity, cases, flood control project, public improvement, public entity, statement of decision, landowners, built, floodwater, vegetation, freeboard, damages, flows, factors, Fish, private property, obstruction

Case Summary

Procedural Posture

About 300 plaintiff businesses and individual were involved in six complaints filed against defendants, state, counties, and water agencies, over a flood. The Monterey County Superior Court (California) consolidated the matters and found the counties and agencies negligent, and, along with the state, liable for inverse condemnation, dangerous condition of public property, and nuisance. The state, counties, and agencies appealed.

Overview

A river formed the counties' border and was in a flood plain. A federal flood control act authorized construction of a project which local agencies would later maintain. Levees were built. Vegetation and sandbars were mechanically cleared from 1949 till 1972 when the state fish and game department demanded protection of the riparian habitat. Herbicides and other methods were used to try to clear the channel but it became more clogged and more costly to clear. The state built a highway embankment downriver. A 1995 flood overtopped the levee and it gave way. The appellate court found that the trial court properly assessed the reasonableness of the counties' policy to let the channel deteriorate. In the context of inverse condemnation, "maintenance" of the project was a species of "construction." Reasons for the counties' policy choices were irrelevant to the determination that their conduct was deliberate. The state was

* Baeza v. County of Monterey (No. 106592); Calcote v. County of Monterey (No. 106782); Clint Miller Farms, Inc. v. County of Monterey (No. 106829); Phoenix Assurance Co. v. County of Monterey (No. 107040); Allendale Mutual Ins. Co. v. County of Monterey (No. 107041).

strictly liable for its conduct. Plaintiffs were not expected to have taken measures to protect their land from the downstream embankment obstruction. The state had a duty to avoid obstructing floodwater regardless of the flood's cause. Flooding was foreseeable.

Outcome
The judgment was affirmed.

LexisNexis® Headnotes

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

HN1[] See *Cal. Const. art. I, § 19*.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Inverse Condemnation > Remedies

HN2[] When a public use results in damage to private property without having been preceded by just compensation, the property owner may proceed against the public entity to recover it. Such a cause of action is denominated "inverse condemnation."

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

Torts > Public Entity Liability > Liability > General Overview

HN3[] Where a public agency's design, construction, or maintenance of a flood control project is shown to have posed an unreasonable risk of harm to the plaintiffs, and such unreasonable design, construction, or maintenance constituted a substantial cause of the damages, plaintiffs may recover regardless of the fact that the project's purpose is to contain the "common enemy" of floodwaters. The public entity is not immune from suit, but neither is it strictly liable.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Civil Procedure > ... > Eminent Domain Proceedings > Pleadings > General Overview

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

HN4[] In California, the privilege to discharge surface water into a natural watercourse (the natural watercourse rule) is a conditional privilege, subject to the Belair v. Riverside County Flood Control District rule of reasonableness. To determine reasonableness in such a case, a trial court must consider: (1) the overall public purpose being served by the improvement project; (2) the degree to which the plaintiff's loss is offset by reciprocal benefits; (3) the availability to the public entity of feasible alternatives with lower risks; (4) the severity of the plaintiff's damage in relation to risk-bearing capabilities; (5) the extent to which damage of the kind the plaintiff sustained is generally considered as a normal risk of land ownership; and (6) the degree to which similar damage is distributed at large over other beneficiaries of the project or is peculiar only to the plaintiff. Thus, in matters involving flood control projects, the public entity will be liable in inverse condemnation if its design, construction, or maintenance of a public improvement poses an unreasonable risk of harm to the plaintiffs' property, and the unreasonable aspect of the improvement is a substantial cause of damage.

Civil Procedure > Judgments > Relief From Judgments > General Overview

Civil Procedure > Judgments > Relief From Judgments > Motions for New Trials

HN5[] See *Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 662*.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Torts > Public Entity Liability > Liability > General Overview

HN6[] To be subject to liability in inverse condemnation, the governmental action at issue must relate to the "public use" element of *Cal. Const. art. I, § 19*. "Public use" is the threshold requirement. The destruction or damaging of property is sufficiently connected with "public use" as required by the constitution, if the injury is a result of dangers inherent in the construction of the public improvement as distinguished from dangers arising from the negligent operation of the improvement. A public entity's maintenance of a public improvement constitutes the constitutionally required public use so long as it is the entity's deliberate act to undertake the particular plan or manner of maintenance. The necessary finding is that the wrongful act be part of the deliberate design, construction, or maintenance of the public improvement.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Constitutional Law > Bill of Rights > Fundamental Rights > Eminent Domain & Takings

Governments > Public Improvements > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Torts > Public Entity Liability > Liability > General Overview

HN7[] The fundamental justification for inverse liability is that the government, acting in furtherance of public objectives, is taking a calculated risk that private property may be damaged. That is why simple negligence cannot support the constitutional claim. This is not to say that the later characterization of a public agency's deliberate action as negligence automatically removes the action from the scope of the constitutional requirement for just compensation. So long as the entity has made the deliberate calculated decision to proceed with a course of conduct, in spite of a known risk, just compensation will be owed.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > ... > Elements > Just Compensation > Property Valuation

HN8[] Inadequate maintenance can support liability in inverse condemnation.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Governments > Public Improvements > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

HN9[] In order to prove the type of governmental conduct that will support liability in inverse condemnation it is enough to show that the entity was aware of the risk posed by its public improvement and deliberately chose a course of action -- or inaction -- in the face of that known risk.

Civil Procedure > ... > Standards of

Review > Substantial Evidence > General Overview

HN10[] In reviewing the sufficiency of the evidence to support the findings of a trial court, an appellate court considers the evidence in the light most favorable to the winning party, giving them the benefit of every reasonable inference and resolving conflicts in support of the judgment.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Governments > Local Governments > Claims By & Against

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

Torts > ... > Elements > Causation > Concurrent Causation

HN11[] In order to establish a causal connection between a public improvement and a plaintiff's damages, there must be a showing of a substantial cause-and-effect relationship excluding the probability that other forces alone produced the injury. Where independently generated forces not induced by the public flood control improvement -- such as a rainstorm -- contribute to the injury, proximate cause is established where the public improvement constitutes a substantial concurring cause of the injury, that is, where the injury occurred in substantial part because the improvement failed to function as it was intended. The public improvement would cease to be a substantial contributing factor, however, where it could be shown that the damage would have occurred even if the project had operated perfectly, that is, where the storm exceeded the project's design capacity. A project's capacity, therefore, bears upon the element of causation. This is true whether in considering inverse condemnation claims or tort causes of action.

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

Torts > ... > Elements > Causation > Concurrent Causation

HN12[] To the extent that a public project contributes to an injury, then it remains a concurring cause. Like any other determination of causation, it must be made on the facts of each case.

Evidence > Admissibility > Scientific Evidence > General Overview

Evidence > Admissibility > Scientific Evidence > Standards for Admissibility

Evidence > ... > Testimony > Expert Witnesses > General Overview

HN13[] Evidence of scientific techniques that have not proven reliable and generally accepted by others in the field is not admissible as evidence. This rule does not apply to the personal opinions of an expert.

Civil Procedure > Trials > General Overview

HN14[] A tentative decision is not binding on a court and the court may instruct a party to prepare a proposed statement of decision. Cal. R. Ct. 232(a), (c). The rules provide ample opportunity for all parties to make proposals as to the content of the statement of decision or to raise objections to a proposed statement. Cal. R. Ct. 232(b), (d).

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Inverse

Condemnation > Defenses

Torts > Strict Liability > Abnormally Dangerous Activities > Types of Activities

HN15[↓] A public entity is liable for inverse condemnation regardless of the reasonableness of its conduct. But a rule of reasonableness, rather than the extremes of strict liability or immunity, is appropriate in cases involving flood control projects.

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

Real Property Law > Water Rights > Riparian Rights

HN16[↓] Under the "natural watercourse" rule, a riparian landowner has a privilege to drain surface water into a natural watercourse, regardless of the effect of that drainage on downstream landowners. Because a public agency, like any riparian property owner, engages in a privileged activity when it drains surface water into a natural watercourse or makes alterations to the watercourse, *Cal. Const. art. I, § 19*, mandates compensation only if the agency exceeds the privilege by acting unreasonably with regard to other riparian owners.

Governments > Public Improvements > Sanitation & Water

Torts > Strict Liability > Abnormally Dangerous Activities > Types of Activities

HN17[↓] Diversion of a watercourse is not subject to a common law privilege like the common enemy doctrine or the natural watercourse rule. Resolution of flood control cases involves a balancing of the public interest in encouraging flood control projects with the potential private harm they could cause. A public agency would not be strictly liable for damage resulting from a failed flood control project, whether or not the offending conduct would have been privileged under traditional water law doctrine. Instead, a rule of reasonableness was to apply.

Torts > ... > Elements > Duty > General Overview

Torts > ... > Elements > Duty > Foreseeability of Harm

HN18[↓] Legal duties are not discoverable facts of nature, but merely conclusory expressions that, in cases of a particular type, liability should be imposed for damage done. In California, the general rule is that all persons have a duty to use ordinary care to prevent others from being injured as the result of their conduct. Duty is usually determined based upon a number of considerations. The foreseeability of a particular kind of harm is one of the most crucial of those. *Cal. Gov't Code § 835*. The question of whether a duty exists is one of law. A court's task in determining duty is to evaluate generally whether the conduct at issue is sufficiently likely to result in the kind of harm experienced that liability may appropriately be imposed.

Real Property Law > Water Rights > Riparian Rights

Torts > Premises & Property Liability > General Premises Liability > General Overview

HN19[↓] Under ordinary rules applicable to riparian landowners, both upper and lower riparian landowners have a duty to avoid altering the natural system of drainage in any way that would increase the burden on the other. Traditionally, a lower landowner that obstructs a natural watercourse is liable for damages that result from the obstruction. The rule applies even if the damaging flow in the obstructed watercourse is seasonal floodwater.

Torts > Negligence > Defenses > General Overview

Torts > Products Liability > Types of Defects > Design Defects

Torts > Public Entity Liability > Immunities > General Overview

Torts > Public Entity Liability > Liability > General Overview

HN20[] A public entity is liable for negligently creating a dangerous condition of public property or for failing to cure a dangerous condition of which it has notice. *Cal. Gov't Code § 835(a)*. However, the entity is immune from such liability if the injury was caused by a public improvement that was constructed pursuant to a plan or design approved in advance by the entity if there is any substantial evidence upon the basis of which (a) a reasonable public employee could have adopted the plan or design or (b) a reasonable legislative body or other body or employee could have approved the plan or design. *Cal. Gov't Code § 830.6*. A public entity claiming design immunity must plead and prove three essential elements: (1) a causal relationship between the plan and the accident; (2) discretionary approval of the plan prior to construction; and (3) substantial evidence supporting the reasonableness of the design. Resolution of the third element is a matter for the court, not the jury. The task for the trial court is to apply the deferential substantial evidence standard to determine whether any reasonable state official could have approved the challenged design. If the record contains the requisite substantial evidence, the immunity applies, even if the plaintiff has presented evidence that the design was defective.

Civil Procedure > ... > Standards of Review > Substantial Evidence > General Overview

HN21[] In order to be considered substantial, the evidence must be of solid value, which reasonably inspires confidence.

Civil Procedure > Trials > Judgment as Matter of Law > General Overview

Civil Procedure > Trials > Judgment as Matter of Law > Directed Verdicts

Civil Procedure > Appeals > Standards of Review > General Overview

HN22[] A ruling or decision, itself correct in law, will not be disturbed on appeal merely because it was given for a wrong reason.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > Appellate Review

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Inverse Condemnation > Defenses

Torts > ... > Elements > Causation > Causation in Fact

Torts > ... > Elements > Causation > Intervening Causation

HN23[] Under traditional negligence analysis, an intervening force is one that actively operates to produce harm after the defendant's negligent act or omission has been committed. A defendant's conduct is superseded as a legal cause of an injury if, among other things, the intervening force is highly unusual or extraordinary, not reasonably likely to happen and, therefore, not foreseeable. Similar considerations may apply in the context of inverse condemnation. A defendant has the burden to prove the affirmative defense of superseding cause, that is, that the intervening event is so highly unusual or extraordinary that it was unforeseeable. The question is usually one for the trier of fact. However, where the facts upon which a defendant bases its claim are materially undisputed, an appellate court applies independent review.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

HN24[] Having the power and the duty to act and failure to do so, in the face of a known risk, is sufficient to support liability under *Cal. Const. art. I, § 19*. A public entity is a proper defendant in an action for inverse condemnation if the entity substantially participated in the planning, approval, construction, or operation of a public project or improvement that proximately caused injury to private property. So long as plaintiffs can show substantial participation, it is immaterial which sovereign holds title or has the responsibility for operation of a project.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

HN25[] In cases where there is no dispute concerning the public character of an improvement, substantial participation does not necessarily mean actively participating in the project, but may include the situation where the public entity has deliberately chosen to do nothing. For example, a public entity is liable in inverse condemnation for damage resulting from broken water pipes when the entity responsible for the pipes has deliberately failed to maintain them. Of course, the entity must have the ability to control the aspect of the public improvement at issue in order to be charged with deliberate conduct.

Torts > Public Entity Liability > Liability > General Overview

HN26[] In tort cases, in identifying a defendant with whom control resides, location of the power to correct the dangerous condition is an aid. The ability to remedy the risk also tends to support a contention that the entity is responsible for it. Where the public entity's relationship to the dangerous property is not clear, aid may be sought by inquiring whether the particular defendant had control, in the sense of power to prevent, remedy or guard against the dangerous condition.

Civil Procedure > Special Proceedings > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

Governments > Public Improvements > General Overview

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

HN27[] A public entity is a proper defendant in a claim for inverse condemnation if it has the power to control or direct the aspect of the public improvement that is alleged to have caused the injury. The basis for liability in such a case is that in the exercise of its governmental power the entity either failed to appreciate the probability that the project would result in some damage to private property, or that it took the calculated risk that damage would result.

Governments > Local Governments > Employees & Officials

HN28[] Monterey County, California employees are considered ex officio employees of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) and are required to perform the same duties for MCWRA that they perform for Monterey. Cal. Water Code App. § 52-16 (former Cal. Water Code App. §§ 52-2, 52-8).

Torts > Public Entity Liability > Liability > General Overview

HN29[] Common governing boards do not invariably indicate county control, but certainly that fact is relevant to the inquiry of whether an agency

is under county control.

Real Property Law > Eminent Domain Proceedings > General Overview

HN30[↓] An owner of private property ought not to contribute more than his or her proper share to a public undertaking.

Headnotes/Syllabus

Summary
CALIFORNIA OFFICIAL REPORTS SUMMARY

Individuals who had suffered property damage brought an action against the state, a county and its flood control and water conservation district, and a second county and its water resources agency, seeking damages in inverse condemnation, and tort damages for nuisance, dangerous condition of public property, and negligence, arising from flood damage caused when a river levee project failed during a heavy rainstorm and the flood waters were further obstructed by a state highway. Plaintiffs alleged that the flooding occurred due to reduced water capacity in the levee project channel, caused by the failure of the county defendants to keep that channel clear, and that the state defendant failed to design the highway with adequate provision for flooding. The jury found all defendants liable on the tort claims, and the court found all defendants liable on the inverse condemnation claims and entered a judgment for plaintiffs. (Superior Court of Monterey County, Nos. 105661, 106592, 106782, 106829, 107040 and 107041, Robert A. O'Farrell, Judge.)

The Court of Appeal affirmed. The court held that the trial court properly found the county defendants were liable to plaintiffs in inverse condemnation based on their failure to properly maintain the levee project, since their knowing failure to clear the project channel, in the face of repeated warnings and complaints, was not mere negligent execution of a reasonable maintenance plan, but rather a long-term failure to mitigate a known danger. The court held that the trial court did not err in defining the levee project's water capacity, and that substantial expert evidence supported the jury's finding, pertinent to plaintiffs' tort claims against the county defendants, that peak flows during the storm did not exceed the project's design capacity. The court held that the trial court did not err in finding the state defendant liable in inverse condemnation based on its unreasonable design of the highway, which failed to account for a foreseeable flood, and that design immunity (*Gov. Code, § 830.6*) failed to provide this defendant with a defense to plaintiffs' tort claims. The court held that both the county defendant and its water resources agency were properly found liable to plaintiffs, since the county was directly, and not derivatively, liable. (Opinion by Premo, Acting P. J., with Elia and Wunderlich, JJ., concurring.)

Headnotes
CALIFORNIA OFFICIAL REPORTS HEADNOTES

Classified to California Digest of Official Reports

CA(1)[↓] (1)

Appellate Review § 145 > Scope of Review > Questions of Law and Fact.

--When arguments on appeal are related to facts that are materially undisputed, the appellate court independently reviews the trial court's findings and conclusions.

CA(2)[↓] (2)

Eminent Domain § 132 > Inverse Condemnation > Nature and Purpose of Action > Against Public Entity > Policy > Limitations on Claim.

--When a public use results in damage to private

property without having been preceded by just compensation, the property owner may bring an inverse condemnation action against the public entity to recover it. The fundamental policy for the constitutional requirement of just compensation (*Cal. Const., art. I, § 19*) is based on a consideration of whether the owner of the damaged property if uncompensated would contribute more than his or her proper share to the public undertaking. Any actual physical injury to real property proximately caused by a public improvement as deliberately designed and constructed is compensable whether foreseeable or not. The only limits to a claim are that (1) the injuries must be physical injuries of real property, and (2) the injuries must have been proximately caused by the public improvement as deliberately constructed and planned.

CA(3)[↓] (3)

Waters § 93 > Protection Against Surface Waters > Public Improvements > Common Enemy Doctrine > Natural Watercourse Rule > Immunity Limited by Rule of Reasonableness.

--In certain circumstances particular to water law, a landowner has a right to inflict damages upon the property of others for the purpose of protecting his or her own property. These circumstances include the erection of flood control measures (the common enemy doctrine) and the discharge of surface water into a natural watercourse (the natural watercourse rule). However, a public entity is not immunized from liability under these rules, but rather is subject to a rule of reasonableness. When a public agency's design, construction, or maintenance of a flood control project poses an unreasonable risk of harm to the plaintiffs, and the unreasonable aspect of the improvement is a substantial cause of the damage, the plaintiffs may recover regardless of the fact that the project's purpose is to contain the common enemy of floodwaters. The public entity is not immune from suit, but neither is it strictly liable. A public entity's privilege to discharge surface water into a natural watercourse is also a conditional privilege, subject to a rule of reasonableness.

CA(4)[↓] (4)

Waters § 96 > Protection Against Floodwaters > Public Entity's Liability in Inverse Condemnation > Rule of Reasonableness > Determination of Reasonableness.

--In matters involving flood control projects, a public entity will be liable in inverse condemnation if its design, construction, or maintenance of a public improvement poses an unreasonable risk of harm to the plaintiff, and the unreasonable aspect of the improvement is a substantial cause of the damage. To determine reasonableness, a trial court must consider the following factors: (1) the overall public purpose being served by the improvement project, (2) the degree to which the plaintiff's loss is offset by reciprocal benefits, (3) the availability to the public entity of feasible alternatives with lower risks, (4) the severity of the plaintiff's damage in relation to risk-bearing capabilities, (5) the extent to which damage of the kind the plaintiff sustained is generally considered as a normal risk of land ownership, and (6) the degree to which similar damage is distributed at large over other beneficiaries of the project or is peculiar only to the plaintiff.

CA(5)[↓] (5)

Waters § 96 > Protection Against Floodwaters > Public Entity's Liability: Eminent Domain § 132 > Inverse Condemnation > Trial Court's Determination of Reasonableness.

--In an inverse condemnation action against two counties, a county flood control and water conservation district, and a county water resources agency, by individuals who had suffered property damage when a river levee project failed during a heavy rainstorm, the trial court properly analyzed the reasonableness of defendants' actions in finding they were liable to plaintiffs. The court balanced the public need for flood control against the gravity of the harm caused by the unnecessary damage to

plaintiffs' property in finding that defendants acted unreasonably. In so doing, the court properly considered (1) the overall public purpose being served by the improvement project, (2) the degree to which plaintiffs' loss was offset by reciprocal benefits, (3) the availability to the public entity of feasible alternatives with lower risks, (4) the severity of plaintiffs' damage in relation to risk-bearing capabilities, (5) the extent to which damage of the kind plaintiffs sustained was generally considered as a normal risk of land ownership, and (6) the degree to which similar damage was distributed at large over other beneficiaries of the project or was peculiar only to plaintiffs. Based on these considerations, the court found that defendants' long-standing negligent operation of the project served no legitimate purpose, that feasible alternatives were available, and that the flood would not have occurred had defendants properly maintained the project.

CA(6a)[⬇] (6a) ***CA(6b)***[⬇] (6b) ***CA(6c)***[⬇] (6c)

Waters § 96 > Protection Against Floodwaters > Public Entity's Liability: Eminent Domain § 132 > Inverse Condemnation > Liability Based on Improper Maintenance of Public Project.

--In an inverse condemnation action against two counties, a county flood control and water conservation district, and a county water resources agency, by individuals who had suffered property damage when a river levee project failed during a heavy rainstorm, the trial court did not err in basing defendants' liability on their failure to properly maintain the project. Inadequate maintenance can support a finding of a public entity's liability in inverse condemnation. The deliberateness required for inverse condemnation liability is satisfied by a finding that the public improvement, as designed, constructed, and maintained, presented an inherent risk of danger to private property and the inherent risk materialized and caused damage. In this case, the trial court expressly found that the manner in which the levee project channel was maintained for over 20 years was a deliberate policy. Further, substantial evidence supported the trial court's finding that defendants' maintenance plan was unreasonable and deliberate. Defendants' knowing failure to clear the project channel, in the face of repeated warnings and complaints, was not mere negligent execution of a reasonable maintenance plan, but rather a long-term failure to mitigate a known danger.

[See 8 Witkin, Summary of Cal. Law (9th ed. 1988) Constitutional Law, § 1057.]

CA(7)[⬇] (7)

Eminent Domain § 132 > Inverse Condemnation > Liability of Public Entity > Relation to Public Use > Whether Negligence Can Support Claim.

--To be subject to liability in inverse condemnation, the governmental action at issue must relate to the public use element of *Cal. Const., art. I, § 19*. The destruction or damaging of property is sufficiently connected with public use if the injury is a result of dangers inherent in the construction of the public improvement as distinguished from dangers arising from the negligent operation of the improvement. A public entity's maintenance of a public improvement constitutes the constitutionally required public use, so long as the entity deliberately acts to undertake the particular plan or manner of maintenance. The necessary finding is that the wrongful act be part of the deliberate design, construction, or maintenance of the public improvement. The fundamental justification is that the government, acting in furtherance of public objectives, is taking a calculated risk that private property may be damaged. Simple negligence cannot support a constitutional claim. So long as the entity has made the deliberate calculated decision to proceed with a course of conduct, in spite of a known risk, just compensation will be owed.

CA(8)[⬇] (8)

Appellate Review § 155 > Scope of

Review > Sufficiency of Evidence > Inferences.

--In reviewing the sufficiency of the evidence to support the findings of the trial court, the appellate court considers the evidence in the light most favorable to the prevailing parties, giving them the benefit of every reasonable inference and resolving conflicts in support of the judgment.

CA(9a)[⬇] (9a) ***CA(9b)***[⬇] (9b)

Waters § 96 > Protection Against Floodwaters > Public Entity's Liability > Design Capacity of Levee > Water Capacity Plus Freeboard.

--In an action against two counties, a county flood control and water conservation district, and a county water resources agency, by individuals who sought damages in inverse condemnation and tort damages arising from damage to plaintiffs' property that resulted from the failure of a river levee project during a heavy rainstorm, the trial court did not err in defining the project's water capacity, and substantial expert evidence supported the jury's finding that peak flows during the storm did not exceed that capacity. When an independently generated force, such as a rainstorm, contributes to the injury, proximate cause is established when the injury occurred in substantial part because the public improvement failed to function as it was intended. Causation is not established, however, when the storm exceeds the project's design capacity. In this case, it would have been improper to fail to include the three-foot freeboard, which was the distance from the top of the levee to the surface of the water at maximum capacity, within the design capacity, since the extra room the freeboard was intended to provide was eliminated by defendants' ineffective maintenance. Thus, it was appropriate to permit the finder of fact to decide if the flood occasioned by the rainstorm exceeded the protection the project was intended to provide, including the freeboard, which was part of that protection.

CA(10)[⬇] (10)

Appellate Review § 41 > Presenting and Preserving Questions in Trial Court > Witnesses > Objection to Expert Evidence.

--When a party fails to make a record of its objection to expert evidence at trial, that party fails to preserve the issue for appeal.

[See 9 Witkin, Cal. Procedure (4th ed. 1997) Appeal, § 394.]

CA(11)[⬇] (11)

Evidence § 81 > Opinion Evidence > Expert Witnesses.

--Evidence of scientific techniques that have not proven reliable and generally accepted by others in the field is not admissible as evidence. However, this rule does not apply to the personal opinions of an expert.

CA(12a)[⬇] (12a) ***CA(12b)***[⬇] (12b)

Waters § 96 > Protection Against Floodwaters > State's Liability for Design of Highway Embankment That Captured Floodwaters: Government Tort Liability § 9.2 > Dangerous Condition of Public Property.

--In an action against the state by individuals who sought damages in inverse condemnation and tort damages arising from damage to plaintiffs' property from floodwaters that were obstructed by a state highway, the trial court did not err in finding defendant liable based on its design of the highway, which provided for a raised embankment that acted to dam the floodwaters. Public policy does not necessarily require a reasonableness calculus in all contexts in which a trial court determines the inverse condemnation liability of a public entity. In this case, public policy favored strict liability rather than reasonableness, since defendant was bound not to obstruct the flow of water from plaintiffs' upstream land. Further, defendant had a duty to avoid obstructing escaping floodwater, regardless of the cause of the flood. The traditional rule applicable to riparian landowners, according to

which both upstream and downstream landowners have a duty to avoid altering the natural system of drainage in any way that would increase the burden on the other, was applicable to defendant. Further, the harm that resulted was unquestionably foreseeable, since the state's highway planning manual required that a highway's drainage structures be able to accommodate a 100-year storm, and defendant was aware that the levee project on the same floodplain as the highway would not accommodate such a storm.

CA(13)[⬇] (13)

Negligence § 92 > Actions > Questions of Law and Fact > Duty of Care.

--The question of whether a duty exists is one of law. The court's task in determining duty is to evaluate generally whether the conduct at issue is sufficiently likely to result in the kind of harm experienced that liability may appropriately be imposed. Legal duties are not discoverable facts of nature, but merely conclusory expressions that, in cases of a particular type, liability should be imposed for damage done. All persons have a duty to use ordinary care to prevent others from being injured as the result of their conduct. Duty is usually determined based upon a number of considerations; foreseeability of a particular kind of harm is one of the most crucial.

CA(14a)[⬇] (14a) ***CA(14b)***[⬇] (14b) ***CA(14c)***[⬇] (14c) ***CA(14d)***[⬇] (14d)

Government Tort Liability § 10 > Grounds for Relief > Defense of Design Immunity > Required Showing > Reasonableness of Design: Nuisances § 9 > Liability of Public Entities.

--In an action against the state by individuals who sought tort damages arising from damage to plaintiffs' property from floodwaters that were obstructed by a state highway, the trial court did not err in denying defendant's motion for a directed verdict based on design immunity (*Gov. Code, § 830.6*). Defendant failed to present evidence of a basis upon which a reasonable state official could have approved the highway design. The culverts installed through the highway embankment were not designed to accommodate floodwater. Defendant knew that the river levee project that was located in the same floodplain as the highway could not accommodate a 100-year storm, that flooding was foreseeable, and that the drainage design should have taken that into account. Defendant did not offer any evidence indicating that a reasonable public employee would have approved a design that did not take flooding into account. Further, the failure of the river levee project in a heavy rainstorm, which caused the flood, was not a superseding cause that extinguished defendant's liability, since the flooding was foreseeable. Thus, the flooding, whether caused by the levee failure or a 100-year storm, was not so extraordinary an event that defendant should have been relieved of liability.

CA(15)[⬇] (15)

Government Tort Liability § 10 > Grounds for Relief > Defense of Design Immunity > Required Showing > Reasonableness of Design > Trial Court Determination.

--A public entity is immune from liability for a dangerous condition of public property under *Gov. Code, § 830.6*, if the injury was caused by a public improvement that was constructed pursuant to a plan or design approved in advance by the entity, and the entity can plead or prove three essential elements: (1) a causal relationship between the plan and the accident, (2) discretionary approval of the plan prior to construction, and (3) substantial evidence supporting the reasonableness of the design. Resolution of the reasonableness of the design is a matter for the court, not the jury. The rationale behind design immunity is to prevent a jury from reweighing the same factors considered by the governmental entity that approved the design. The trial court must apply the deferential substantial evidence standard to determine whether any reasonable state official could have approved

the challenged design. If the record contains the requisite substantial evidence, the immunity applies, even if the plaintiff has presented evidence that the design was defective. In order to be considered substantial, the evidence must be of solid value, which reasonably inspires confidence.

CA(16)[⬇] (16)

Appellate Review § 135 > Scope of Review > Presumptions > Where Ruling Correct, but Reasoning Not.

--A ruling or decision that is correct in law will not be disturbed on appeal merely because it was issued by the trial court for the wrong reason.

CA(17)[⬇] (17)

Negligence § 19 > Actions > Trial > Questions of Law and Fact > Proximate Cause > Superseding Cause: Eminent Domain § 131 > Inverse Condemnation > Defense.

--Under traditional negligence analysis, an intervening force is one that actively operates to produce harm after the defendant's negligent act or omission has been committed. A defendant's conduct is superseded as a legal cause of an injury if, among other things, the intervening force is highly unusual or extraordinary, not reasonably likely to happen, and, therefore, not foreseeable. Similar considerations may apply in the context of inverse condemnation. The defendant has the burden to prove the affirmative defense of superseding cause, that is, that the intervening event is so highly unusual or extraordinary that it was unforeseeable. The question is usually one for the trier of fact. However, when the facts are materially undisputed, the appellate court applies its independent review.

[See 6 Witkin, Summary of Cal. Law (9th ed. 1988) Torts, § 975.]

CA(18)[⬇] (18)

Waters § 96 > Protection Against Floodwaters > Public Entity's Liability: Eminent Domain § 132 > Inverse Condemnation > Concurrent Liability of County and County Water Resources Agency.

--In an action against a county and the county water resources agency by individuals who sought damages in inverse condemnation and tort damages arising from damage to plaintiffs' property that resulted from the failure of a river levee project during a heavy rainstorm, both defendants were properly found liable to plaintiffs. The record was clear that the judgment against the county was based on its direct liability. In an inverse condemnation action, so long as the plaintiffs can show a public entity's substantial participation in a public project that proximately caused injury, it is immaterial which entity had the ultimate responsibility for operation of the project. The basis for liability is that the public entity had the power to control or direct the aspect of the improvement that is alleged to have caused the injury. In this case, the county expressly assumed responsibility for the project's operation and maintenance, and also exercised control by virtue of its financial control of the agency. In addition, the county board of supervisors was aware of the project's maintenance needs, and of the risk of flooding it posed. In failing to expend funds on the project, the county took the risk that plaintiffs would be harmed. Therefore, it was proper to require the county to bear its share of plaintiffs' loss.

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Judges: (Opinion by Premo, Acting P. J., with Elia and Wunderlich, JJ., concurring.)

Opinion by: Premo

Opinion

PREMO, Acting P. [*730] J.

[44]** Defendants, County of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (collectively Santa Cruz), Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA), and County of Monterey (Monterey), were found liable in tort and inverse condemnation for extensive damage caused when the Pajaro River Levee Project (the Project) failed during a heavy rainstorm in 1995. Defendant State of California (State) was also found liable in tort and inverse condemnation for damage caused when Highway 1 obstructed the path of the floodwater on its way to the sea. For reasons we shall explain, we affirm.

[*731] A. INTRODUCTION

This action commenced with the filing of six different complaints on behalf of approximately 300 plaintiffs. The essence of plaintiffs' claims against Santa Cruz, MCWRA, and Monterey was that their failure to keep the Project channel clear diminished its capacity and ultimately caused a levee to fail during the storm. As against State, plaintiffs alleged that the drainage culverts under Highway 1 were too small to drain the flood and the resultant damming effect caused higher flood levels and destructive ponding of the floodwater.

[*3]** The individual matters were consolidated, and the liability and damages phases were bifurcated for trial. The tort causes **[**45]** of action were tried to a jury. The inverse condemnation claims were simultaneously tried to the court. The jury found all defendants liable for dangerous condition of public property and nuisance. The counties and the water agencies were also found liable for negligence, and, with the exception of Monterey, for violation of mandatory duty. The trial court found all defendants liable on the inverse condemnation claims.

In order to obtain review of the liability issues prior to trial of the damages phase the parties selected Tony's Auto Center as a representative plaintiff and stipulated to damages as to that plaintiff only. Judgment in favor of Tony's Auto Center was filed January 6, 2000. The county and water agency defendants jointly moved for a new trial and that motion was denied. All defendants filed timely notice of appeal. [1]

[*4]** B. FACTS

1. *The Project*

The Pajaro River is formed by the union of several smaller tributaries in the Counties of San Benito and Santa Clara. It flows through Chittenden Pass in the Santa Cruz Mountains and emerges into the Pajaro Valley, eventually emptying into Monterey Bay. The river forms the border between the Counties of Santa Cruz on the north and Monterey on the south. The Pajaro Valley is an historic floodplain. Today, most of the valley is devoted to agriculture. Its two population centers are the City of Watsonville on the Santa Cruz side of the river, and the small town of Pajaro just across the river from Watsonville on the Monterey side.

[*732] The federal Flood Control Act of 1944 (Pub.L. No. 78-534, ch. 665 (Dec. 22, 1944) 58

[1] Although appeal is taken only from the judgment in favor of the single representative plaintiff, our decision is applicable to the entire action. The following discussion refers to "plaintiffs" as a reflection of that practical reality.

Stat. 887) authorized the United States Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) to construct the Project upon receipt of assurances from the responsible local agencies that they would, among other things, operate and maintain the Project as the Corps required. The California Water Resources Act authorized the State's portion of the project and directed the four affected counties (Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, and Monterey) to give the required written [***5] assurances. (Stats. 1945, ch. 1514, p. 2827.) Before the counties took any action, the California Legislature created the Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and the new district replaced Monterey for purposes of the Water Resources Act. (Stats. 1947, ch. 699, §§ 2, 4, p. 1739.) MCWRA succeeded to the responsibilities of the Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District in 1990. (Stats. 1990, ch. 1159, p. 4831.)

In 1947, the three counties and Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District signed a resolution giving the assurances required by the federal Flood Control Act. Shortly thereafter, Monterey joined the other three counties in executing an indemnity agreement under which each county accepted responsibility for the portion of the Project located within its borders, and guaranteed as to each other the assurances that had been given to the Corps.

2. *Maintenance of the Project*

The Project design consisted primarily of clearing the river channel and constructing earthen levees along both sides of the river, beginning near Murphy's Crossing [**46] east of Watsonville and extending westward to the mouth of the river. The [***6] Corps completed the Project in 1949 and transferred responsibility for its maintenance to the local interests. The Corps provided an "Operation and Maintenance Manual" to guide maintenance efforts. One goal of maintenance was to maintain the Project's capacity. Federal regulations, which were incorporated into the manual, specified that the channel be kept clear of shoals, weeds and wild growth. (See *33 C.F.R. § 208.10(g)(1) (2001)*.) Vegetation and shoals in the channel decrease its capacity. Therefore, it was important to keep the channel clear in order to maintain the capacity it was intended to have.

The Corps had designed the Project to have a capacity of 19,000 cubic feet per second (c.f.s.). The Corps' 1946 "Definite Project Report" stated that the Project would be built to "contain a two-per-cent-chance flood within a 3-foot freeboard." The "freeboard" to which the report refers is the distance from the top of the levee to the surface of the water at the level the project [*733] is designed to carry. Freeboard is included as a safety feature. It provides additional capacity to take care of unforeseen factors, although it is not intended to contain water for long periods [***7] of time. The Corps' report explained: "The channel capacity will be 19,000 c.f.s. above the mouth of Corralitos Creek [the point at which the Project failed in 1995 [2]] . . . ."2 The Corps' documents pointed out that by encroaching on the freeboard the Project would hold 23,000 c.f.s. at the pertinent location and still have one foot of freeboard remaining. That means that the Project was designed to contain 19,000 c.f.s. at the point at which the Project ultimately failed, and, if unaccounted factors had not diminished the channel's capacity, there would still be room to safely carry, at least for a short period of time, an additional 4,000 c.f.s.

From 1949 until 1972, the vegetation and sandbars were removed with a tractor and a bulldozer. The effectiveness of these channel clearing efforts was demonstrated by the Project's performance during two storms in the 1950's. In a 1955 storm, the [***8] Chittenden [3] gauge reported flows of

[2] Corralitos Creek is also known as Salsipuedes Creek. It joins the Pajaro River just east of the City of Watsonville.

[3] The Chittenden gauge, which is located on the river several miles east of the Project, continuously measures the depth of the water. Hydrologists periodically measure the width and velocity of the stream. By graphing the periodic measurements they can estimate the volume of the discharge at any given depth. The data from the Chittenden gauge is used to estimate the water flow further down the

24,000 c.f.s. Even with such a high flow there remained over two feet of freeboard near the point where the levee failed in 1995. In 1958 the Project contained flows of 23,500 c.f.s., although with slightly less freeboard remaining.

The continuous mechanized clearing of the channel stopped around 1972. The California Department of Fish and Game (Fish and Game) had demanded a halt to mechanical clearing of the channel in order to protect the riparian habitat. In an apparent attempt to conform to both the demands of Fish and Game and the Corps' Project maintenance **[***9]** requirements, Santa Cruz began using herbicides to kill the vegetation in the channel. Without regular mechanized clearing, however, vegetation and sandbars built up, impeding the flow of winter runoff. As the Project deteriorated, it reverted more and more to riparian habitat, which in turn encouraged the claim of Fish and Game to jurisdiction over the Project. Although Fish and **[**47]** Game had procedures by which the local agencies could appeal the department's decisions, the local agencies never appealed.

In addition to Fish and Game, local environmental interests made thorough maintenance of the channel more challenging by actively supporting efforts to preserve the river's habitat. In 1976, Supervisor Gary Patton wrote **[*734]** to the Legislature on behalf of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to support Fish and Game policies and to encourage strong legislation to protect river habitat and regulate streambed alteration. In 1977, Santa Cruz adopted an ordinance designed to "preserve, protect and restore riparian corridors." In 1980, the county fish and game commission was given authority to restore fishery habitat in the Pajaro River, and to review public works projects **[***10]** that involved any alteration of the streambed or of streamside vegetation.

As the channel became more clogged, thorough clearing became more expensive. The passage of Proposition 13 in 1978 made funding more of a problem in general so that through the 1980's the Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works did not have funds to remove trees and other vegetation in the channel. MCWRA [4] had no significant funds to participate in channel clearing efforts, and since 1974 had concentrated almost exclusively on levee maintenance. Although Supervisor Marc Del Piero asked his colleagues several times to approve allocations to MCWRA from Monterey's general fund, with one minor exception, he was never successful.

The presence of vegetation and sandbars within the channel proliferated and posed an acknowledged risk of flooding. By 1977 **[***11]** area farmers had become concerned about the lack of mechanized clearing and expressed their concerns to supervisors in both counties. Watsonville officials wrote to the Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works in 1985, 1987 and 1988, asking that something be done. The agencies responsible for Project maintenance were also worried about the condition of the channel. By 1988, Joseph Madruga, chief engineer for MCWRA, had come to the conclusion that vegetation and sandbars in the channel had reduced its capacity by at least 50 percent. John Fantham, director of the Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works, had recognized the risk of flooding as early as 1983. Later, both agencies acknowledged that the 1995 flood was due in substantial part to the failure to clear the channel.

Meanwhile, the Corps had been performing inspections of the Project about twice a year. Although the Corps issued only one notice that the Project was in an unacceptable condition, the majority of the semiannual evaluations expressed concern that dense vegetation in the channel posed a serious constriction on the flow. Many of the Corps' evaluations included notice to both the MCWRA board and the Santa **[***12]** Cruz County Board of **[*735]** Supervisors that lack of

river in the Project channel.

[4] Unless the context requires a distinction, we shall hereafter refer to MCWRA and its predecessor, Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, simply as MCWRA.

maintenance could disqualify the Project for future federal assistance in the event of a flood. The Corps actually did temporarily disqualify the Project for that reason in 1992.

By 1988, the issue had come to the attention of Congressman Leon Panetta. Congressman Panetta convened the Pajaro River Task Force to determine what was to be done about the conflicting concerns of flood control and habitat restoration. The task force was made up of representatives [**48] from all the responsible and affected agencies, Fish and Game, and the Corps. Supervisor Del Piero and Mr. Madruga represented the Monterey interests. Mr. Fantham and Supervisor Robley Levy represented Santa Cruz. After over two years of work, the task force produced the "Pajaro River Corridor Management Plan," which called for the hand clearing of vegetation. Both Mr. Fantham and Mr. Madruga felt that the plan was inadequate, and would do no more than maintain the status quo. Mr. Madruga voiced his objection at the task force meeting and in a letter to Mr. Fantham in which he advocated a program of thinning and removal of selected vegetation using heavy equipment. [***13] According to Mr. Madruga, this was the "only method that can accomplish the flood protection necessary to protect the citizens of the Pajaro Valley at a reasonable cost and in a reasonable time frame." Notwithstanding these reservations, the task force unanimously approved the plan in October 1991, although there is no evidence it was ever formally adopted by the agencies charged with implementing it.

Finally, beginning in the early 1990's, the agencies on both sides of the river began more aggressive efforts to clear the channel. In 1991, at the urging of Supervisor Del Piero, MCWRA applied for a permit to use a backhoe and bulldozer to clear the channel. Fish and Game issued the permit, but limited its permission to hand clearing and then later halted the work. In 1993, at the invitation of area farmers, then Director of Fish and Game, Boyd Gibbons toured the Project. Gibbons was sufficiently concerned with the condition of the channel that he instructed his staff to work with the counties to get the necessary work done as soon as possible. Thereafter, Santa Cruz obtained permits to do some mechanized clearing of the channel. However, the work that was done was not enough to entirely [***14] clear the vegetation and sediment that had been allowed to collect over the preceding 20 years.

3. *Highway 1*

Highway 1 runs north to south and crosses the Pajaro River at the lower end of the Pajaro Valley, west of Watsonville. State began planning the construction of the subject portion of the highway in the 1950's. At the time, [*736] Highway 1 ran through Watsonville. The new section was to bypass the city. The bypass required the construction of a new bridge over the river and an earthen embankment elevating the highway at the south end of the bridge. Trafton Road today runs under Highway 1 on the southern side of the river. Before State built the bypass, water passed through this area along a path in the vicinity of Trafton Road. The planned embankment would obstruct the existing drainage in that area. To compensate, State needed to design a drainage system for the embankment.

Investigation, design and construction of the embankment continued through the late 1960's. State's design criteria required that drainage through embankments be able to discharge a 100-year flood without causing water to back up over adjacent private property. State's engineers explained that this [***15] criterion did not require the drainage system in this case to accommodate flows escaping from the Project channel. According to State, the drainage needed only to pass rainwater runoff from a 700-acre area immediately adjacent to the highway. Using those guidelines, State engineers approved plans for two 48-inch culverts that could accommodate 98 c.f.s. The design documents showed that this design actually anticipated that "[s]hallow flooding on peak flow [**49] can be expected for some distance

outside the [right of way]."

4. *The Flood*

The Project protected the valley for over 45 years until the storm of March 1995. On the night of March 10-11, 1995, the river overtopped the levee on the Monterey side, upriver from its junction with Corralitos (Salsipuedes) Creek. The resultant rush of water over the levee eroded the back side of the levee and it gave way, inundating the surrounding valley.

The vegetation and sediment that had been allowed to accumulate in the channel caused the river flow to be higher than it would have been had it been properly cleared. On the night of the storm, the maximum flow at the Chittenden gauge was estimated to have been 21,300 c.f.s. Plaintiffs' **[***16]** expert, Dr. Robert Curry, testified that in his opinion the 21,300 c.f.s. overestimated the flow because it did not take into account a number of factors taking place within the channel or downriver from the gauge. According to Dr. Curry, these factors served to reduce the actual flow at the break site to 16,000 to 18,500 c.f.s., most likely around 17,500 c.f.s.

When the levee failed, the floodwaters ran onto the historically flooded valley floor until they reached the Highway 1 embankment. The Highway 1 culverts were quickly overwhelmed, so that the water backed up on the east **[*737]** side of the highway, flooding more acreage than it otherwise would have flooded, and standing in many places for an extended period of time. The standing water exacerbated the flood damage because it caused the deposition of vast amounts of destructive sediment, all of which had to be removed when the floodwaters finally receded.

C. DISCUSSION

1. *Summary of Issues and Scope of Review*

The two counties and their related water agencies contend: (1) the trial court did not make the determination of unreasonableness that is necessary to support inverse condemnation liability, (2) inverse condemnation **[***17]** liability may not be based on shoddy maintenance of a public improvement, (3) the trial court used an erroneous definition of the Project's "design capacity," (4) there was insufficient evidence to support a finding that the Project did not perform within its capacity, and (5) the trial court erred in adopting the plaintiffs' proposed statement of decision.

MCWRA separately contends that the trial court erred in failing to apportion among the defendants the damages of the single plaintiff, Tony's Auto Center. Since MCWRA stipulated to the judgment in the form it was entered, MCWRA is estopped to complain of error, if any there was. (*Hasson v. Ford Motor Co. (1982) 32 Cal. 3d 388, 420 [185 Cal. Rptr. 654, 650 P.2d 1171]*.)

State contends: (1) the trial court applied an improper standard of unreasonableness in ruling on the inverse condemnation claim, (2) State could not be liable in tort because it had no duty to protect plaintiffs from failure of the Project, (3) State is immune from tort liability under *Government Code section 830.6* (design immunity), and (4) the breach of the levee was a superseding cause.

Monterey argues separately that it is not liable because it did not have any responsibility for the Project.

CA(1)[↑] (1) Except where noted, defendants' arguments relate to facts that are materially undisputed. We therefore apply our independent review. (*Ghirardo v. Antonioli (1994) 8 Cal. 4th 791, 799, [35 Cal. Rptr. 2d 418, 883 P.2d 960]*.)

2. *Inverse Condemnation--Legal Background*

CA(2)[↑] (2) ***HN1***[↑] "Private property may be taken or damaged **[***18]** for public use only when just compensation, ascertained by a jury unless waived, has first been paid to, or into court for, the owner." (*Cal. Const., art. I, § 19*, hereafter *article I, section 19*.) ***HN2***[↑] When a **[**50]** public use results in damage to private property without

having been preceded by just compensation, the property owner may proceed against the public entity to recover it. Such a cause of action is denominated "inverse condemnation." (*Breidert v. Southern Pac. Co. (1964) 61 Cal. 2d 659, 663, fn. 1, [39 Cal. Rptr. 903, 394 P.2d 719]*.)

[*738] Early inverse condemnation cases presumed that article I, section 19 (then § 14) merely provided an exception to the general rule of governmental immunity and that a public entity could only be liable in inverse condemnation if a private party could be held liable for the same injury. (*Archer v. City of Los Angeles (1941) 19 Cal. 2d 19, 24, [119 P.2d 1]* (*Archer*).) *Albers v. County of Los Angeles (1965) 62 Cal. 2d 250, [42 Cal. Rptr. 89, 398 P.2d 129]* (*Albers*) explained that the constitutional provision actually provided a broader basis for governmental liability. *Albers* confirmed that the **[***19]** fundamental policy basis for the constitutional requirement of just compensation is a consideration of " 'whether the owner of the damaged property if uncompensated would contribute more than his proper share to the public undertaking.' " (*Id. at p. 262*.) According to *Albers*, "any actual physical injury to real property proximately caused by [a public] improvement as deliberately designed and constructed is compensable under [article I, section 19] of our Constitution whether foreseeable or not." (*Id. at pp. 263-264*.) The only limits to the claim were that (1) the injuries must be physical injuries of real property, and (2) the injuries must have been proximately caused by the public improvement as deliberately constructed and planned. (*Holtz v. Superior Court (1970) 3 Cal. 3d 296, 304, [90 Cal. Rptr. 345, 475 P.2d 441]* (*Holtz*).)

CA(3)[↑] (3) Although *Albers* had held that the inverse condemnation plaintiff was entitled to compensation without regard to fault, *Albers* left open two exceptions to that rule--the *Gray* exception, which is not pertinent here, and the *Archer* exception. (*Albers, supra, 62 Cal. 2d at p. 263,* **[***20]** and see *Gray v. Reclamation District No. 1500 (1917) 174 Cal. 622, 163 P. 1024; Archer, supra, 19 Cal. 2d at p. 24*.) In brief, the so-called *Archer* exception involved the circumstances, peculiar to water law, in which a landowner had a right to inflict damage upon the property of others for the purpose of protecting his or her own property. Such circumstances included the erection of flood control measures (the common enemy doctrine) and the discharge of surface water into a natural watercourse (the natural watercourse rule). Under private water law analysis, these rules immunized the landowner from liability for resulting damage to downstream property. (See *Belair v. Riverside County Flood Control Dist. (1988) 47 Cal. 3d 550, 563-564, [253 Cal. Rptr. 693, 764 P.2d 1070]* (*Belair*); *Archer, supra, 19 Cal. 2d at pp. 24-26*; *Locklin v. City of Lafayette (1994) 7 Cal. 4th 327, 350, [27 Cal. Rptr. 2d 613, 867 P.2d 724]* (*Locklin*).) Presumably, under the *Archer* exception, a public entity would be completely immune from liability if the entity's conduct were of the type that would have been immune under these water law principles.

Like this **[***21]** case, *Belair* involved flood damage that occurred after a levee failed. *Belair* modified *Albers* and adopted a rule of reasonableness to be **[*739]** applied in the context of flood control litigation. *Belair* determined that application of the *Albers* rule of strict liability would discourage needed flood control projects by making the entity the insurer of the property the project was designed to protect. (*Belair, supra, 47 Cal. 3d at p. 565* **[**51]** .) On the other hand, to apply the *Archer* exception would unfairly burden the private landowner by requiring the landowner to bear a disproportionate share of the damage caused by failure of the public project. To balance these conflicting concerns *Belair* held: ***HN3***[↑] "[W]here the public agency's design, construction or maintenance of a flood control project is shown to have posed an unreasonable risk of harm to the plaintiffs, and such unreasonable design, construction or maintenance constituted a substantial cause of the damages, plaintiffs may recover regardless of the fact that the projects purpose is to contain the 'common enemy' of

floodwaters." (*Ibid.*) Under *Belair*, the public entity is not immune from suit, but neither [***22] is it strictly liable.

Belair left open the question of how to determine reasonableness in the inverse condemnation context. That question was answered in *Locklin*. The *Locklin* plaintiffs had alleged that increased runoff from creek side public works caused erosion damage to their property downstream. *Locklin* held that ***HN4***[↑] the privilege to discharge surface water into a natural watercourse (the natural watercourse rule) was a conditional privilege, subject to the *Belair* rule of reasonableness. ***CA(4)***[↑] (4) *Locklin* explained that to determine reasonableness in such a case, the trial court must consider what are now commonly referred to as the "*Locklin* factors." THEY ARE: "(1) [t]he overall public purpose being served by the improvement project; (2) the degree to which the plaintiff's loss is offset by reciprocal benefits; (3) the availability to the public entity of feasible alternatives with lower risks; (4) the severity of the plaintiff's damage in relation to risk-bearing capabilities; (5) the extent to which damage of the kind the plaintiff sustained is generally considered as a normal risk of land ownership; and (6) the degree to which similar damage is distributed at [***23] large over other beneficiaries of the project or is peculiar only to the plaintiff." (*Locklin, supra, 7 Cal. 4th at pp. 368-369.*)

Thus, in matters involving flood control projects, or in circumstances such as those before the court in *Locklin*, the public entity will be liable in inverse condemnation if its design, construction, or maintenance of a public improvement poses an unreasonable risk of harm to the plaintiff's property, and the unreasonable aspect of the improvement is a substantial cause of damage. In those circumstances, unreasonableness is determined by balancing the factors set forth in *Locklin*.

[*740] 3. *Counties' Issues* [5]

a. *The Trial Court Properly Balanced the "Locklin Factors."*

CA(5)[↑] (5) Counties contend [***24] that the trial court did not analyze the reasonableness of their actions according to the requirements of *Locklin*. The plaintiffs' proposed statement of decision referred specifically to the six *Locklin* factors and the trial court's consideration of each of them. The trial court acknowledged that the balancing analysis in the proposed statement of decision was correct, but felt that the discussion was not necessary for a statement of decision and had it stricken. The trial court instead stated, "The Court has balanced the public need for flood control against the gravity of the harm caused by the unnecessary damage to the plaintiffs' property, and finds that the County defendants acted unreasonably. *See* [**52] *Belair,* 47 Cal.3d at [pp.] 566-67, [*253 Cal. Rptr. 693, 764 P.2d 1070*]."

Counties brought the absence of the *Locklin* factors to the trial court's attention in connection with the hearing on the motion for new trial. Plaintiffs, therefore, moved to amend the statement of decision to include the previously stricken analysis. In response, the court ruled, "In fact, I did make those findings. And the reason for deleting them from the proposed statement was a disposition for brevity. I think they were there. [***25] I did consider them. I will grant the motion to insert them back into the statement of decision of the court for clarity." As permitted by *Code of Civil Procedure section 662*, [6] the trial court amended

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[5] In this section we address the issues raised in briefs filed by Santa Cruz and MCWRA. Monterey joins the arguments raised in both briefs. To simplify our discussion, we shall refer in this section to both counties and their related water agencies as "Counties."

[6] *Code of Civil Procedure section 662* reads in pertinent part: ***HN5***[↑] "In ruling on [a new trial] motion, in a cause tried without a jury, the court may, on such terms as may be just, change or add to the statement of decision, modify the judgment, in whole or in part, vacate the judgment, in whole or in part, and grant a new trial on all or part of the issues . . . ."

the statement of decision to include the *Locklin* analysis. We reproduce that portion in the margin. [7]

[***26] Counties now argue that the trial court came to a final decision without the necessary balancing and then merely plugged the hole by inserting the [*741] previously stricken language into the statement of decision. We will not second-guess the trial court's subjective reasoning. The trial court specifically stated that it had considered the factors and made the findings. The statement of decision that is before us includes the appropriate analysis and we have no reason to reject it.

Counties also contend that the reasonableness calculus must be made as of the time the public entity is making the decision to approve the project, and that the trial court incorrectly focused on conduct that took place after adoption of the federal maintenance regulations. This contention [**53] confuses the purpose of the balancing analysis. The balancing analysis required by *Locklin* applies to the public entities' action that results in the injury. In *Belair, supra*, 47 Cal. 3d 550, it was the design of the levee system that resulted in the injury so that the reasonableness of the design would have been the proper consideration. Here, the trial court applied the analysis to the Counties' long-standing policy of allowing the Project [***27] channel to deteriorate. (See fn. 7, *ante*.) As we explain in more detail in the following section, it was that long-standing policy that caused the damage. We find that the trial court appropriately assessed the reasonableness of that policy according to the factors set forth in *Locklin, supra*, 7 Cal. 4th at page 369. (See *Bunch v. Coachella Valley Water Dist. (1997) 15 Cal. 4th 432, 454, [63 Cal. Rptr. 2d 89, 935 P.2d 796]* (*Bunch II*).)

b. *Inadequate Project Maintenance Supports Inverse Condemnation Liability.*

CA(6a)[↑] (6a) Counties next contend that the trial court incorrectly based liability upon a finding of negligence, which is not the type of government action to which inverse condemnation applies. Counties also contend that the Corps' prescribed maintenance was the only "plan" of maintenance Counties ever adopted and that there is insufficient evidence to support a contrary finding. We find no merit in either contention.

[*742] *CA(7)*[↑] (7) *HN6*[↑] To be subject to liability in inverse condemnation, the governmental action at issue must relate to the "public use" element of *article I, section 19*. "Public use" is the threshold requirement. (*Cal. Const., art. I, § 19*.) "The destruction or damaging [***28] of property is sufficiently connected with 'public use' as required by the Constitution, if the injury is a result of dangers inherent in the construction of the public improvement as distinguished from dangers arising

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[7] "The court considered each of the following factors in making its determination that the Counties acted unreasonably when the public benefit is balanced against the private damage: (i) The overall public purpose being served by the improvement project; (ii) the degree to which the plaintiffs' loss is offset by reciprocal benefits; (iii) the availability to the public entities of feasible alternatives with lower risks; (iv) the severity of the plaintiffs' damage in relation to risk-bearing capabilities; (v) the extent to which damage of the kind the plaintiffs sustained is generally considered as a normal risk of land ownership; and (vi) the degree to which similar damage is distributed at large over other beneficiaries of the project or is peculiar only to the plaintiffs. The Court finds that the efforts of the Counties to prevent foreseeable damage to plaintiffs were not reasonable in light of the potential for damage posed by the Counties' conduct, the cost to the Counties of reasonable measures to avoid such damage, and the availability of and the cost to the plaintiffs of means of protecting their property from damage. [P] The Court's determination is supported by the following: First, the 'purpose' of the improvement project involved--a flood control project--militates strongly in favor of liability in light of the enormous 'damage potential of a defective flood control project.' Second, the longstanding negligent operation of a flood control project, such as is documented here, serves no legitimate purpose, nor does it promote any 'reciprocal benefit' which offsets or justifies the damage that was caused by the failure of the Project. Third, 'feasible alternatives' which would have prevented the March 1995 floods were available to the defendants--i.e., continuous maintenance of the Project, including the type of maintenance that was in fact performed through the early 1970's. Fourth, the damage inflicted upon the populace of the Pajaro Valley as a result of the March 1995 flood was in fact 'enormous.' Finally, these damages were not a 'normal risk' of land ownership or of the sort that any of the intended 'beneficiaries' of the Project should be expected to bear. On the contrary, the flood of March 1995 would not have occurred had the Counties maintained the Project in the manner required by law."

from the negligent operation of the improvement." (House v. L. A. County Flood Control Dist. (1944) 25 Cal. 2d 384, 396, [153 P.2d 950] (conc. opn. of Traynor, J.).) A public entity's maintenance of a public improvement constitutes the constitutionally required public use so long as it is the entity's deliberate act to undertake the particular plan or manner of maintenance. (Bauer v. County of Ventura (1955) 45 Cal. 2d 276, 284-285, [289 P.2d 1] (*Bauer*).)

The necessary finding is that the wrongful act be part of the deliberate design, construction, or maintenance of the public improvement. ***HN7***[↑] "The fundamental justification for inverse liability is that the government, acting in furtherance of public objectives, is taking a calculated risk that private property may be damaged." (Yee v. City of Sausalito (1983) 141 Cal. App. 3d 917, 920, [190 Cal. Rptr. 595], disapproved on other grounds in Bunch II, supra, 15 Cal. 4th [***29] at pp. 447-451.) That is why simple negligence cannot support the constitutional claim. For example, in Hayashi v. Alameda County Flood Control (1959) 167 Cal. App. 2d 584, [334 P.2d 1048] the appellate court held that the plaintiffs had not stated a cause of action for inverse condemnation because, although the defendant's failure to repair a levee within 10 to 21 days was negligence, it was not "a deliberate plan with regard to the construction of public works." (Id. at pp. 590-592.) That is not to say that the later characterization of a public agency's deliberate action as negligence automatically removes the action from the scope of the constitutional requirement for just compensation. So long as the entity has made the deliberate calculated decision to proceed with a course of conduct, in spite of a known risk, just compensation will be owed. (See Van Alstyne, [**54] *Inverse Condemnation: Unintended Physical Damage* (1969) 20 Hastings L.J. 431, 489-490 (Van Alstyne).)

The leading case on the issue is *Bauer*. In *Bauer*, a drainage ditch ran along the downhill border of the plaintiffs' property. As originally constructed, any overflow [***30] from the ditch would have run downhill and away from the plaintiffs' property. As time went on, the downhill side of the ditch was built up higher and higher with dirt and debris so that when the ditch later overflowed, it flooded the plaintiffs' land. The county argued that the change in the ditch was a result of its maintenance and negligent maintenance was not the "public use" to which inverse condemnation liability [*743] would attach. The Supreme Court disagreed, explaining: "The rather obscure line between the concepts of 'construction' and 'maintenance' is disclosed by any attempt to define them in mutually exclusive terms and to characterize the raising of a bank of an existing ditch as one or the other. If the 'maintenance' consists of an alteration of the ditch by raising one of the banks, then in a material sense 'maintenance' becomes a species of 'construction.' Had the bank been raised during the original construction it would have been part of the over-all project and hence within the rule . . . . The defendants' argument that damage from maintenance is beyond the purview of [article I,] section [19] invites an artificial distinction which would turn simply upon the passage of time [***31] between the original construction and the subsequent alteration and must therefore be rejected." (Bauer, supra, 45 Cal. 2d at p. 285.)

CA(6b)[↑] (6b) Other cases have also found that ***HN8***[↑] inadequate maintenance can support liability in inverse condemnation. Two such cases involved damage to property caused by broken water pipes that the public entities had failed to properly maintain. (McMahan's of Santa Monica v. City of Santa Monica (1983) 146 Cal. App. 3d 683, 696-698, [194 Cal. Rptr. 582] (*McMahan's*), disapproved on other grounds, Bunch II, supra, 15 Cal. 4th at pp. 447-451; Pacific Bell v. City of San Diego (2000) 81 Cal. App. 4th 596, [96 Cal. Rptr. 2d 897] (*Pacific Bell*).) In both *McMahan's* and *Pacific Bell* the defendants argued that the city's negligent maintenance of its water system was not the type of deliberate government action that could support liability in inverse condemnation. (McMahan's, supra, 146 Cal. App. 3d at p. 693;

Pacific Bell, supra, 81 Cal. App. 4th at p. 607.) In neither case had the city affirmatively passed a resolution or otherwise enacted a plan that was facially inadequate. But in both cases the city knew that **[***32]** the maintenance program being applied to its water system was inadequate and did not take action to remedy the inadequacy. In *Pacific Bell*, the city repeatedly denied requests for water rate increases to fund repair and replacement of the water system. (*Pacific Bell, supra, 81 Cal. App. 4th at p. 607.*) In *McMahan's*, the city did not accelerate its program of water main replacement in spite of a water rate study showing that such a program was necessary to prevent a continued deterioration of the system. (*McMahan's, supra, 146 Cal. App. 3d at p. 695.*)

The *Pacific Bell* court found that the deliberateness required for inverse condemnation liability was satisfied by a finding that the public improvement, as designed, constructed and maintained, presented an inherent risk of danger to private property and the inherent risk materialized and caused damage. (*Pacific Bell, supra, 81 Cal. App. 4th at p. 607*; and see *House v. L.A. County Flood Control Dist., supra, 25 Cal. 2d at p. 396.*) The **[**55]** court pointed out that the damage to private property that resulted from such an inherent **[*744]** risk was a direct cost of the public improvement. In **[***33]** *Pacific Bell*, the city could have incurred the cost in advance by monitoring and replacing the system before a failure caused damage. When it chose not to do so, article I, section 19 required that the cost be absorbed by the taxpayers as a whole, and not by the individual landowner. (*Pacific Bell, supra, 81 Cal. App. 4th at pp. 607-608*, citing *Holtz, supra, 3 Cal. 3d at pp. 310-311.*)

The *McMahan's* court used the same rationale to reject the defendant's contention that its conduct could only be characterized as negligence. Relying on *Bauer, supra, 45 Cal. 2d 276*, *McMahan's* determined that "whether the City's program of water main installation and replacement is characterized as 'construction' or 'maintenance,' the fact remains that it was inadequate and contributed to the break due to corrosion of the [broken] main. The City's knowledge of the limited life of such mains and failure to adequately guard against such breaks caused by corrosion is as much a 'deliberate' act as existed in *Albers, supra, 62 Cal. 2d 250.*" (*McMahan's, supra, 146 Cal. App. 3d at p. 696.*)

We conclude that ***HN9***[↑] in order to prove the type of governmental conduct that will support liability **[***34]** in inverse condemnation it is enough to show that the entity was aware of the risk posed by its public improvement and deliberately chose a course of action--or inaction--in the face of that known risk.

i. *The Trial Court Found That Counties Adopted an Unreasonable Plan.*

During trial, neither side raised the issue of deliberate action. The heart of plaintiffs' case was that Counties had failed to maintain the project as required by the Corps, allowing silt and vegetation to build up and diminish the capacity of the Project. Counties defended by attempting to show, among other things, that their conduct was reasonable in light of regulatory and fiscal restrictions. The trial court's statement of decision referred to the litany of maintenance deficiencies and concluded, "[T]he evidence is persuasive that the County defendants did not act reasonably with regard to their maintenance obligation. Moreover the trial record refuted the Counties' arguments that they acted reasonably in light of regulatory impediments and funding limitations. The Counties' maintenance duties required that certain necessary steps be taken to effectively keep the channel clear. If those 'necessary steps' **[***35]** required greater efforts in the face of funding and regulatory obstructions, then a reasonable course of conduct required a more aggressive approach to overcoming these claimed impediments."

About three months after the statement of decision was filed, the Third District Court of Appeal filed **[*745]** *Paterno v. State of California (1999) 74 Cal. App. 4th 68, [87 Cal. Rptr. 2d 754]* (*Paterno*). *Paterno*, like this case, was an appeal from a

judgment for the plaintiff on an inverse condemnation claim arising from a broken levee. The *Paterno* court held that the trial court's statement of decision was deficient because it based liability "almost entirely on the violation of standards for levee maintenance, in other words, *departures from the lawful plan*, rather than on an unreasonable plan." (*Id. at p. 90.*) The appellate court reversed and remanded the case for retrial, noting that Paterno would have to identify upon what plans he relied and then prove **[**56]** that the plan caused his injury. (*Id. at p. 91, [87 Cal. Rptr. 2d 754].*)

After judgment was entered in favor of the test plaintiff in this case, Counties filed a new trial motion. (*Code Civ. Proc., § 657* **[***36]** .) Relying upon *Paterno*, they argued that the trial court's decision was against law because the court had based liability on negligent maintenance, not on adoption of an unreasonable plan of maintenance. The trial court denied the new trial motion, but amended the statement of decision to include the finding: "[T]he maintenance deficiencies which the Court's Statement of Decision summarized all resulted from plans or policies which defendants adopted and implemented over a twenty-year period." Thus, the trial court's statement of decision, as amended, found that Counties had adopted and implemented unreasonable plans or policies by failing, over a 20-year period, to take a more aggressive approach to maintenance of the Project.

Paterno does not affect our conclusion. In *Paterno*, the appellate court determined that the trial court had adopted the view that unreasonable conduct, as required by *Belair*, meant ordinary negligence, and therefore, that the trial court had not made the necessary finding. (*Paterno, supra, 74 Cal. App. 4th at pp. 86, 88.*) Unlike the trial court in *Paterno,* the trial court in this case expressly found that the manner **[***37]** in which the channel was maintained for over 20 years was a deliberate policy of the local public agencies responsible for the Project. Such a determination is a finding of the deliberate government action necessary for inverse condemnation liability.

ii. *There Is Substantial Evidence of an Unreasonable Plan of Maintenance.*

Counties insist that the only evidence of a "plan" of maintenance was the Corps' maintenance requirements. ***CA(8)***[↑] (8) ***HN10***[↑] In reviewing the sufficiency of the evidence to support the findings of the trial court, we apply the basic principle of appellate practice and consider the evidence in the light most favorable to the plaintiffs, giving them the benefit of every reasonable inference and resolving conflicts in support of the judgment. (*In re Marriage of Arceneaux (1990) 51 Cal. 3d 1130, 1133, [275 Cal. Rptr. 797, 800 P.2d 1227].*)

[*746] ***CA(6c)***[↑] (6c) The record is replete with evidence to support the finding that Counties' maintenance of the Project was conducted pursuant to Counties' deliberate policies. Counties were aware of the maintenance program being applied to the Project and knew that the buildup of vegetation and sand bars diminished the protection the Project **[***38]** was intended to provide. Area farmers, Watsonville officials, and the highest ranking people in both Counties' water agencies alerted county officials to the risk of flooding and to that which needed to be done to remedy the problem. In spite of that knowledge, Counties did not take any action to correct the situation until 1991 or later. Instead, Counties allowed Fish and Game regulations and perceived funding limitations to drive the actual program of maintenance. Thus, Counties' knowing failure to clear the Project channel, in the face of repeated warnings and complaints was not mere negligent execution of the Corps' reasonable plan of maintenance. The "plan" was the long-term failure to mitigate a known danger. That failure persisted for 20 years.

MCWRA argues that it was only Santa Cruz that affirmatively supported the Fish and Game policies of habitat restoration and, therefore, any unreasonable plan or policy of maintenance should

be attributable to Santa Cruz, alone. We disagree. It is not necessary to find that [**57] Counties expressly endorsed or enacted a contrary policy in order to find that the actual maintenance of the Project was conducted pursuant to deliberate governmental [***39] action. It is sufficient that Counties were aware of the risk of failing to adequately clear the channel and chose to tolerate that risk. The reason for the choice is irrelevant to the determination that the action was deliberate. MCWRA indisputably had the obligation, knew the risk, and did not act. Moreover, MCWRA made other, deliberate policy decisions relating to Project maintenance. Among other things, MCWRA's Assistant General Manager and Chief Engineer testified that he had regularly been successful in preventing Fish and Game from interfering with his use of mechanized equipment to maintain other flood control projects in his jurisdiction, and that he chose not to challenge Fish and Game decisions in connection with the Project because he feared jeopardizing the department's cooperation with future permit applications.

Counties also argue that the Corps' semiannual evaluations, which, with one exception, never found Project maintenance to be categorically unacceptable, show that Counties' actual maintenance program was reasonable. The Corps' evaluations are not dispositive. Since the Corps' declaration of unacceptability would have cut off Corps assistance in the event of an emergency, we may [***40] infer that such declarations were made only sparingly. Moreover, it is undisputed that the Corps regularly pointed out the problem of vegetation growing in the channel, and that the water agency personnel believed that the maintenance program did not conform to Corps requirements and that it compromised the Project's capacity.

[*747] In sum, the record demonstrates that Counties' policy makers made explicit and deliberate decisions with unfortunate but inevitable results. Knowing that failure to properly maintain the Project channel posed a significant risk of flooding, Counties nevertheless permitted the channel to deteriorate over a long period of years by failing to take effective action to overcome the fiscal, regulatory, and environmental impediments to keeping the Project channel clear. This is sufficient evidence to support the trial court's finding of a deliberate and unreasonable plan of maintenance.

c. *The Trial Court Did Not Err in Defining "Design Capacity."*

CA(9a)[↑] (9a) Counties argued at trial that they could not be liable if the storm had generated more water than the Project had been designed to handle. Counties' evidence was that the peak flow during the storm was 21,300 c. [***41] f.s. and the Project's capacity was only 19,000 c.f.s. Plaintiffs' evidence was that the peak flow was somewhere between 16,000 c.f.s. and 18,500 c.f.s., but in any event, less than 19,000 c.f.s. Plaintiffs also argued that by considering the freeboard built into the Project's design, the Project's functional capacity was something more than 19,000 c.f.s. At the close of trial, the court defined the Project's capacity as "19,000 c.f.s. with 3 feet of freeboard." Counties now argue that this definition was erroneous and affects both the inverse condemnation and tort results.

Counties insist that design capacity is a question of law to be determined from the design documents, and that the trial court was obligated to define capacity as 19,000 c.f.s. *within*, not *with*, three feet of freeboard. As we understand the argument, the Corps' Definite Project Report uses "within" and that means that the capacity was 19,000 c.f.s. and no more. By changing "within" to "with," the finder of fact was incorrectly allowed to add the freeboard to the design capacity, which in this [**58] case would increase the total capacity to 23,000 c.f.s. [8]

[8] Plaintiffs argue that Counties have waived objection to the court's use of the word "with" by affirmatively acquiescing to its use below. Although we agree that Counties did not object below to the use of the word "with" versus "within," the record as a whole makes it quite clear that Counties consistently urged a definition of design capacity

The definition was appropriate if it was correct in law [***42] and supported by the evidence. (*Code Civ. Proc., §§ 607a, 609*; and see *LeMons v. Regents of University of California (1978) 21 Cal. 3d 869, 875, [148 Cal. Rptr. 355, 582 P.2d 946]*, and *Hyatt v. Sierra Boat Co. (1978) 79 Cal. App. 3d 325, 335, [145 Cal. Rptr. 47]*.) We find that it was.

The concept of "design capacity" comes from the *Belair* case. The appellate court in *Belair* had decided that because the plaintiffs' land had been historically subject to flooding, the levee failure [***43] could not be the proximate [*748] cause of the damage because it had not increased that historical risk. (*Belair, supra, 47 Cal. 3d at p. 558*.) The Supreme Court disagreed. *Belair* determined that a flood control project serves the public good by preventing damage that would otherwise be expected to occur in the normal course of events. The flood control project could be a concurring cause of flood damage because adjoining landowners rely on the protection it was built to provide. However, as *Belair* acknowledged, the flood control project could only be a concurring cause if the flood was one the Project was designed to accommodate.

Specifically, *Belair* held: "Thus, ***HN11***[↑] in order to establish a causal connection between the public improvement and the plaintiff's damages, there must be a showing of ' "a substantial cause-and-effect relationship excluding the probability that other forces *alone* produced the injury." [Citations.]' (*Souza v. Silver Development Co.* [(1985)] 164 Cal. App. 3d [165] at p. 171, fn. omitted.) Where independently generated forces not induced by the public flood control improvement--such as a rainstorm--contribute [***44] to the injury, proximate cause is established where the public improvement constitutes a *substantial concurring cause of the injury*, i.e., where the injury occurred in substantial part because the improvement failed to function as it was intended. The public improvement would cease to be a substantial contributing factor, however, where it could be shown that the damage would have occurred even if the project had operated perfectly, i.e., where the storm exceeded the project's design capacity." (*Belair, supra*, 47 Cal. 3d at pp. 559-560.)

A project's capacity, therefore, bears upon the element of causation. This is true whether we are considering the inverse condemnation claims or the tort causes of action. Counties understandably focus on the dictum in the latter half of *Belair*'s discussion quoted above, in which the court posits, by way of example, that if a storm exceeded the project's "design capacity" the project would no longer be a substantial factor in causing the damage. By narrowing the focus to the phrase "design capacity," Counties have constructed the argument that the relevant level of protection the Project was designed to provide is the single number [***45] linked to the term "design capacity" in the Corps' Definite Project Report. According to Counties, freeboard does not count.

In our view, *Belair* did not intend the bright-line rule Counties seek to apply. Such a rule is inconsistent with traditional [**59] concepts of causation, and would not advance the just compensation requirement of the Constitution. That is especially true on the facts of this case. As the *Belair* court stated, the issue is whether there is a " ' "substantial" cause-and-effect relationship [*749] [between the public project and the injury] which excludes the probability that other forces *alone* produced the injury.' (Van Alstyne, *supra*, 20 Hastings L.J. at p. 436, italics added.)" (*Belair, supra*, 47 Cal. 3d at p. 559.) ***HN12***[↑] To the extent that the public project contributes to the injury, then it remains a concurring cause. Like any other determination of causation, it must be made on the facts of each case. (*Ballard v. Uribe (1986) 41 Cal. 3d 564, 572, fn. 6, [224 Cal. Rptr. 664, 715 P.2d 624]*.)

Keeping in mind that the issue is one of causation,

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that would exclude consideration of freeboard. We will, therefore, treat the merits of the issue.

we find that it would have been improper to cut off Counties' liability, [***46] as a matter of law, at the Project's design capacity of 19,000 c.f.s. because there was evidence to show that the Project was able to hold more than that. The Corps' documents specified that the freeboard could be encroached to allow the Project to carry 23,000 c.f.s. at the point in the channel where the breach ultimately occurred. That means that, with 19,000 c.f.s. in the channel, unless something had occurred to diminish capacity, there would still be room for an additional 4,000 c.f.s. Of significance in this case is the evidence that the extra room the freeboard was intended to provide was eliminated by Counties' ineffective maintenance. For these reasons, it was appropriate to permit the finder of fact to decide if the flood exceeded the protection the Project was intended to provide by permitting a finding that the freeboard was part of that protection. This is the definition the trial court gave. Accordingly, there was no error.

d. *There Was Substantial Evidence to Support the Findings of Liability.*

Counties next argue that there was insufficient evidence to support a finding that flows exceeded Project capacity. Applying the deferential standard of substantial evidence [***47] review, we find no merit to the argument. (*In re Marriage of Arceneaux, supra, 51 Cal. 3d at p. 1133.*)

The trial court found that if properly maintained the Project would have "safely conveyed well over 21,000 c.f.s. without overtopping." The jury was not asked to make a finding of capacity. The jury found only that peak flows did not exceed the design capacity of the Project. Even if we assume the jury chose 19,000 c.f.s. as the relevant capacity, there was sufficient evidence to support a finding that the flood did not exceed that. Plaintiffs' expert, Dr. Robert Curry, is a geologist with a specialty in geomorphology. He estimated that the range of likely flows at the site of the Project failure was 16,000 c.f.s. to 18,500 c.f.s., most likely around 17,500 c.f.s. Counties argue that Dr. Curry's scientific techniques were not proven reliable or generally accepted by others in his field, and his opinions should not have been [*750] admitted. ***CA(10)***[↑] (10) Counties did not make a record of their objection below and, therefore, have not preserved the issue for appeal. ***CA(11)***[↑] (11) (See fn. 9.) (*Doers v. Golden Gate Bridge etc. Dist. (1979) 23 Cal. 3d 180, 184, fn. 1, [151 Cal. Rptr. 837, 588 P.2d 1261]*; and [***48] see 9 Witkin, Cal. Procedure (4th ed. 1997) Appeal, § 394, pp. 444-445.) [9] ***CA(9b)***[↑] (9b) Dr. [**60] Curry's testimony provides substantial evidence to support a finding that the peak flows did not exceed 19,000 c.f.s.

[***49] e. *The Parties Are Expected to Draft the Statement of Decision.*

Counties finally challenge the trial court's statement of decision on the ground it reflects plaintiffs' reasoning, analysis and decision and not that of the trial court. Counties acknowledge there is no authority for their challenge, but argue that in this case the statement of decision was so plainly a rehashing of plaintiffs' closing argument that it simply cannot reflect the trial court's decision. According to Counties, it is hard to believe that the trial judge agreed so wholeheartedly with the other side.

The California Rules of Court provide that ***HN14***[↑] the tentative decision is not binding on the court and that the court may instruct a party to prepare a proposed statement of decision. (Cal. Rules of

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[9] Having reviewed the evidence in detail, we find that the objection, had it been recorded, would have properly been overruled. ***HN13***[↑] Evidence of scientific techniques that have not proven reliable and generally accepted by others in the field is not admissible as evidence. (*People v. Kelly (1976) 17 Cal. 3d 24, [130 Cal. Rptr. 144, 549 P.2d 1240]*.) The *Kelly* rule does not apply to the personal opinions of an expert. (*People v. McDonald (1984) 37 Cal. 3d 351, 372-373, [208 Cal. Rptr. 236, 690 P.2d 709]*; *Wilson v. Phillips (1999) 73 Cal. App. 4th 250, 254-256, [86 Cal. Rptr. 2d 204]*.) Counties' challenge to Dr. Curry's testimony is that he "theorized" and "hypothesized" about the factors that he believed affected the level of the flood. Counties' objection relates only to the credibility of his opinion, and thus was not subject to exclusion under the *Kelly* rule.

Court, rule 232(a) & (c).) The rules provide ample opportunity for all parties to make proposals as to the content of the statement of decision or to raise objections to a proposed statement. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 232(b) & (d).) Those procedures were followed here, and we can find no basis in the record or in law to warrant further comment on the issue.

4. *State's Issues*

a. *State's Liability [***50] for Inverse Condemnation Does Not Require a Showing of Unreasonableness.*

CA(12a)[↑] (12a) The trial court's statement of decision refers to State's liability in a single paragraph: "The State of California, Department of Transportation, acted unreasonably in its design and construction of Highway 1 where it [*751] crosses the Pajaro River flood plain. [State] failed to follow its own manual's design criteria for that section of highway. This failure resulted in a dangerous condition of public property. The raised highway embankment functioned as a dam that caused some properties to suffer flood damage and others to be damaged more severely than they would have if the highway design had allowed proper drainage." State contends that the trial court did not use the proper measure of reasonableness in finding State liable, and that State's actions were reasonable in any event. Plaintiffs argue, among other things, that the rule of reasonableness does not apply to State. According to plaintiffs, State is strictly liable and the trial court's application of a reasonableness analysis was unnecessary. We agree with plaintiffs.

The rule of reasonableness was developed in a series of cases beginning with *Belair* [***51] . The general rule is that ***HN15***[↑] a public entity is liable for inverse condemnation regardless of the reasonableness of its conduct. (*Albers, supra, 62 Cal. 2d at pp. 263-264*.) *Belair* modified the general rule when it decided that a rule of reasonableness, rather than the extremes of strict liability or immunity, was appropriate in cases involving flood control projects. (*Belair, supra*, 47 Cal. 3d at p. 565.) *Locklin* applied *Belair*'s rule of reasonableness where the defendants were alleged to have drained surface water into a natural watercourse, increasing the volume and velocity of the [**61] watercourse, and causing erosion of plaintiffs' downstream property. (*Locklin, supra*, 7 Cal. 4th at p. 337.) ***HN16***[↑] Under the "natural watercourse" rule, a riparian landowner had a privilege to drain surface water into a natural watercourse, regardless of the effect of that drainage on downstream landowners. (*Id. at pp. 346-347*.) Like *Belair*, *Locklin* declined to impose strict liability, and held: "Because a public agency, like any riparian property owner, engages in a privileged activity when it drains surface water into a natural watercourse or makes alterations to the watercourse, [***52] *article I, section 19 of the California Constitution* mandates compensation only if the agency exceeds the privilege by acting unreasonably with regard to other riparian owners." (*Id. at p. 367*.)

Both *Belair* and *Locklin* applied the reasonableness rule to conduct that was at one time privileged under traditional water law principles. Predictably, the plaintiffs in the next case argued that conduct that had not been so privileged was subject to the general rule of strict liability. (*Bunch II, supra, 15 Cal. 4th 432*.) *Bunch II*, like *Belair*, involved the failure of a flood control project. However, in *Bunch II* the injury was caused by the defendants' having diverted and rechanneled a natural watercourse. ***HN17***[↑] Diversion of a watercourse was not subject to a common law privilege like the common enemy doctrine or the natural watercourse rule. *Bunch II* confirmed that resolution of flood control cases involved a balancing of the public interest in encouraging flood control projects with the potential private harm they [*752] could cause. *Bunch II* held that the public agency would not be strictly liable for damage resulting from a failed [***53] flood control project, whether or not the offending conduct would have been privileged under traditional water law doctrine. Instead, a rule of reasonableness was to apply. (*Id. at p. 451*)

Although these three cases suggest a trend toward incorporating reasonableness into the inverse condemnation analysis, that trend does not extend to State's conduct in this case because of the public policy considerations to which the reasonableness requirement is tethered. The 1969 article by Professor Van Alstyne provides some insight. (Van Alstyne, *supra*, 20 Hastings L.J. 431.) Van Alstyne noted that the state of inverse condemnation law at the time was very unpredictable due to the courts' application of a variety of conflicting legal principles. Van Alstyne encouraged the courts to abandon reliance upon private law principles and to apply principles of public policy to all inverse condemnation claims arising from unintended physical damage to private property. According to Van Alstyne, public policy does not necessarily require a reasonableness calculus in all contexts. For example, in cases of environmental pollution, a rule of strict liability might provide **[***54]** incentive for the development of antipollution programs. (*Id.* at p. 503.) On the other hand, in what Van Alstyne termed "water damage" cases, a rule that balanced the conflicting concerns of public benefit and private harm would better serve the public in the long run. (*Id.* at p. 502.).

Our Supreme Court adopted the balancing analysis suggested by Van Alstyne in the *Belair*, *Bunch II*, and *Locklin* cases. In *Locklin*, the offending conduct (discharge of surface water into a natural watercourse) would have been privileged under traditional water law principles. The corresponding burden of that privilege fell on the downstream landowners who had to take steps to protect their land from such **[**62]** upstream discharges or suffer the consequences. (*Locklin*, *supra*, 7 Cal. 4th at pp. 351-352, [27 Cal. Rptr. 2d 613, 867 P.2d 724].) Therefore, since the watercourse naturally subjected the downstream property to flooding and erosion, it would have been unfair to apply a strict liability analysis to public entity landowners upstream. The decisive constitutional consideration of ensuring equitable allocation of the cost of the public undertaking was best advanced in such **[***55]** a case by requiring the downstream owner to show that the public agency had exceeded its privilege by acting unreasonably. (*Id. at p. 367*.)

Policy considerations also favored application of a reasonableness analysis in *Belair* and *Bunch II*, which were both flood control cases. In *Belair* and *Bunch II,* the public improvement had been erected to protect the land that was ultimately injured when the project failed. The project's purpose, to protect private property from the flooding that it could otherwise expect to **[*753]** suffer periodically, was an important policy reason to apply the balancing analysis. Without requiring the plaintiff to make a showing of unreasonableness, the public agency that built or operated the project would become the guarantor of the land it had undertaken to protect.

An appellate opinion decided after *Belair*, *Bunch II*, and *Locklin* illustrates a situation where public policy favored strict liability rather than reasonableness. (*Akins v. State of California (1998) 61 Cal. App. 4th 1, [71 Cal. Rptr. 2d 314]*.) In *Akins* the defendants had intentionally diverted floodwater onto the plaintiffs' lands for the purpose of protecting **[***56]** other property from flooding. There was no evidence that the project was erected to protect the plaintiffs' property or that the plaintiffs' property had historically been subject to flooding. Since the public improvement involved flood control, *Belair* and *Bunch II* arguably mandated application of a reasonableness analysis. However, the appellate court found that the reasonableness standard did not apply, reasoning that regardless of the importance of flood control, "[u]sing private property not historically subject to flooding as a retention basin to provide flood protection to other property exacts from those owners whose properties are flooded a contribution in excess of their proper share to the public undertaking. We see no reason to put such property owners to the task of proving the governmental entities acted unreasonably in order for the owners to recover in inverse condemnation." (*Id. at p. 29*.)

The policy reasons for applying a rule of reasonableness in *Belair*, *Bunch II*, and *Locklin* do

not apply in this case. The conduct of which plaintiffs complain is that State caused Highway 1 to obstruct the path of the floodwater. Such conduct was not [***57] privileged under traditional water law precepts. (*Los Angeles C. Assn v. Los Angeles (1894) 103 Cal. 461, 467-468, [37 P. 375]*; *Conniff v. San Francisco (1885) 67 Cal. 45, [7 P. 41]*.) Therefore, State does not enjoy a conditional privilege as it would under the facts of *Locklin*, and plaintiffs' property would not have been subject to a corresponding burden. In fact, the reverse is true. It is plaintiffs, as the upstream owners, who likely would have had a privilege in this case. And State, as the downstream owner, was bound not to obstruct the flow of water from the plaintiffs' upstream land. (*Locklin*, *supra*, 7 Cal. 4th at p. 350; and see *Smith v. City of Los Angeles (1944) 66 Cal. App. 2d 562, 572, [153 P.2d 69]*.) Therefore, the consideration that controlled the result in *Locklin* (fair apportionment of the loss) is not present here because plaintiffs would not have been expected to take measures [**63] to protect their land from a downstream obstruction like the Highway 1 embankment.

The policy reasons for applying reasonableness in *Belair* and *Bunch II* are not present here, either. Highway 1 was not a flood control project [***58] and was [*754] not built to protect the plaintiffs' land. The damming effect of the highway created a risk to which those properties would not have been subject if the highway had not been built. The public benefit of the highway extends well beyond the landowners in the Pajaro Valley. While the same may be said of a flood control project, such a project directly benefits the owners of the land in the floodplain, and only indirectly benefits the public as whole. Highway 1, on the other hand, benefits the traveling public as a whole. The owners of the adjacent lands derive no greater benefit from the highway than any other member of the public.

"[T]he underlying purpose of our constitutional provision in inverse--as well as ordinary--condemnation is 'to distribute throughout the community the loss inflicted upon the individual . . .' " (*Holtz, supra, 3 Cal. 3d at p. 303*.) State, in furtherance of the larger public purpose (transportation) has caused injury to a discrete group of private landowners. Those landowners received no more benefit from State's project than did any other user of the State highway system. Plaintiffs ought not to be required to prove unreasonableness [***59] in order to recover just compensation for their damage. We hold, therefore, that *Belair*'s rule of reasonableness does not apply to State in this case. In light of our holding, the trial court was not required to undertake the reasonableness analysis required by *Locklin*. The court's conclusion that State's conduct was unreasonable was unnecessary to its determination that State is liable in inverse condemnation, but does not affect its correctness.

b. *State Had a Duty to Avoid Obstructing the Floodplain.*

The jury found State liable for nuisance and for maintaining a dangerous condition of public property. (*Civ. Code, § 3479*; *Gov. Code, § 835*.) State argues that it cannot be liable for these torts because it does not have a duty to protect plaintiffs' property from the failure of a flood control project over which it had no control. State assumes that plaintiffs' claim is premised upon the theory that State should have designed its drainage anticipating that the Project would fail. State misses the point. Plaintiffs do not allege that State is responsible for the failure of the Project or the resulting flood. Plaintiffs allege [***60] only that State is responsible for that portion of the damage that can be attributed to the highway's obstruction of the floodplain. Whether the flood occurred because the Project failed to function as intended, or because the rainstorm exceeded the Project's capacity, plaintiffs' claim against State would be the same. As we interpret plaintiffs' position, State had a duty to avoid obstructing escaping floodwater, regardless of the cause of the flood.

CA(13)[↑] (13) ***HN18***[↑] "[L]egal duties are not

discoverable facts of nature, but merely conclusory expressions that, in cases of a particular type, liability should be [*755] imposed for damage done." (*Tarasoff v. Regents of University of California (1976) 17 Cal. 3d 425, 434, [131 Cal. Rptr. 14, 551 P.2d 334]*.) In California, the general rule is that all persons have a duty to use ordinary care to prevent others from being injured as the result of their conduct. (*Rowland v. Christian (1968) 69 Cal. 2d 108, 112, [70 Cal. Rptr. 97, 443 P.2d 561]*.) Duty is usually determined based upon a number of [**64] considerations. The foreseeability of a particular kind of harm is one of the most crucial of those. (See *Dillon v. Legg (1968) 68 Cal. 2d 728, 739, [69 Cal. Rptr. 72, 441 P.2d 912]*; [***61] *Gov. Code, § 835*.)

The question of whether a duty exists is one of law. The court's task in determining duty is to evaluate generally whether the conduct at issue is sufficiently likely to result in the kind of harm experienced that liability may appropriately be imposed. (*Ballard v. Uribe, supra, 41 Cal. 3d at p. 573, fn. 6*.) ***CA(12b)***[↑] (12b) ***HN19***[↑] Under ordinary rules applicable to riparian landowners, both upper and lower riparian landowners have a duty to avoid altering the natural system of drainage in any way that would increase the burden on the other. (*Locklin, supra*, 7 Cal. 4th at pp. 337, 354-356; *Keys v. Romley (1966) 64 Cal. 2d 396, 409, [50 Cal. Rptr. 273, 412 P.2d 529]*.) Traditionally, a lower landowner that obstructs a natural watercourse is liable for damages that result from the obstruction. (*Mitchell v. City of Santa Barbara (1941) 48 Cal. App. 2d 568, 571, [120 P.2d 131]*.) The rule applies even if the damaging flow in the obstructed watercourse is seasonal floodwater. (*Ibid.*) This common law allocation of duty is appropriate here.

The harm of which plaintiffs complain is that the highway obstruction caused [***62] the floodwater to rise higher and stand on the land longer than it would have done if unobstructed. This harm was unquestionably foreseeable. State's "1989/90 Training Course Manual" POINTS OUT: "A primary cause of flooding in highway and bridge construction is the blocking of a normal drainage flow pattern. Construction of fills, drainage structures and appurtenant structures such as retaining walls all have the potential for blocking the normal flow of drainage water and thus causing flooding. The blocked flow does not necessarily have to be a watercourse; blockage of an existing flood plain may result in flooding of previously untouched areas. [P] In either case, watercourse or flood plain, blockage will result in liability for any damages arising from consequent flooding."

In fact, the harm that State's project ultimately caused was actually foreseen before the highway bypass was ever built. State designed the drainage culverts around 1960. The 1960 design documents presumed that peak flows would result in shallow flooding "for some distance outside the [right of way]." According to State's engineers, these peak flows were [*756] presumed to consist only of rainwater runoff from [***63] the surrounding area, not floodwater. Thus, even in the absence of a flood, State's design presumed that some water would back up behind the highway during the heaviest rains.

State's "Design Planning Manual" required that its highway drainage structures be able to accommodate a 100-year storm. In 1963, the Corps reported that a 100-year storm was expected to generate flows within the Project channel of 43,500 c.f.s., a significantly greater volume than it had previously estimated. State concedes that it was aware of the Corps' 1963 estimate of the size of a 100-year storm, and that it knew there was no chance the Project, as it then existed, could contain that volume. Thus, State was aware before it began building the highway bypass in the late 1960's that in the event of a 100-year storm, flooding was virtually certain to occur.

State argues that it had no duty to consider the possibility of a flood because in its correspondence with State engineers the Corps told State that it should assume a Project expansion was going

forward. This assurance, however, did not have any bearing on the drainage design or whether [**65] that design should consider the risk of flooding. The acknowledged [***64] purpose of the Corps' assurance was to assist State's engineers in designing the bridge. In light of the information it received from the Corps, State designed its bridge over the river so that the Corps could make improvements under the bridge without the need to revise the bridge structure. Those improvements were, at best, years away. (And, so far as we can ascertain from the record, no such improvements were ever made.)

It is undisputed, therefore, that when State built the highway bypass in the late 1960's it knew that the Project would not contain a 100-year storm and that no enlargement of the Project had been approved or commenced at that point. A 100-year storm was just as likely to occur in 1970 as it was at any later time. Having built an embankment across the historic floodplain, State also must have known that its embankment would block the flow of floodwater unless it designed the drainage to accommodate a flood.

State cannot avoid liability for the 1995 flood because the Project failed rather than because the storm overwhelmed it. State was expected to design its drainage for a 100-year storm. Since a flood was almost certain to occur in the event of a [***65] 100-year storm, State, as a downstream riparian landowner, had a duty to design the highway bypass to avoid obstructing the geologic floodplain. Therefore, it does not matter that the storm that generated the flood in this case was of a lesser magnitude and should have been contained by the Project. State had a duty to anticipate the consequences of a 100-year storm and design accordingly.

[*757] c. Government Code *Section 830.6Government Code Section 830.6 Is Not a Defense.*

CA(14a)[↑] (14a) At the close of all the evidence State moved for a directed verdict on the basis of *Government Code section 830.6*, design immunity. The trial court denied the motion and the jury ultimately found State liable for a dangerous condition of public property and nuisance. State contends the court erred in denying its directed verdict motion. We disagree.

CA(15)[↑] (15) ***HN20***[↑] A public entity is liable for negligently creating a dangerous condition of public property or for failing to cure a dangerous condition of which it has notice. (*Gov. Code, § 835, subd. (a)*.) However, the entity is immune from such liability if the injury was caused by a public improvement that was constructed pursuant to a [***66] plan or design approved in advance by the entity if "there is any substantial evidence upon the basis of which (a) a reasonable public employee could have adopted the plan or design . . . or (b) a reasonable legislative body or other body or employee could have approved the plan or design." (*Gov. Code, § 830.6*.) "The rationale behind design immunity is to prevent a jury from reweighing the same factors considered by the governmental entity which approved the design." (*Bane v. State of California (1989) 208 Cal. App. 3d 860, 866, [256 Cal. Rptr. 468]*.) A public entity claiming design immunity must plead and prove three essential elements: " '(1) [a] causal relationship between the plan and the accident; (2) discretionary approval of the plan prior to construction; [and] (3) substantial evidence supporting the reasonableness of the design.' [Citation.]" (*Higgins v. State of California (1997) 54 Cal. App. 4th 177, 185, [62 Cal. Rptr. 2d 459]*.)

The elements of causation and approval are not contested. The focus of State's challenge is the third element of the design immunity defense, substantial evidence of the reasonableness of the culvert design. [***67] *Government Code section 830.6* [**66] makes the resolution of this element a matter for the court, not the jury. (*Cornette v. Department of Transportation (2001) 26 Cal. 4th 63, 66, [109 Cal. Rptr. 2d 1, 26 P.3d 332]*.) The task for the trial court is to apply the deferential substantial evidence standard to determine whether

any reasonable State official could have approved the challenged design. (*Morfin v. State of California (1993) 12 Cal. App. 4th 812, 815, [15 Cal. Rptr. 2d 861].*) If the record contains the requisite substantial evidence, the immunity applies, even if the plaintiff has presented evidence that the design was defective. (*Higgins v. State of California, supra, 54 Cal. App. 4th at p. 185.*) ***HN21***[↑] In order to be considered substantial, the evidence must be of solid value, which reasonably inspires confidence. (*People v. Bassett (1968) 69 Cal. 2d 122, 139, [70 Cal. Rptr. 193, 443 P.2d 777]*; *Grenier v. City of Irwindale (1997) 57 Cal. App. 4th 931, 940, [67 Cal. Rptr. 2d 454].*) ***CA(14b)***[↑] (14b) Keeping that standard in mind, we review the evidence to determine whether **[*758]** there is a basis upon which a reasonable State official could have approved the culvert design.

State installed **[***68]** two 48-inch culverts through the embankment on the southern side of the bridge it built over the Pajaro River. There is no dispute that the culverts were not designed to accommodate floodwater. They were designed to accommodate only the rainwater runoff from the adjacent 700 acres. The span beneath the bridge itself provided plenty of clearance for highwater flows down the river channel. However, if the water escaped the channel, it would follow the contour of the floodplain toward the embankment at the southern end of the bridge. The floodwater would have to pass through whatever drainage was installed in the new embankment in order to reach the sea. Plaintiffs point out that since State knew before it built the Highway 1 bypass that the Project could not accommodate more than about 26,000 c.f.s., and that a 100-year storm would generate flows well above that, flooding was foreseeable and the drainage design should have taken it into account. [10]

[*69]** State's expert, Steve Price, testified that the culverts conformed to the requirements of State's Design Planning Manual and the design itself was "reasonable." He stated that it was not in conformance with the best engineering practices to design the drainage for Project failure and that State did not evaluate the Corps' projects at the time the drainage in this case was installed. Plaintiff's expert, Dr. Curry, had testified that the actual Pajaro River watershed consisted of 1,100 square miles. Price testified, however, that it was appropriate to consider only the 700 acres in calculating runoff because "[t]here are other drainage systems and facilities that are taking care of that water."

State's engineer, Lance Gorman, testified that a reasonable drainage design would accommodate flooding only if the river had not incorporated man-made flood control improvements. According to both Price and Gorman, because there was an existing flood control project, the highway drainage design did not have to consider floodwater. Gorman testified that State worked only within its own area and that it would expect the Corps to provide for flooding, noting that State had expected the Corps to improve **[***70]** the Project to accommodate **[**67]** a 100-year storm. Another reason State never considered flooding, according to Gorman, was that it had never been asked to do so.

[*759] The chronology of the State's project is significant. The Corps' flood control project was built in 1949 and, according to Gorman, up until at least 1958 it was reasonable to presume it would hold a 100-year flood. The Highway 1 drainage was designed in 1959 and revised in 1960. In June 1963, the Corps published its "Interim Report," showing that it expected a 100-year storm would generate 43,500 c.f.s. This volume greatly exceeded the Project's capacity. Nevertheless, in September 1963, State engineers approved the 1960 drainage

[10] Plaintiffs also claim that the culverts' gradient flowed upriver rather than down, the opposite of the way they were designed. Arguably, this defect could also defeat the design immunity defense. (*Cameron v. State of California (1972) 7 Cal. 3d 318, 326, [102 Cal. Rptr. 305, 497 P.2d 777].*) In light of our conclusion that there is insufficient evidence to support the reasonableness of the design, we need not reach this issue.

design without reconsidering it in light of the Corps' Interim Report. Mr. Gorman conceded that by 1964, given the Corps' reevaluation of a 100-year storm, it would have been "questionable" to continue to assume the Project would hold such a flood. Thus, according to State's own engineer it "probably would have been better" to design for the Corps' new analysis.

The purpose of the design immunity statute is to avoid having the finders of fact "reweighing the same factors considered by the governmental [***71] entity which approved the design." (*Bane v. State of California, supra, 208 Cal. App. 3d at p. 866.*) Since State's engineers never took flooding into consideration, it is questionable whether the immunity applies at all. Presuming that it does, we find that State has not offered substantial evidence of reasonableness.

Although State offered evidence that its original design was reasonable, we are troubled by the conclusory nature of that evidence. State's engineers testified that the design was reasonable, but the only foundation offered for their conclusion was the presumption that someone or something else would take care of flooding. Such evidence lacks the solid value necessary to constitute substantial evidence. Moreover, State effectively concedes that under the circumstances that existed at the time the design was approved in 1963, it was no longer reasonable to rely on the Project to contain a 100-year flood. The unreasonableness of the design is further demonstrated by the design documents themselves, which in 1960 presumed that peak flows would cause some shallow flooding. Logic tells us that once it was determined that a 100-year storm was certain to [***72] overtop the Project, more extensive flooding would occur. Under these circumstances, we find that State has not offered any substantial evidence upon the basis of which a reasonable public employee could have approved a design that did not take flooding into account.

The trial court's ruling on State's motion for a directed verdict suggests that the court incorrectly intended to allow the jury to determine the reasonableness of the design. It is clear from the record, however, that the jury was not asked to make that determination. ***CA(16)***[↑] (16) ***HN22***[↑] A ruling or decision, itself [*760] correct in law, will not be disturbed on appeal merely because it was given for a wrong reason. (*D' Amico v. Board of Medical Examiners (1974) 11 Cal. 3d 1, 18-19, [112 Cal. Rptr. 786, 520 P.2d 10].*) ***CA(14c)***[↑] (14c) Because our independent examination of the record leads us to conclude that State had not offered substantial evidence of the reasonableness of the drainage design, the trial court did not err in denying State's motion for directed verdict.

d. *Failure of the Project Was Not a Superseding Cause.*

State argues that the breach of the levee was an intervening force that was so extraordinary that it operates as [***73] a [**68] superseding cause of plaintiffs' injury, cutting off its own liability on all claims. ***CA(17)***[↑] (17) ***HN23***[↑] Under traditional negligence analysis, an intervening force is one that actively operates to produce harm after the defendant's negligent act or omission has been committed. (*Rest.2d Torts, § 441, subd. (1)*, p. 465.) A defendant's conduct is superseded as a legal cause of an injury if, among other things, the intervening force is highly unusual or extraordinary, not reasonably likely to happen and, therefore, not foreseeable. (*Rest.2d Torts, § 442, subds. (b) & (c)*, p. 467; 6 Witkin, Summary of Cal. Law (9th ed. 1988) Torts, § 975, p. 366; *Akins v. County of Sonoma (1967) 67 Cal. 2d 185, 199, [60 Cal. Rptr. 499, 430 P.2d 57].*) Similar considerations may apply in the context of inverse condemnation. (*Belair, supra,* 47 Cal. 3d at pp. 559-560.) The defendant has the burden to prove the affirmative defense of superseding cause, that is, that the intervening event is so highly unusual or extraordinary that it was unforeseeable. (*Maupin v. Widling (1987) 192 Cal. App. 3d 568, 578, [237 Cal. Rptr. 521].*) The question is usually one for the

trier of fact. [***74] (*Ballard v. Uribe, supra, 41 Cal. 3d at p. 572, fn. 6.*) However, since the facts upon which State bases its claim are materially undisputed, we apply our independent review. (*Ghirardo v. Antonioli, supra,* 8 Cal. 4th at p. 799.)

CA(14d)[↑] (14d) State argues that the chain of causation between State's project and the harm that plaintiffs sustained is broken by the extraordinary volume of floodwater flowing from the breach of the levee. Other than to note that the 1995 event was the first time its culverts had been overwhelmed, State does not explain in what way the flooding was not foreseeable, and has not carried its burden on this issue. On the other hand, we find ample evidence that flooding was within the scope of human foresight. The Highway 1 bypass was built across a floodplain. State knew at the time it built the culverts that the Project channel could not hold a 100-year storm so that in the event of a 100-year storm, flooding was almost certain to occur. And a 100-year storm was, indisputably, foreseeable. Thus, the flooding, whether caused by the failure of the levee or by the size of the storm, was not so extraordinary an event that State should [***75] be relieved of its liability.

[*761] 5. *Monterey Liability*

a. *Monterey's Liability Is Not Derivative.*

CA(18)[↑] (18) Monterey attacks the judgment against it on the ground that the trial court disregarded the separateness of Monterey and MCWRA and incorrectly determined that Monterey could be derivatively liable for MCWRA's inadequate maintenance of the Project. We reject this argument because the record is clear that the judgment against Monterey was based on Monterey's direct liability.

The jury received no instruction on vicarious liability, nor was the verdict form drafted to accommodate a vicarious liability theory. The special verdict identified each of the defendants separately, and the jury apportioned damages separately, assigning 30 percent to MCWRA and 23 percent to Monterey. The trial court expressly found that "Monterey County, while a separate legal entity from [MCWRA], concurrently exercised dominion and control over the Project," and concluded that Monterey and MCWRA were "jointly responsible." Therefore, both finders of fact determined that Monterey's liability was joint or concurrent, but not derivative.

[**69] b. *Monterey Substantially Participated in the Project.*

[***76] Monterey contends that since it did not do anything about the maintenance of the Project channel, and because, it claims, it had no authority to do anything, it cannot be liable for inverse condemnation. We find that Monterey ***HN24***[↑] had the power and the duty to act and that its failure to do so, in the face of a known risk, is sufficient to support liability under article I, section 19.

A public entity is a proper defendant in an action for inverse condemnation if the entity substantially participated in the planning, approval, construction, or operation of a public project or improvement that proximately caused injury to private property. (*Wildensten v. East Bay Regional Park Dist. (1991) 231 Cal. App. 3d 976, 979-980, [283 Cal. Rptr. 13].*) So long as the plaintiffs can show substantial participation, it is immaterial "which sovereign holds title or has the responsibility for operation of the project." (*Stoney Creek Orchards v. State of California (1970) 12 Cal. App. 3d 903, 907, [91 Cal. Rptr. 139].*)

In the majority of cases that apply the substantial participation test, the public entity has defended an inverse condemnation claim on the grounds that the [***77] improvement was private, not public. There is no dispute here that [*762] the Project was a public project. Thus, the holding in these cases is not directly applicable. However, the rationale is instructive. One such case is *Frustuck v. City of Fairfax (1963) 212 Cal. App. 2d 345, [28 Cal. Rptr. 357]* (*Frustuck*). In that case the city approved a subdivision and drainage plans for private property upstream from the plaintiffs'

property. The subdivision increased runoff that ultimately harmed the plaintiff's property. The appellate court agreed that the harm had been caused by the drainage system's upstream diversion of water and that the city, in approving the plans for the subdivision, had substantially participated in that diversion. The court explained, "The liability of the City is not necessarily predicated upon the doing by it of the actual physical act of diversion. The basis of liability is its failure, in the exercise of its governmental power, to appreciate the probability that the drainage system from [the private subdivision] to the Frustuck property, functioning as deliberately conceived, and as altered and maintained by the diversion of waters from their normal channels, **[***78]** would result in some damage to private property." (*Id. at p. 362*; accord, *Sheffet v. County of Los Angeles (1970) 3 Cal. App. 3d 720, 734-735, [84 Cal. Rptr. 11]*.)

HN25[↑] In cases where there is no dispute concerning the public character of an improvement, substantial participation does not necessarily mean actively participating in the project, as Monterey contends, but may include the situation where the public entity has deliberately chosen to do nothing. For example, a public entity is liable in inverse condemnation for damage resulting from broken water pipes when the entity responsible for the pipes has deliberately failed to maintain them. (*McMahan's, supra, 146 Cal. App. 3d 683*; *Pacific Bell, supra, 81 Cal. App. 4th 596*.) Of course, the entity must have the ability to control the aspect of the public improvement at issue in order to be charged with deliberate conduct. ***HN26***[↑] In tort cases, it has been held, "in identifying the defendant with whom control resides, location of the power to correct the dangerous condition is an aid." (*Low v. City of Sacramento (1970) 7 Cal. App. 3d 826, 832, [87 Cal. Rptr. 173]*.) **[***79]** The ability to remedy the risk also tends to support a contention that the entity is responsible for it. "Where the public entity's relationship to the dangerous **[**70]** property is not clear, aid may be sought by inquiring whether the particular defendant had control, in the sense of power to prevent, remedy or guard against the dangerous condition . . . ." (*Id. at pp. 833-834*; accord, *Fuller v. State of California (1975) 51 Cal. App. 3d 926, 946-948, [125 Cal. Rptr. 586]*.)

The rule we draw from these cases is that ***HN27***[↑] a public entity is a proper defendant in a claim for inverse condemnation if it has the power to control or direct the aspect of the public improvement that is alleged to have caused the injury. The basis for liability in such a case is that in the exercise of its governmental power the entity either failed to appreciate the probability that **[*763]** the project would result in some damage to private property, or that it took the calculated risk that damage would result. (See *Frustuck, supra, 212 Cal. App. 2d at p. 362*.)

Returning to the instant matter, although Monterey contends that it had no obligation or any power to control the **[***80]** Project maintenance, the contention does not withstand scrutiny. In December 1947, Monterey entered into an indemnity agreement with Santa Cruz, San Benito and Santa Clara Counties. Just two months before Monterey executed that agreement, MCWRA's predecessor, the Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, had given its assurance to the federal government that it, along with the other local interests, would maintain and operate the Project as the Corps required. This assurance is the "resolution marked Exhibit 'A' " in the following excerpt from the indemnity agreement that Monterey executed: "each County assumes to itself the sole obligation and responsibility occasioned by the adoption of the resolution marked Exhibit 'A,' for that portion of the project which is to be constructed within it's [*sic*] boundaries and being bound to each other County to hold them and each of them harmless and free from any liability or obligation arising by reason of the adoption of the resolution marked Exhibit 'A' as to that portion of said project within it's [*sic*] own boundaries; *meaning that each County will take care of the assurances given and obligations incurred* ***[***81]*** *by reason of the*

resolution marked Exhibit 'A' insofar as they relate to that part of the project being constructed within it's [sic] boundaries." [11] (Italics added.) The plain language of this agreement supports the conclusion that Monterey assumed responsibility for the Project's operation and maintenance.

In practice, Monterey did exercise control over the Project by virtue of its financial control over MCWRA. Monterey and MCWRA and its predecessor district have always shared a common board of supervisors and common boundaries. [12] ***HN28***[↑] County **[***82]** employees are considered ex officio employees of MCWRA and are required to perform the same duties for MCWRA that they perform for Monterey. (Stats. 1990, ch. 1159, § 16, p. 4841, West's Ann. Wat.--Appen., *supra*, § 52-16; Stats. 1947, ch. 699, §§ 2, 7, 8, pp. 1739, 1744 [repealed], West's Ann. Wat.--Appen., former §§ 52-2, 52-7, 52-8. **[**71]** Although Monterey and MCWRA are **[*764]** separate entities, the fact that they had governing boards, employees, and boundaries in common is relevant to the analysis. ***HN29***[↑] "[C]ommon governing boards do not invariably indicate county control, but certainly that fact is relevant to the inquiry." (*Rider v. County of San Diego (1991) 1 Cal. 4th 1, 12, [2 Cal. Rptr. 2d 490, 820 P.2d 1000]* (*Rider I*).) Here, we find it significant because of the financial connection between the two entities.

Monterey financial statements reported MCWRA financial activity as if MCWRA was a part **[***83]** of the county. The statements expressly state that they do not report the financial activity of those agencies over which Monterey cannot impose its will or with which Monterey does not share a financial benefit, burden relationship. By implication, the inclusion of MCWRA on Monterey's financial statements means that Monterey itself considers that it is able to impose its will on MCWRA, and that there does exist a financial benefit, burden relationship between Monterey and MCWRA.

Further evidence of Monterey's control is the fact that MCWRA never had a revenue source, independent of the county's financial resources, that was sufficient to fulfill its promise to operate and maintain the Project. At least since 1974 MCWRA had entirely neglected the Project channel in favor of maintaining the levees because there was not enough money to do both. The main reason funding was so limited was that MCWRA's funding for the Project came from "Zone 1," the geographical area directly served by the Project. Zone 1 consists largely of agricultural land and the little town of Pajaro. Since the geographical area is relatively small and the town of Pajaro is economically disadvantaged, the revenue **[***84]** -generating potential of Zone 1 is and always has been very limited. Therefore, the only way MCWRA could have afforded to undertake the needed maintenance of the Project was to depend upon assistance from the county.

There is no dispute that Monterey's board of supervisors was aware of the maintenance needs of the Project, and the risk of flooding that it posed. From time to time, the board allocated money from its general fund for other programs and projects undertaken by MCWRA. Although Supervisor Del Piero, who represented the district that included Zone 1, attempted several times during the 1970's and 1980's to have Monterey's board make allocations to augment MCWRA's Zone 1 funding, he was, for the most part, unsuccessful.

Monterey cites *Galli v. State of California (1979) 98 Cal. App. 3d 662, [159 Cal. Rptr. 721]* (*Galli*) in support of its contention that an entity cannot

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[11] Monterey argues in its opening brief that its execution of the indemnity agreement was probably a mistake, and that the water district should have executed it instead. Although Monterey insisted throughout the proceedings below that it was an improper defendant, it never argued that it might have executed the agreement by mistake. There is no direct evidence in the record to support this argument, and we decline to consider it for the first time on appeal.

[12] Although MCWRA is also governed by an appointed board of directors, that board did not come into being until the 1990 Water Resources Act. (Stats. 1991, ch. 1130, §§ 5, 10, pp. 5440, 5442, West's Ann. Wat.--Appen. (1999 ed.) §§ 52-48, 52-53.)

substantially participate if it has done nothing. In *Galli*, the local levee maintenance district was liable in tort and inverse condemnation for flood [*765] damage resulting from the failure of a levee. The plaintiffs argued that State should also be liable because it had substantially participated [***85] in the levee maintenance. The plaintiffs based their argument primarily upon the assertion that the levee was part of a comprehensive water resource development system under the general control of State and State knew that the levee had maintenance problems. (*Id. at p. 688*.) The appellate court rejected the plaintiffs' argument on the ground, among others, that the levee in question was a nonproject levee. A nonproject levee was not required to be maintained to State or federal standards and was not inspected by State, and, consequently, was not under the general control of State as far as its maintenance was concerned. For that [**72] reason, State's knowledge of the maintenance problems was not enough to establish substantial participation. (*Id. at pp. 681, 688*.) *Galli* is distinguishable because, as we have explained, Monterey's actual knowledge of the maintenance problems was coupled with its actual ability to control Project maintenance. [13]

[***86] Monterey argues that it never had any obligation to maintain the Project or any obligation to fund MCWRA to do so. The Supreme Court rejected a similar argument long ago in *Shea v. City of San Bernardino (1936) 7 Cal. 2d 688, [62 P.2d 365]*. In that case the city argued that it was powerless to fix a dangerous condition that existed in a railroad crossing because the Railroad Commission had exclusive jurisdiction over its right of way. The Supreme Court held "the improvement of streets within the boundaries of a city is an affair in which the city is vitally interested. The governing board and officers of the municipality in dealing with such an affair may not complacently declare that they were powerless over a long period of years to take any steps to remedy a defective and dangerous condition that existed in one of the principal streets of the city." (*Id. at p. 693*.) The court's rationale in that individual personal injury matter applies with even greater force where the risk threatens an injury such as that which occurred here.

The constitutional basis for all takings jurisprudence supports a finding of liability in these circumstances. That is, [***87] ***HN30***[⬆] the owner of private property ought not to contribute more than his or her proper share to the public undertaking. The purpose of article I, section 19 is to distribute throughout the community the loss that would otherwise fall upon the individual. (*Holtz, supra, 3 Cal. 3d at p. 303*.) If Monterey had chosen to fund maintenance efforts to the degree that Mr. Madruga and Supervisor Del Piero determined was necessary, the [*766] flood would not have occurred. In failing to expend funds on the Project, Monterey benefited the ultimate recipients of those funds and took the risk that plaintiffs would be harmed as a result. Therefore, it is proper now to require the county to bear its share of the loss these plaintiffs incurred.

D. DISPOSITION

The judgment is affirmed.

Elia, J., and Wunderlich, J., concurred.

A petition for a rehearing was denied July 23, 2002, and the opinion was modified to read as printed above. Appellants' petition for review by the Supreme Court was denied September 18, 2002. George, C. J., and Baxter, J., did not participate therein.

[13] Monterey also cites *Rider I, supra, 1 Cal. 4th 1*, *Vanoni v. County of Sonoma (1974) 40 Cal. App. 3d 743, [115 Cal. Rptr. 485]*, and *Rider v. County of San Diego (1992) 11 Cal. App. 4th 1410, [14 Cal. Rptr. 2d 885]*. These cases involved certain constitutional taxing and debt limitation requirements and were decided on facts vastly different than those before us. We find them inapposite.

Tab 18

BEFORE THE

COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE TEST CLAIM ON: Los Angeles Regional Quality Control Board Order No. 01-182 Permit CAS004001 Parts 4C2a., 4C2b, 4E & 4F5c3 Filed September 2, 2003, (03-TC-04) September 26, 2003 (03-TC-19) by the County of Los Angeles, Claimant Filed September 30, 2003 (03-TC-20 & 03-TC-21) by the Cities of Artesia, Beverly Hills, Carson, Norwalk, Rancho Palos Verdes, Westlake Village, Azusa, Commerce, Vernon, Bellflower, Covina, Downey, Monterey Park, Signal Hill, Claimants	Case Nos.: 03-TC-04, 03-TC-19, 03-TC-20, 03-TC-21 *Municipal Stormwater and Urban Runoff Discharges* STATEMENT OF DECISION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 17500 ET SEQ.; TITLE 2, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 2.5, ARTICLE 7. *(Adopted July 31, 2009)*

STATEMENT OF DECISION

The Commission on State Mandates ("Commission") heard and decided this test claim during a regularly scheduled hearing on July 31, 2009. Leonard Kaye and Judith Fries appeared on behalf of the County of Los Angeles. Howard Gest appeared on behalf of the cities. Michael Lauffer appeared on behalf of the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Carla Castaneda and Susan Geanacou appeared on behalf of the Department of Finance. Geoffrey Brosseau appeared on behalf of the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association.

The law applicable to the Commission's determination of a reimbursable state-mandated program is article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, Government Code section 17500 et seq., and related case law.

The Commission adopted the staff analysis to partially approve the test claim at the hearing by a vote of 4-2.

Summary of Findings

The consolidated test claim, filed by the County of Los Angeles and several cities, allege various activities related to placement and maintenance of trash receptacles at transit stops and inspections of various facilities to reduce stormwater pollution in compliance with a permit issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The Commission finds that the following activity in part 4F5c3 of the permit is a reimbursable state mandate on local agencies subject to the permit that are not subject to a trash total

maximum daily load:[1] "Place trash receptacles at all transit stops within its jurisdiction that have shelters no later than August 1, 2002, and at all transit stops within its jurisdiction no later than February 3, 2003. All trash receptacles shall be maintained as necessary."

The Commission also finds that the remainder of the permit (parts 4C2a, 4C2b & 4E) does not impose costs mandated by the state within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution because the claimants have fee authority (under Cal. Const. article XI, § 7) within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), sufficient to pay for the activities in those parts of the permit.

BACKGROUND

The claimants allege various activities related to placement and maintenance of trash receptacles at transit stops and inspections of restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, automotive dealerships, phase I industrial facilities (as defined) and construction sites to reduce stormwater pollution in compliance with a permit issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LA Regional Board), a state agency.

History of the test claims

The test claims were filed in September 2003,[2] by the County of Los Angeles and several cities within it (the permit covers the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and 84 cities in Los Angeles County, all except Long Beach). The Commission originally refused jurisdiction over the permits based on Government Code section 17516's definition of "executive order" that excludes permits issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) or Regional Water Quality Control Boards (regional boards). After litigation, the Second District Court of Appeal held that the exclusion of permits and orders of the State and Regional Water Boards from the definition of "executive order" is unconstitutional. The court issued a writ commanding the Commission to set aside the decision "affirming your Executive Director's rejection of Test Claim Nos. 03-TC-04, 03-TC-19, 03-TC-20 and 03-TC-21" and to fully consider those claims.[3]

The County of Los Angeles and the cities re-filed their claims in October and November 2007. The claims were consolidated by the Executive Director in December 2008. Thus, the

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[1] A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards.

[2] Originally, test claims 03-TC-04 (*Transit Trash Receptacles*) and 03-TC-19 (*Inspection of Industrial/Commercial Facilities)* were filed by the County of Los Angeles on September 5, 2003. Test claim 03-TC-21 (*Stormwater Pollution Requirements*) was filed by the Cities of Baldwin Park, Bellflower, Cerritos, Covina, Downey, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, Signal Hill, South Pasadena, and West Covina on September 30, 2003. Test claim 03-TC-20 (*Waste Discharge Requirements*) was filed by Cities of Artesia, Beverly Hills, Carson, La Mirada, Monrovia, Norwalk, Rancho Palos Verdes, San Marino, and Westlake Village on September 30, 2003.

[3] *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates* (2007) 150 Cal.App.4th 898.

reimbursement period is as though the claims were filed in September 2003, i.e., beginning July 1, 2002.[4]

Before discussing the specifics of the permit, an overview of municipal stormwater pollution puts the permit in context.

Municipal stormwater

One of the main objectives of the permit is "to assure that stormwater discharges from the MS4 [Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems][5] shall neither cause nor contribute to the exceedance of water quality standards and objectives nor create conditions of nuisance in the receiving waters, and that the discharge of non-stormwater to the MS4 has been effectively prohibited." (Permit, p. 13.)

Stormwater runoff flows untreated from urban streets directly into streams, lakes and the ocean. To illustrate the effect of stormwater[6] on water pollution, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal has stated the following:

> Storm water runoff is one of the most significant sources of water pollution in the nation, at times "comparable to, if not greater than, contamination from industrial and sewage sources." [Citation omitted.] Storm sewer waters carry suspended metals, sediments, algae-promoting nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), floatable trash, used motor oil, raw sewage, pesticides, and other toxic contaminants into streams, rivers, lakes, and estuaries across the United States. [Citation omitted.] In 1985, three-quarters of the States cited urban storm water runoff as a major cause of waterbody impairment, and forty percent reported construction site runoff as a major cause of impairment. Urban runoff has been named as the foremost cause of impairment of surveyed ocean waters. Among the sources of storm water contamination are urban development, industrial facilities, construction sites, and illicit discharges and connections to storm sewer systems.[7]

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[4] Government Code section 17557, subdivision (e).

[5] Municipal separate storm sewer means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains): (i) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States; (ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water; (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; and (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.2. (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (b)(8).)

[6] Storm water means "storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage." (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (b)(13).)

[7] *Environmental Defense Center, Inc. v. U.S. E.P.A.* (2003) 344 F.3d 832, 840-841.

Because of the stormwater pollution problems described by the Ninth Circuit above, California and the federal government regulate stormwater runoff as described below.

California law

The California Supreme Court summarized the state statutory scheme and regulatory agencies applicable to this test claim as follows:

> In California, the controlling law is the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne Act), which was enacted in 1969. (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq., added by Stats.1969, ch. 482, § 18, p. 1051.) Its goal is "to attain the highest water quality which is reasonable, considering all demands being made and to be made on those waters and the total values involved, beneficial and detrimental, economic and social, tangible and intangible." (§ 13000.) The task of accomplishing this belongs to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards; together the State Board and the regional boards comprise "the principal state agencies with primary responsibility for the coordination and control of water quality." (§ 13001.) As relevant here, one of those regional boards oversees the Los Angeles region (the Los Angeles Regional Board).
>
> Whereas the State Board establishes statewide policy for water quality control (§ 13140), the regional boards "formulate and adopt water quality control plans for all areas within [a] region" (§ 13240).[8]

Much of what the regional board does, especially as pertaining to permits like the one in this claim, is based in federal law as described below.

Federal law

The Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was amended in 1972 to implement a permitting system for all discharges of pollutants[9] from point sources[10] to waters of the United States, since

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[8] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal.4th 613, 619.

[9] According to the federal regulations, "Discharge of a pollutant" means: (a) Any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source," or (b) Any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. This definition includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works. This term does not include an addition of pollutants by any "indirect discharger." (40 C.F.R. § 122.2.)

[10] A point source is "any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged." 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).

discharges of pollutants are illegal except under a permit.[11] The permits, issued under the national pollutant discharge elimination system, are called NPDES permits. Under the CWA, each state is free to enforce its own water quality laws so long as its effluent limitations[12] are not "less stringent" than those set out in the CWA (33 USCA 1370). The California Supreme Court described NPDES permits as follows:

> Part of the federal Clean Water Act is the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), "[t]he primary means" for enforcing effluent limitations and standards under the Clean Water Act. (*Arkansas v. Oklahoma, supra,* 503 U.S. at p. 101, 112 S.Ct. 1046.) The NPDES sets out the conditions under which the federal EPA or a state with an approved water quality control program can issue permits for the discharge of pollutants in wastewater. (33 U.S.C. § 1342(a) & (b).) In California, wastewater discharge requirements established by the regional boards are the equivalent of the NPDES permits required by federal law. (§ 13374.)[13]

In the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, §§ 13370 et seq.), the Legislature found that the state should implement the federal law in order to avoid direct regulation by the federal government. The Legislature requires the permit program to be consistent with federal law, and charges the State and Regional Water Boards with implementing the federal program (Wat. Code, §§ 13372 & 13370). The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) incorporates the regulations from the U.S. EPA for implementing the federal permit program, so both the Clean Water Act and U.S. EPA regulations apply to California's permit program (Cal.Code Regs., tit. 23, § 2235.2).

When a regional board adopts an NPDES permit, it must adopt as stringent a permit as U.S. EPA would have (federal Clean Water Act, § 402 (b)). As the California Supreme Court stated:

> The federal Clean Water Act reserves to the states significant aspects of water quality policy (33 U.S.C. § 1251(b)), and it specifically grants the states authority to "enforce any effluent limitation" that is not " *less stringent* " than the federal standard (*id.* § 1370, italics added). It does not prescribe or restrict the factors that a state may consider when exercising this reserved authority, and thus it does not prohibit a state-when imposing effluent limitations that are *more stringent*

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[11] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.21 (a). The section applies to U.S. EPA-issued permits, but is incorporated into section 123.25 (the state program provision) by reference.

[12] *Effluent limitation* means any restriction imposed by the Director on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of "pollutants" which are "discharged" from "point sources" into "waters of the United States," the waters of the "contiguous zone," or the ocean. (40 C.F.R. § 122.2.)

[13] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd., supra,* 35 Cal.4th 613, 621. Actually, State and regional board permits allowing discharges into state waters are called "waste discharge requirements" (Wat. Code, § 13263).

than required by federal law-from taking into account the economic effects of doing so.[14]

Actions that dischargers must implement as prescribed in permits are commonly called "best management practices" or BMPs.[15]

Stormwater was not regulated by U.S. EPA in 1973 because of the difficulty of doing so. This exemption from regulation was overturned in *Natural Resources Defense Council v. Costle* (1977) 568 F.2d 1369, which ordered U.S. EPA to require NPDES permits for stormwater runoff. By 1987, U.S. EPA still had not adopted regulations to implement a permitting system for stormwater runoff. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals explained the next step as follows:

> In 1987, to better regulate pollution conveyed by stormwater runoff, Congress enacted Clean Water Act § 402(p), 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p), "Municipal and Industrial Stormwater Discharges." Sections 402(p)(2) and 402(p)(3) mandate NPDES permits for stormwater discharges "associated with industrial activity," discharges from large and medium-sized municipal storm sewer systems, and certain other discharges. Section 402(p)(4) sets out a timetable for promulgation of the first of a two-phase overall program of stormwater regulation.[16]

NPDES permits are required for "A discharge from a municipal separate storm sewer system serving a population of 250,000 or more."[17] The federal Clean Water Act specifies the following criteria for municipal storm sewer system permits:

> (i) may be issued on a system- or jurisdiction-wide basis;
>
> (ii) shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers; and
>
> (iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.[18]

In 1990, U.S. EPA adopted regulations to implement Clean Water Act section 402(p), defining which entities need to apply for permits and the information to include in the permit application.

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[14] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd., supra,* 35 Cal.4th 613, 627-628.

[15] Best management practices, or BMPs, means "schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of "waters of the United States." BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

[16] *Environmental Defense Center, Inc. v. U.S. E.P.A., supra,* 344 F.3d 832, 841-842.

[17] 33 USCA 1342 (p)(2)(C).

[18] 33 USCA 1342 (p)(3)(B).

The permit application must propose management programs that the permitting authority will consider in adopting the permit. The management programs must include the following:

> [A] comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate.[19]

General state-wide permits

In addition to the regional stormwater permit at issue in this claim, the State Board has issued two general statewide permits,[20] as described in the permit as follows:

> To facilitate compliance with federal regulations, the State Board has issued two statewide general NPDES permits for stormwater discharges: one for stormwater from industrial sites [NPDES No. CAS000001, General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit (GIASP)] and the other for stormwater from construction sites [NPDES No. CAS000002, General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit (GCASP)]. ... Facilities discharging stormwater associated with industrial activities and construction projects with a disturbed area of five acres or more are required to obtain individual NPDES permits for stormwater discharges, or to be covered by a statewide general permit by completing and filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the State Board. The U.S. EPA guidance anticipates coordination of the state-administered programs for industrial and construction activities with the local agency program to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the MS4. The Regional Board is the enforcement authority in the Los Angeles Region for the two statewide general permits regulating discharges from industrial facilities and construction sites, and all NPDES stormwater and non-stormwater permits issued by the Regional Board. These industrial and construction sites and discharges are also regulated under local laws and regulations. (Permit, p. 11.)

The State Board has statutory fee authority to conduct inspections to enforce the general state-wide permits.[21] The statewide permits are discussed in further detail in the analysis.

The Los Angeles Regional Board permit (Order No. 01-182, Permit CAS004001)

To obtain the permit, the County of Los Angeles, on behalf of all permittees, submitted on January 31, 2001 a Report of Waste Discharge, which constitutes a permit application, and a Stormwater Quality Management Program, which constituted the permittees' proposal for best management practices that would be required in the permit.[22]

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[19] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (d)(2)(iv).

[20] A general permit means "an NPDES 'permit' issued under [40 CFR] §122.28 authorizing a category of discharges under the CWA within a geographical area." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

[21] Water Code section 13260, subdivision (d)(2)(B)(i) - (iii).

[22] State Water Resources Control Board, comments submitted April 18, 2008, page 8 and attachment 36.

The permit states that its objective is: "to protect the beneficial uses of receiving waters in Los Angeles County."[23] The permit was upheld by the Second District Court of Appeal in 2006, which described it as follows:

> The 72-page permit is divided into 6 parts. There is an overview and findings followed by a statement of discharge prohibitions; a listing of receiving water limitations; the Storm Water Quality Management Program; an explanation of special provisions; a set of definitions; and a list of what are characterized as standard provisions. The county, the flood control district, and the 84 cities are designated in the permit as the permittees.[24]

After finding that "the county, the flood control district, and the 84 cities discharge and contribute to the release of pollutants from "municipal separate storm sewer systems" (storm drain systems)" and that the discharges were the subject of regional board permits in 1990 and 1996, the regional board found that the storm drain systems in the county discharged a host of specified pollutants into local waters. The permit summed up by stating: "Various reports prepared by the regional board, the Los Angeles County Grand Jury, and academic institutions indicated pollutants are threatening to or actually impairing the beneficial uses of water bodies in the Los Angeles region."[25]

The permit also specifies prohibited and allowable discharges, receiving water limitations, the implementation of the Storm Water Quality Management Program "requiring the use of best management practices to reduce pollutant discharge into the storm drain systems to the maximum extent possible."[26] As the court described the permit:

> In the prohibited discharges portion of the permit, the county and the cities were required to "effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges" into their storm sewer systems. This prohibition contains the following exceptions: where the discharge is covered by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination permit for non-stormwater emission; natural springs and rising ground water; flows from riparian habitats or wetlands; stream diversions pursuant to a permit issued by the

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[23] Permit page 13. The permit also says: "This permit is intended to develop, achieve, and implement a timely comprehensive, cost-effective storm water pollution control program to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) from the permitted areas in the County of Los Angeles to the waters of the US subject to the Permittees' jurisdiction."

[24] *County of Los Angeles v. California State Water Resources Control Board* (2006) 143 Cal.App.4th 985, 990.

[25] *County of Los Angeles v. California State Water Resources Control Board , supra,* 143 Cal.App.4th 985, 990

[26] *County of Los Angeles v. California State Water Resources Control Board,, supra,* 143 Cal.App.4th 985, 994.

regional board; "uncontaminated ground water infiltrations" ... and waters from emergency fire-fighting flows.[27]

There is also a list of permissible discharges that are incidental to urban activity, as specified (e.g., landscape irrigation runoff, etc.). In the part on receiving water limitations, the permit prohibits discharges from storm sewer systems that "cause or contribute" to violations of "Water Quality Standards" objectives in receiving waters as specified in state and federal water quality plans. Storm or non-stormwater discharges from storm sewer systems which constitute a nuisance are also prohibited.[28]

To comply with the receiving water limitations, the permittees must implement control measures in accordance with the permit.[29]

The permittees are also to implement the Storm Water Quality Management Program (SQMP) that meets the standards of 40 Code of Federal Regulations, part 122.26(d)(2) (2000) and reduces the pollutants in stormwaters to the maximum extent possible with the use of best management practices. And the permittees must revise the SQMP to comply with specified total maximum daily load (TMDL) allocations.[30] If a permittee modified the countywide SQMP, it must implement a local management program. Each permittee is required by November 1, 2002, to adopt a stormwater and urban runoff ordinance. By December 2, 2002, each permittee must certify that it had the legal authority to comply with the permit through adoption of ordinances or municipal code modifications.[31]

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[27] *County of Los Angeles v. California State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 143 Cal.App.4th 985, 991-992.

[28] "'Nuisance' means anything that meets all of the following requirements: (1) is injurious to health, or is indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property; (2) affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal; (3) occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes." *Id.* at 992.

[29] If the Storm Water Quality Management Program did not assure compliance with the receiving water requirements, the permittee must immediately notify the regional board; submit a Receiving Water Limitations Compliance Report that describes the best management practices currently being used and proposed changes to them; submit an implementation schedule as part of the Receiving Water Limitations Compliance Report; and, after approval by the regional board, promptly implement the new best management practices. If the permittee makes these changes, even if there were further receiving water discharges beyond those addressed in the Water Limitations Compliance Report, additional changes to the best management practices need not be made unless directed to do so by the regional board. *Id.* at 993.

[30] A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards. See <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/tmdl> as of October 3, 2008.

[31] *County of Los Angeles v. California State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 143 Cal.App.4th 985.

The permit gives the County of Los Angeles additional responsibilities as principal permittee, such as coordination of the SQMP and convening watershed management committees. In addition, the permit contains a development construction program under which permittees are to implement programs to control runoff from construction sites, with additional requirements imposed on sites one acre or larger, and more on those five acres or larger. Permittees are to eliminate all illicit connections and discharges to the storm drain system, and must document, track and report all cases.

In this claim, however, claimants only allege activities in parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E and 4F5c3 of the permit. These parts concern placement and maintenance of trash receptacles at transit stops, and inspections of restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, automotive dealerships, phase I industrial facilities (as defined) and construction sites, as quoted below.

Co-Claimants' Position

Co-claimants assert that parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E and 4F5c3 of the LA Regional Board's permit constitute a reimbursable state-mandate within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6, and Government Code section 17514.

Transit Trash Receptacles: Los Angeles County ("County") filed test claims 03-TC-04 and 03-TC-19. In 03-TC-04, *Transit Trash Receptacles*, filed by the County, and 03-TC-20, *Waste Discharge Requirements,* filed by the cities, the claimants allege the following activities as stated in the permit part 4F5c3 (Part 4, Special Provisions, F. Public Agency Activities Program, 5. Storm Drain Operation and Management):

> c. Permittees not subject to a trash TMDL[32] shall: [¶]...[¶]
>
> (3) Place trash receptacles at all transit stops within its jurisdiction that have shelters no later than August 1, 2002, and at all transit stops within its jurisdiction no later than February 3, 2003. All trash receptacles shall be maintained as necessary.

Claimant County asserts that this permit condition requires the following:

1. Identifying all transit stops within its jurisdiction except for the Los Angeles River and Ballona Creek Watershed Management areas.
2. Selecting proper trash receptacle design and evaluating proper placement of trash receptacles.
3. Designing receptacle pad improvement, if needed.
4. Constructing and installing trash receptacle units.
5. Collecting trash and maintaining receptacles.

Inspection of Industrial and Commercial Facilities: In claim 03-TC-19, *Inspection of Industrial/ Commercial Facilities*, filed by the County, and 03-TC-20, *Waste Discharge Requirements,* filed by the cities, claimants allege the following activities as stated in the permit parts 4C2a and 4C2b (Part 4, Special Provisions, C. Industrial/Commercial Facilities Control Program):

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[32] A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards. See <http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/tmdl> as of October 3, 2008.

2. Inspect Critical Sources – Each Permittee shall inspect all facilities in the categories and at a level and frequency as specified in the following subsections:

a) Commercial Facilities

(1) Restaurants

Frequency of Inspections: Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Level of Inspections-: Each Permittee, in cooperation with its appropriate department (such as health or public works), shall inspect all restaurants within its jurisdiction to confirm that stormwater BMPs are being effectively implemented in compliance with State law, County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP [Storm Water Quality Management Program]. At each restaurant, inspectors shall verify that the restaurant operator:

- has received educational materials on stormwater pollution prevention practices;
- does not pour oil and grease or oil and grease residue onto a parking lot, street or adjacent catch basin;
- keeps the trash bin area clean and trash bin lids closed, and does not fill trash bins with washout water or any other liquid;
- does not allow illicit discharges, such as discharge of washwater from floormats, floors, porches, parking lots, alleys, sidewalks and street areas (in the immediate vicinity of the establishment), filters or garbage/trash containers;
- removes food waste, rubbish or other materials from parking lot areas in a sanitary manner that does not create a nuisance or discharge to the storm drain.

(2) Automotive Service Facilities

Frequency of Inspections: Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Level of Inspections: Each permittee shall inspect all automotive service facilities within its jurisdiction to confirm that stormwater BMPs are effectively implemented in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP. At each automotive service facility, inspectors shall verify that each operator:

- maintains the facility area so that it is clean and dry without evidence of excessive staining;
- implements housekeeping BMPs to prevent spills and leaks;
- properly discharges wastewaters to a sanitary sewer and/or contains wastewaters for transfer to a legal point of disposal;

- is aware of the prohibition on discharge of non-stormwater to the storm drain;
- properly manages raw and waste materials including proper disposal of hazardous waste;
- protects outdoor work and storage areas to prevent contact of pollutants with rainfall and runoff;
- labels, inspects, and routinely cleans storm drain inlets that are located on the facility's property; and
- trains employees to implement stormwater pollution prevention practices.

(3) Retail Gasoline Outlets and Automotive Dealerships

Frequency of Inspection: Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Level of Inspection: Each Permittee shall confirm that BMPs are being effectively implemented at each RGO [Retail Gasoline Outlet] and automotive dealership within its jurisdiction, in compliance with the SQMP, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the Stormwater Quality Task Force Best Management Practice Guide for RGOs. At each RGO and automotive dealership, inspectors shall verify that each operator:

- routinely sweeps fuel-dispensing areas for removal of litter and debris, and keeps rags and absorbents ready for use in case of leaks and spills;
- is aware that washdown of facility area to the storm drain is prohibited;
- is aware of design flaws (such as grading that doesn't prevent run-on, or inadequate roof covers and berms), and that equivalent BMPs are implemented;
- inspects and cleans storm drain inlets and catch basins within each facility's boundaries no later than October 1st of each year;
- posts signs close to fuel dispensers, which warn vehicle owners/operators against "topping off" of vehicle fuel tanks and installation of automatic shutoff fuel dispensing nozzles;
- routinely checks outdoor waste receptacle and air/water supply areas, cleans leaks and drips, and ensures that only watertight waste receptacles are used and that lids are closed; and
- trains employees to properly manage hazardous materials and wastes as well as to implement other stormwater pollution prevention practices.

b) Phase I Facilities[33]

Permittees need not inspect facilities that have been inspected by the Regional Board within the past 24 months. For the remaining Phase I facilities that the Regional Board has not inspected, each Permittee shall conduct compliance inspections as specified below.

Frequency of Inspection

Facilities in Tier 1 Categories:[34] Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Facilities in Tier 2 Categories:[35] Twice during the 5-year term of the permit, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, Permittees need not perform additional inspections at those facilities determined to have no risk of exposure of industrial activity[36] to stormwater. For those facilities that do

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[33] On page 62 of the permit, U.S. EPA Phase I Facilities are defined as "facilities in specified industrial categories that are required to obtain an NPDES permit for storm water discharges, as required by 40 CFR 122.26(c). These categories include: (i) facilities subject to storm water effluent limitation guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards (40 CFR N); (ii) manufacturing facilities; (iii) oil and gas/mining facilities; (iv) hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities; (v) landfills, land application sites, and open dumps; (vi) recycling facilities; (vii) steam electric power generating facilities; (viii) transportation facilities; (ix) sewage or wastewater treatment works; (x) light manufacturing facilities.

[34] Attachment B of the Permit (pp. B-1 to B-2) lists the Tier 1 categories as follows (with Phase I facilities listed in italics): "*Municipal landfills ...; Hazardous Waste Treatment, Disposal and Recovery Facilities; Facilities Subject to SARA Title III ...;* Restaurants; *Wholesale trade (scrap, auto dismantling)...;* Automotive service facilities; *Fabricated metal products ...; Motor freight ...; Chemical/allied products ...;* Automotive Dealers/Gas Stations ...; *Primary Metals.*"

[35] Attachment B of the Permit (pp. B-1 to B-2) lists the Tier 2 categories as follows (with Phase I facilities listed in italics): "*Electric/Gas/Sanitary...; Air Transportation ...; Rubbers/Miscellaneous Plastics ...; Local/Suburban Transit ...; Railroad Transportation ...; Oil & Gas Extraction ...; Lumber/Wood Products...; Machinery Manufacturing ...; Transportation Equipment ...; Stone, Clay, Glass, Concrete ...; Leather/Leather Products...; Miscellaneous Manufacturing ...; Food and kindred Products...; Mining of Nonmetallic Minerals ...; Printing and Publishing ...; Electric/Electronics ...; Paper and Allied Products ...; Furniture and Fixtures ...;* Laundries ...; *Instruments...; Textile Mills Products ...; Apparel ...*"

[36] "Storm water discharge associated with industrial activity means the discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying storm water and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. ... The following categories of facilities are considered to be engaging in "industrial activity" for purposes of paragraph (b)(14): [¶]...[¶] (x) Construction activity including clearing, grading and excavation,

have exposure of industrial activities to stormwater, a Permittee may reduce that frequency of additional compliance inspections to once every 5 years, provided that the Permittee inspects at least 20% of the facilities in Tier 2 each year.

Level of Inspection: Each Permittee shall confirm that each operator:

- has a current Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number for facilities discharging stormwater associated with industrial activity, and that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is available on-site, and
- is effectively implementing BMPs in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP.

Inspection of Construction Sites: In claims 03-TC-20 and 03-TC-21, *Waste Discharge Requirements*, the cities allege the activities in permit parts 4C2a, 4C2b, and 4F5c3, as listed in the test claims cited above, in addition to the following activities as stated in part 4E of the permit (Part 4, Special Provisions, E. Development Construction Program):

- For construction sites one acre or greater, each Permittee shall comply with all conditions in section E1 above and shall: ...

  (b) Inspect all construction sites for stormwater quality requirements during routine inspections a minimum of once during the wet seasons. The Local SWPPP [Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan] shall be reviewed for compliance with local codes, ordinances, and permits. For inspected sites that have not adequately implemented their Local SWPPP, a follow-up inspection to ensure compliance will take place within 2 weeks. If compliance has not been attained, the Permittee will take additional actions to achieve compliance (as specified in municipal codes). If compliance has not been achieved, and the site is also covered under a statewide general construction stormwater permit, each Permittee shall enforce their local ordinance requirements, and if non-compliance continues the Regional Board shall be notified for further joint enforcement actions.

  Part 4E3 of the Order provides, in relevant part, as follows:

  3. For sites five acres and greater, each Permittee shall comply with all conditions in Sections E1 and E2 and shall:

  a) require, prior to issuing a grading permit for all projects requiring coverage under the state general permit,[37] proof of a Waste Discharger Identification (WDID) number for filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the GCASP [General Construction

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except operations that result in the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area. Construction activity also includes the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area that is a part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb five acres or more;" [40 CFR §122.26 (b)(14), Emphasis added.]

[37] A general permit means "an NPDES 'permit' issued under [40 CFR] §122.28 authorizing a category of discharges under the CWA [Clean Water Act] within a geographical area." (40 CFR § 122.2.) California has issued one general permit for construction activity and one for industrial activity.

Activity Storm Water Permit][38] and a certification that a SWPPP has been prepared by the project developer. A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs as the State SWPPP.

b) Require proof of an NOI and a copy of the SWPPP at any time a transfer of ownership takes place for the entire development or portions of the common plan of development where construction activities are still on-going.
c) Use an effective system to track grading permits issued by each Permittee. To satisfy this requirement, the use of a database or GIS system is encouraged, but not required.

Both county and city claimants allege more than $1000 in costs in each test claim to comply with the permit activities.

In comments submitted June 4, 2009 on the draft staff analysis, the County of Los Angeles asserts that local agencies do not have fee authority to collect trash from trash receptacles that must be placed at transit stops, and that voter approval under Proposition 218 would be required to do so. The County also argues that voter approval under Proposition 218 would be required for stormwater inspection costs, and cites as evidence the City of Santa Clarita's stormwater pollution prevention fee, as well as legislative proposals now in the legislature that would, if enacted, provide fee authority.

In comments submitted June 8, 2009 on the draft staff analysis, the cities disagree with the conclusion that they have fee authority to recoup the costs of the transit-stop trash receptacles, and disagree that they have fee authority to inspect facilities covered by the state-issued general stormwater permits, as discussed in more detail below.

State Agency Positions

Department of Finance: Finance, in comments filed March 27, 2008 on all four test claims, alleges that the permit does not impose a reimbursable mandate within the meaning of section 6 of article XIII B of the California Constitution because "The permit conditions imposed on the local agencies are required by federal laws" so they are not reimbursable pursuant to Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c). Finance asserts that "requirements of the permit are federally required to comply with the NPDES [National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System] program ... [and] is enforceable under the federal CWA [Clean Water Act]."

Finance also argues that the claimants had discretion over the activities and conditions to include in the permit application. The permittees submitted a Storm Water Quality Management Program prevention report with their applications, in which they had the option to use "best management practices" to identify alternative practices to reduce water pollution. Since the local agencies prescribed the activities to be included in the permit, the requirements are a downstream result of the local agencies' decision to include the particular activities in the permit. Finance cites the *Kern* case,[39] which held that if participation in the underlying program is voluntary, the resulting new consequential requirements are not reimbursable mandates.

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[38] See page 11, paragraph 22 of the permit for a description of the statewide permits.

[39] *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates (Kern High School Dist.)* (2003) 30 Cal.4th 727

Finally, Finance states that some local agencies are using fees for funding the claimed permit activities, so should the Commission find that the permit constitutes a reimbursable mandate, the fees should be considered as offsetting revenues.

Finance submitted comments on the draft staff analysis on June 19, 2009, agreeing that the local agencies have fee authority sufficient to pay for the mandated activities. Finance disagrees, however, with the portion of the analysis that finds that the activities are not federal mandates.

State Water Resources Control Board: The State Board filed comments on the four test claims on April 18, 2008, noting that the federal CWA mandates that municipalities apply for and receive permits regulating discharges of pollutants from their municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) to waters of the United States. "Pursuant to federal regulations, the Permit contains numerous requirements for the cities and County to take actions to reduce the flow of pollutants into the rivers and the Bay, known as Best Management practices (BMPs)."

The State Board asserts that the permit is mandated on the local governments by federal law, and applies to many dischargers of stormwater, both public and private, so it is not unique to local governments. The federal mandate requires that the permit be issued to the local governments, and the specific requirements challenged are consistent with the minimum requirements of federal law. According to the State Board, even if the permit were interpreted as going beyond federal law, any additional state requirements are de minimis. And the costs are not subject to reimbursement because the programs were proposed by the cities and County themselves, and because they have the ability to fund these requirements through charges and fees and are not required to raise taxes.

In comments filed with the State Board on April 10, 2008 (attached to the State Board comments on the test claim), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) asserts that the permit conditions reduce pollutants to the "maximum extent practicable." The transit trash receptacle and inspection programs, according to U.S. EPA, are founded in section 402 (p) of the Clean Water Act, and are well within the scope of the federal regulations (40 CFR § 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(A)(3)).

In its comments on the draft staff analysis submitted June 5, 2009, the State Board agrees with the conclusion and staff recommendation to deny the test claim, but disagrees with parts of the analysis. The State Board asserts that federal law: (1) requires local agencies to obtain NPDES permits from California Water Boards, and (2) mandates the permit, which is less stringent than permits for private industry. The State Board also states that the permit does not exceed the minimum federal mandate, as found by a court of appeal. Finally, the State Board argues that the federal stormwater law is one of general application, and therefore does not impose a state mandate.

Interested Party Positions

Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association: In comments on the draft staff analysis received June 3, 2009 (although the letter is dated April 29, 2009) the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) states that this matter is of statewide importance with broad implications, and fundamentally a matter of public finance. BASMAA also urges keeping the voters' objectives paramount. BASMAA agrees that the permit requirements are a new program or higher level of service and that the requirements go beyond the federal Clean Water Act's mandates. As for the portion of the draft staff analysis that

discusses local agency fee authority, BASMAA calls it "myopic" saying it "falls short in its consideration of all potentially relevant issues and appellate court precedents that need to be presented to the Commission to serve the interest of the public." (Comments p. 3.) BASMAA contends that many permit requirements relate to local communities and their residents rather than specific business activities, and require public services that are essentially incident to real property ownership, and/or may only be financed via fees that remain subject to the Proposition 218 voting requirement or increased property taxes. BASMAA also states that many permit activities would fall on joint power authorities or special districts that have no fee authority, or for which exemptions from Proposition 218 would not be applicable. BASMAA requests that the analysis be revised to revisit the conclusions regarding "funded vs. unfunded" requirements, and to recognize and distinguish the many types of stormwater activities for which regulatory fees would not apply.

League of California Cities and California State Association of Counties (CSAC): In joint comments on the draft staff analysis received June 4, 2009, the League of Cities and CSAC agree with the draft staff analysis that the permit is a mandate, but question whether the *Connell* and *County of Fresno* decisions are still valid as applied to Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), which prohibit the Commission from finding costs mandated by the state if the local agency has fee authority. This is because of the voters' approval of Proposition 218 in 1996. The League and CSAC urge the Commission not to find that fee authority exists for local agencies (1) to the extent there may be doubt about whether a local agency has it, and (2) to the extent that there is no person upon which the local agency can impose the fee.

COMMISSION FINDINGS

The courts have found that article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution[40] recognizes the state constitutional restrictions on the powers of local government to tax and spend.[41] "Its purpose is to preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions to local agencies, which are 'ill equipped' to assume increased financial responsibilities because of the taxing and spending limitations that articles XIII A and XIII B impose."[42] A test claim statute or executive order may impose a reimbursable state-mandated program if it orders or commands a local agency or school district to engage in an activity or

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[40] Article XIII B, section 6, subdivision (a), provides:

> (a) Whenever the Legislature or any state agency mandates a new program or higher level of service on any local government, the State shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse that local government for the costs of the program or increased level of service, except that the Legislature may, but need not, provide a subvention of funds for the following mandates: (1) Legislative mandates requested by the local agency affected. (2) Legislation defining a new crime or changing an existing definition of a crime. (3) Legislative mandates enacted prior to January 1, 1975, or executive orders or regulations initially implementing legislation enacted prior to January 1, 1975.

[41] *Kern High School Dist., supra,* 30 Cal.4th 727, 735.

[42] *County of San Diego v. State of California (County of San Diego)*(1997) 15 Cal.4th 68, 81.

task.[43] In addition, the required activity or task must be new, constituting a "new program," or it must create a "higher level of service" over the previously required level of service.[44]

The courts have defined a "program" subject to article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution, as one that carries out the governmental function of providing public services, or a law that imposes unique requirements on local agencies or school districts to implement a state policy, but does not apply generally to all residents and entities in the state.[45] To determine if the program is new or imposes a higher level of service, the test claim legislation must be compared with the legal requirements in effect immediately before the enactment of the test claim legislation.[46] A "higher level of service" occurs when the new "requirements were intended to provide an enhanced service to the public."[47]

Finally, the newly required activity or increased level of service must impose costs mandated by the state.[48]

The Commission is vested with exclusive authority to adjudicate disputes over the existence of state-mandated programs within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.[49] In making its decisions, the Commission must strictly construe article XIII B, section 6, and not apply it as an "equitable remedy to cure the perceived unfairness resulting from political decisions on funding priorities."[50]

The permit provisions in the consolidated test claim are discussed separately to determine whether they are reimbursable state-mandates.

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[43] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California* (1990) 225 Cal.App.3d 155, 174.

[44] *San Diego Unified School Dist. v. Commission on State Mandates* (2004) 33 Cal.4th 859, 878 (*San Diego Unified School Dist.)*; *Lucia Mar Unified School District v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 830, 835-836 (*Lucia Mar*).

[45] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 874, (reaffirming the test set out in *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 56; *Lucia Mar, supra,* 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.)

[46] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 878; *Lucia Mar, supra*, 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.

[47] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 878.

[48] *County of Fresno v. State of California* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482, 487; *County of Sonoma v. Commission on State Mandates* (2000) 84 Cal.App.4th 1265, 1284 (*County of Sonoma*); Government Code sections 17514 and 17556.

[49] *Kinlaw v. State of California* (1991) 54 Cal.3d 326, 331-334; Government Code sections 17551, 17552.

[50] *County of Sonoma, supra,* 84 Cal.App.4th 1265, 1280, citing *City of San Jose v. State of California* (1996) 45 Cal.App.4th 1802, 1817.

Issue 1: Are the permit provisions (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3) subject to article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution?

The issues discussed here are whether the permit provisions are an executive order within the meaning of Government Code section 17516, whether they are discretionary, and whether they constitute a federal mandate.

A. Are the permit provisions (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3) an executive order within the meaning of Government Code section 17516?

The Commission has jurisdiction over test claims involving statutes and executive orders as defined by Government Code section 17516, which defines an "executive order" for purposes of state mandates, as "any order, plan, requirement, rule, or regulation issued by any of the following:

(a) The Governor.
(b) Any officer or official serving at the pleasure of the Governor.
(c) Any agency, department, board, or commission of state government."[51]

The LA Regional Water Board is a state agency.[52] The permit it issued is both a plan for reducing water pollution, and contains requirements for local agencies toward that end. Therefore, the Commission finds that the permit is an executive order within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 and Government Code section 17516.

B. Are the permit provisions (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3) the result of claimants' discretion?

The permit provisions require placing and maintaining trash receptacles at transit stops and inspecting specified facilities and construction sites.

The Department of Finance, in comments submitted March 27, 2008, asserts that the claimants had discretion over what activities and conditions to include in the permit application, so that any resulting costs are downstream of the claimant's decision to include those provisions in the permit. Thus, Finance argues that the costs are not mandated by the state.

Similarly, the State Board, in its April 18, 2008 comments, cites the Stormwater Quality Management Program (SQMP) submitted by the county that constituted the claimants' proposal for the BMPs required under the permit. The State Water Board refers to (on p. 28 of the SQMP) the county's proposal to "collect trash along open channels and encourage voluntary trash collection in natural stream channels." The State Water Board further states that the SQMP (pp. 22-23) contains the municipalities' proposal for (1) site visits to industrial and commercial facilities, including automotive service businesses and restaurants to verify evidence of BMP

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[51] Section 17516 also states: ""Executive order" does not include any order, plan, requirement, rule, or regulation issued by the State Water Resources Control Board or by any regional water quality control board pursuant to Division 7 (commencing with Section 13000) of the Water Code." The Second District Court of Appeal has held that this statutory language is unconstitutional. *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 150 Cal.App.4th 898, 904.

[52] Water Code section 13200 et seq.

implementation, and (2) maintaining a database of automotive and food service facilities including whether they have NPDES stormwater permit coverage.

Claimant County of Los Angeles, in its June 23, 2008 rebuttal comments (pp.3-4), stated whether or not most jurisdictions place transit receptacles at transit stops is not relevant to the existence of a state mandate because Government Code section 17565 provides that if a local agency has been incurring costs for activities that are subsequently mandated by the state, the activities are still subject to reimbursement. The County also states that the permit application only proposed an industrial/commercial *educational* site visit program, not an inspection program. The claimants allege that the inspection program was previously the state's duty, but that the permit shifted it to the local agencies.

Claimant cities in their June 28, 2008 comments also construe the SQMP proposal as involving only educational site visits, which they characterize as very different from compliance inspections. And cities assert that "nowhere in the Report of Waste Discharge do the applicants propose compliance inspections of facilities that hold general industrial and general construction stormwater permits for compliance with those permits." According to the cities, the city and county objected orally and in writing to the inspection permit provision.

In determining whether the permit provisions at issue are a downstream activity resulting from the discretionary decision by the local agencies, the following rule stated by the Supreme Court in the *Kern High School Dist.* case applies:

> [A]ctivities undertaken at the option or discretion of a local government entity … do not trigger a state mandate and hence do not require reimbursement of funds—even if the local entity is obliged to incur costs as a result of its discretionary decision to participate in a particular program or practice.[53]

The Commission finds that the permit activities at issue were not undertaken at the option or discretion of the claimants. The claimants were required by state and federal law to submit the NPDES permit application in the form of a Report of Waste Discharge and SQMP. Submitting them was not discretionary. According to the record,[54] the county on behalf of all claimants, submitted on January 31, 2001 a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD), which constitutes a permit application, and a SQMP, which constitutes the claimants' proposal for best management practices that would be required in the permit.

The duty to apply for an NPDES permit is not within the claimants' discretion. According to the federal regulation:

> a) *Duty to apply.* (1) Any person[55] who discharges or proposes to discharge pollutants … and who does not have an effective permit … must submit a

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[53] *Kern High School Dist., supra,* 30 Cal.4th 727, 742.

[54] State Water Resources Control Board, comments submitted April 18, 2008, page 8 & attachment 36.

[55] *Person* means an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal agency, or an agent or employee thereof (40 CFR § 122.2).

complete application to the Director in accordance with this section and part 124 of this chapter.[56]

Moreover, the ROWD (tantamount to an NPDES permit application) is required by California law, as follows: "Any person discharging pollutants or proposing to discharge pollutants to the navigable water of the United States within the jurisdiction of this state ... shall file a report of the discharge in compliance with the procedures set forth in Section 13260 ..."[57] Thus, submitting the ROWD is not discretionary.

Federal regulations also anticipate the filing of an application for a stormwater permit, which contains the information in the SQMP. The regulation states in part:

> (d) *Application requirements for large and medium municipal separate storm sewer discharges.* The operator of a discharge from a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer or a municipal separate storm sewer that is designated by the Director under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section, may submit a jurisdiction-wide or system-wide permit application. Where more than one public entity owns or operates a municipal separate storm sewer within a geographic area (including adjacent or interconnected municipal separate storm sewer systems), such operators may be a coapplicant to the same application.[58]

According to the permit, section 122.26, subdivision (d), of the federal regulations contains the essential components of the SQMP (p. 32), which is an enforceable element of the permit (p. 45). Section 122.26, subdivision (d)(2)(iv)(C), in the federal regulations is interpreted in the permit to "require that MS4 permittees implement a program to monitor and control pollutants in discharges to the municipal system from industrial and commercial facilities that contribute a substantial pollutant load to the MS4." (p. 35.) In short, the claimants were required by law to submit the ROWD and SQMP, with specified contents.

Because the claimants do not voluntarily participate in the NPDES program, the Commission finds that the *Kern High School Dist.* case does not apply to the permit, the contents of which were not the result of the claimants' discretion.

C. Are the permit provisions (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3) a federal mandate within the meaning of article XIII B, sections 6 and 9, subdivision (b)?

The next issue is whether the parts of the permit at issue are federally mandated, as asserted by the State Board and the Department of Finance (whose comments are detailed below). If so, the parts of the permit would not constitute a state mandate.

In *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates,* the court stated as follows regarding this permit: "We are not convinced that the obligations imposed by a permit issued by a Regional Water Board necessarily constitute federal mandates under all circumstances."[59] But after

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[56] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.21 (a). The section applies to U.S. EPA-issued permits, but is incorporated into section 123.25 (the state program provision) by reference.

[57] Water Code section 13376.

[58] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.26 (d).

[59] *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 150 Cal.App.4th 898, 914.

summarizing the arguments on both sides, the court declined to decide the issue, stating: "Resolution of the federal or state nature of these [permit] obligations therefore is premature and, thus, not properly before this court."[60] The court agreed with the Commission (calling it an "inescapable conclusion") that the federal versus state issues in the test claims must be addressed in the first instance by the Commission.[61]

The California Supreme Court has stated that "article XIII B, section 6, and the implementing statutes ... by their terms, provide for reimbursement only of *state*- mandated costs, not *federally* mandated costs."[62]

When analyzing federal law in the context of a test claim under article XII B, section 6, the court in *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates* held that "[w]hen the federal government imposes costs on local agencies those costs are not mandated by the state and thus would not require a state subvention. Instead, such costs are exempt from local agencies' taxing and spending limitations" under article XIII B.[63] When federal law imposes a mandate on the state, however, and the state "freely [chooses] to impose the costs upon the local agency as a means of implementing a federal program, then the costs are the result of a reimbursable state mandate regardless whether the costs were imposed upon the state by the federal government."[64]

Similarly, Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c), states that the Commission shall not find "costs mandated by the state" if "[t]he statute or executive order imposes a requirement that is mandated by a federal law or regulation and results in costs mandated by the federal government, unless the statute or executive order mandates costs that exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."

In *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[65] the court considered whether a state executive order involving school desegregation constituted a state mandate. The court held that the executive order required school districts to provide a higher level of service than required by federal constitutional or case law because the state requirements went beyond federal requirements.[66] The *Long Beach* court stated that unlike the federal law at issue, "the executive

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[60] *Id.* at page 918.

[61] *Id.* at page 917. The court cited *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist. v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal. 3d 830, 837, in support.

[62] *San Diego Unified School Dist. v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 879-880, emphasis in original.

[63] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates* (1992) 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593, citing *City of Sacramento v. State of California, supra,* 50 Cal.3d 51, 76; see also, Government Code sections 17513 and 17556, subdivision (c).

[64] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1594.

[65] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[66] *Id.* at page 173.

Order and guidelines require specific actions … [that were] required acts. These requirements constitute a higher level of service."[67]

In analyzing the permit under the federal Clean Water Act, we keep the following in mind. First, each state is free to enforce its own water quality laws so long as its effluent limitations are not "less stringent" than those set out in the Clean Water Act.[68] Second, the California Supreme Court has acknowledged that an NPDES permit may contain terms that are federally mandated and terms that exceed federal law.[69] The federal Clean Water Act also allows for more stringent measures, as follows:[70]

> Permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers [¶]…[¶] (iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharges of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the … State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (33 U.S.C.A. 1342 (p)(3)(B)(iii).)

As discussed further below, the Commission finds that the permit activities are not federally mandated because federal law does not require the permittees to install and maintain trash receptacles at transit stops, or require inspections of restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets or automotive dealerships. As to inspecting phase I facilities or construction sites, the federal regulatory scheme authorizes states to perform the inspections under a general statewide permit, making it possible to avoid imposing a mandate on the local agencies to do so.

In its June 2009 comments on the draft staff analysis, the State Board disagrees that specific mandates in the permit exceed the federal requirements, the State Board argues:

> This approach fails to recognize that NPDES storm water permits, whether issued by U.S. EPA or California's Water Boards, are designed to translate the general federal mandate into specific programs and enforceable requirements. Whether issued by U.S. EPA or the California's Water Boards, the federal NPDES permit will identify specific requirements for municipalities to reduce pollutants in their storm water to the maximum extent practicable. The federally required pollutant reduction is a federal mandate. … The fact that state agencies have responsibility for specifying the federal permit requirements for municipalities does not convert the federal mandate into a state mandate.[71]

The Commission disagrees. Based on the *Long Beach Unified School Dist.* case discussed above and applied in the analysis below, the specific requirements in the permit may constitute a state mandate even though they are imposed in order to comply with the federal Clean Water Act.

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[67] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155, 173.

[68] 33 U.S.C. § 1370.

[69] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 35 Cal.4th 613, 618, 628.

[70] 33 USCA section 1370.

[71] State Board comments submitted June 2009, page 6.

Finance, in its June 2009 comments on the draft staff analysis, distinguishes this permit from the issue in the *Long Beach Unified School Dist.* case. According to Finance, in *Long Beach,* the courts had suggested certain steps and approaches that might help alleviate racial discrimination, although the state's executive order and guidelines required specific actions. But in this claim, federal law requires NPDES permits to include specific requirements.

The Commission agrees that NPDES permits are required to include specific measures. But as discussed in more detail below, those measures are not the same as the specific requirements at issue in this permit (in Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3).

The State Board's June 2009 comments also discuss *County of Los Angeles v. State Water Resources Control Board,*[72] which involved the same permit as in this test claim. The State Board asserts that this case holds, in an unpublished part, that "the permit did not exceed the federal minimum requirements for the MS4 program."[73] (Comments, p. 5.) The State Board asserts that the Commission is bound by this decision.

The Commission reads the *County of Los Angeles* case differently than the State Board. The plaintiffs (permittees and others) in that case challenged the permit on a variety of issues, including that the regional board did not have jurisdiction to issue it, and that it violated the California Environmental Quality Act. The court did not, however, discuss the permit conditions at issue in this test claim. In the portion cited by the State Board, the court was addressing the consideration of the permit's economic effects. One of the plaintiffs' challenges to the permit was that the regional board was required to consider the economic effects in issuing the permit. By alleging the regional board had not done so, the plaintiffs argued that the permit imposed conditions more stringent than required by the federal Clean Water Act. The court held that the plaintiff's contentions were waived for failure to set forth all the documents received by the regional board, and that the regional board had considered the costs and benefits of implementation of the permit. In other parts of the opinion, however, the court acknowledged the regional board's authority to impose permit restrictions beyond the "maximum extent feasible"[74]

The *County of Los Angeles* case is silent on the permit provisions at issue in this claim[75] (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3) except when it said: "we need no [sic] address the parties'

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[72] *County of Los Angeles v. State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 143 Cal.App.4th 985.

[73] The court's opinion, including the unpublished parts, are in attachment 26 of the State Board's comments submitted April 18, 2008.

[74] See page 18 of attachment 26 of the State Board's comments submitted April 18, 2008.

[75] In *County of Los Angeles,* the plaintiffs also challenged the following parts of the permit: (1) part 2.1 that deals with receiving water restrictions and that prohibits all water discharges that violate water quality standards or objectives regardless of whether the best management practices are reasonable; (2) part 3.C, which requires the permittees to revise their storm water quality management programs in order to implement the total maximum daily loads for impaired water bodies, and (3) parts 3.G and 4., which authorize the regional board to require strict requirements with numeric limits on pollutants which are incorporated into the total maximum daily load restrictions. The court held that these contentions were waived for failure to set forth all the

remaining contentions concerning trash receptacles."[76] The court also said inspections under the permit were not unlawful. Nonetheless, the case is not binding on the Commission in deciding the issues in this claim.

California in the NPDES program: By way of background, under the federal statutory scheme, a stormwater permit may be administered by the Administrator of U.S. EPA or by a state-designated agency, but states are not required to have an NPDES program. Subdivision (b) of section 1324 of the federal Clean Water Act, the section that describes the NPDES program (and which, in subdivision (p), describes the requirements for the municipal stormwater system permits) states in part:

> At any time after the promulgation of the guidelines required by subsection (i)(2) of section 1314 of this title, the Governor of each State desiring to administer its own permit program for discharges into navigable waters within its jurisdiction may submit to the Administrator [of U.S. EPA] a full and complete description of the program it proposes to establish and administer under State law or under an interstate compact. [Emphasis added.]

And the federal stormwater statute states that the permits:

> [S]hall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (33 USCA § 1342 (p)(3)(B)(iii). [Emphasis added].)

The federal statutory scheme indicates that California is neither required to have an NPDES program nor to issue stormwater permits. According to section 1342 (p) quoted above, the Administrator of U.S. EPA would do so if California had no program. The California Legislature, when adopting the NPDES program[77] to comply with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 stated the following findings and declaration in Water Code section 13370:

(a) The Federal Water Pollution Control Act [citation omitted] as amended, provides for permit systems to regulate the discharge of pollutants ... to the navigable waters of the United States and to regulate the use and disposal of sewage sludge.

(b) The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, provides that permits may be issued by states which are authorized to implement the provisions of that act.

(c) It is in the interest of the people of the state, in order to avoid direct regulation by the federal government, of persons already subject to regulation under state law pursuant to this division, to enact this chapter in order to authorize the state to implement the

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applicable evidence, and that the regional board has authority to impose restrictions beyond the maximum extent feasible.

[76] See page 22, attachment 26 of the State Board's comments submitted April 18, 2008.

[77] Water Code section 13374 states: "The term 'waste discharge requirements' as referred to in this division is the equivalent of the term 'permits' as used in the Federal water Pollution Control Act, as amended."

provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, and federal regulations and guidelines issued pursuant thereto, provided, that the state board shall request federal funding under the Federal Water Pollution Act for the purpose of carrying out its responsibilities under this program.

Based on this Water Code section 13370, in which California voluntarily adopts the permitting program, and on the federal statutes quoted above that authorize but do not expressly require states to have this program, the state has freely chosen[78] to effect the stormwater permit program.

Any further discussion in this analysis of federal "requirements" should be construed in the context of California's choice to participate in the federal regulatory NPDES program.

In its June 2009 comments on the draft staff analysis, the State Board argues as follows:

> [T]he ... analysis treats the state's decision to *administer* the NPDES permit program in 1972 as the 'choice' referred to in *Hayes*. ...The state's 'choice' to administer the program in lieu of the federal government does not alter the federal requirement on municipalities to reduce pollutants in these discharges to the maximum extent practicable.[79]

Finance, in its June 2009 comments, also disagrees with this part of the draft staff analysis, asserting that the duty to apply for a NPDES permit is required by federal law on public and private dischargers, which in this case are local agencies.

Even though California opted into the NPDES program, further analysis is needed to determine whether the federal regulations impose a mandate on the local agencies. To the extent that state requirements go beyond the federal requirements, there would be a state mandate.[80] Thus, the permit provisions (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3) are discussed below in context of the following federal law governing stormwater permits: Clean Water Act section 402(p) (33 USCA 1342 (p)(3)(B)) and Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 122.26.

Placing and maintaining trash receptacles at transit stops (part 4F5c3): This part of the permit states:

> c. Permittees not subject to a trash TMDL[81] shall: [¶]...[¶]
> (3) Place trash receptacles at all transit stops within its jurisdiction that have shelters no later than August 1, 2002, and at all transit stops within its jurisdiction no later than February 3, 2003. All trash receptacles shall be maintained as necessary.

The comments of the State Water Board and U.S. EPA assert that the permit conditions merely implement a federal mandate under the federal Clean Water Act and its regulations. The U.S.

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[78] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

[79] State Board comments submitted June 2009, page 4.

[80] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155, 173. Government Code section 17556, subdivision (b).

[81] A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards.

EPA submitted a letter to the State Water Board regarding the permit conditions in April 2008, which the State Water Board attached to its comments. Regarding the trash receptacles, the letter states:

> [M]aintaining trash receptacles at all public transit stops is well within the scope of these [Federal] regulations. Among the minimum controls required to reduce pollutants from runoff from commercial and residential areas are practices for "operating and maintaining public streets, roads, and highways … [40 CFR] § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3).[82]

U.S. EPA also cites EPA's national menu of BMPs for stormwater management programs, "which recommends a number of BMPs to reduce trash discharges." Among the recommendations is 'improved infrastructure' for trash management when necessary, which includes the placement of trash receptacles at appropriate locations based on expected need."[83]

The State Water Board, in comments filed April 18, 2008, states that part 4F of the permit (regarding trash receptacles) concerns "the municipalities' own activities, as opposed to its regulation of discharges into its system by others." The State Water Board cites the same section 122.26 regulation as U.S. EPA, and states that the requirements "reflect the federal requirement to reduce pollutants from the MS4 to the maximum extent practicable. It is federal law that animates the requirement and federal law that mandates specificity in describing the BMPs." The State Water Board alleges that two appellate courts[84] have determined that the permit provisions constitute the "maximum extent practicable" standard, which is the minimum requirement under federal law.

The Department of Finance also asserts that the permit requirements are a federal mandate.

The County of Los Angeles, in comments filed June 23, 2008, states that "Nothing in the federal Clean Water Act requires the County to install trash receptacles at transit stops. Nothing in the federal regulations or the Clean Water Act itself imposes this obligation." The county states that the U.S.EPA's citation to BMPs for stormwater management programs "may be permitted under federal law … and even encouraged as 'reasonable expectations.' But such requirements are not mandated on the County by federal law." The County admits the existence of "an abundance of federal guidance and encouragement to have the County install and maintain trash receptacles at all public transit stops. But these are merely federal suggestions, not mandates."

The city claimants, in comments filed June 25, 2008, also argue that the requirement for transit trash receptacles is not a federal mandate, stating that nothing in the Clean Water Act or the federal regulations requires cities to install trash receptacles at transit stops. City claimants also submit a survey of other municipal stormwater permits, finding that none of those issued by U.S. EPA required installation of trash receptacles at transit stops.

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[82] Letter from Alexis Strauss, Director, Water Division, U.S. EPA, to Tam M. Doduc, Chair, and Dorothy Rice, Executive Director, State Water Resources Control Board, April 10, 2008, page 3.

[83] *Id.* at page 3.

[84] The State Water Board cites: *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Board- Santa Ana Region* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4th 1377; *County of Los Angeles v. California State Water Resources Control Board* (2006) 148 Cal.App.4th 985.

The federal law applicable to this issue is section 402 of the Clean Water Act, which states:

> Permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers--
>
> (i) may be issued on a system- or jurisdiction-wide basis;
>
> (ii) shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers; and
>
> (iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator[85] or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (33 USCA § 1342 (p)(3)(B).)

The applicable federal regulations state as follows:

> (d) Application requirements for large and medium municipal separate storm sewer discharges. The operator[86] of a discharge[87] from a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer or a municipal separate storm sewer that is designated by the Director under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section, may submit a jurisdiction-wide or system-wide permit application. ... Permit applications for discharges from large and medium municipal storm sewers or municipal storm sewers designated under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section shall include; [¶]...[¶]
>
> (2) Part 2 of the application shall consist of: [¶]...[¶]
>
> (iv) Proposed management program. A proposed management program covers the duration of the permit. It shall include a comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design

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[85] Administrator means the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, or an authorized representative. (40 CFR § 122.2.)

[86] "*Owner or operator* means the owner or operator of any "facility or activity" subject to regulation under the NPDES program." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

[87] "*Discharge* when used without qualification means the "discharge of a pollutant. *Discharge of a pollutant* means: (a) Any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source," or (b) Any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation.

This definition includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works. This term does not include an addition of pollutants by any "indirect discharger." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate. The program shall also include a description of staff and equipment available to implement the program. Separate proposed programs may be submitted by each coapplicant. Proposed programs may impose controls on a systemwide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls. Proposed programs will be considered by the Director when developing permit conditions to reduce pollutants in discharges to the maximum extent practicable. Proposed management programs shall describe priorities for implementing controls. Such programs shall be based on:

(A) A description of structural and source control measures[88] to reduce pollutants from runoff from commercial and residential areas that are discharged from the municipal storm sewer system that are to be implemented during the life of the permit, accompanied with an estimate of the expected reduction of pollutant loads and a proposed schedule for implementing such controls. At a minimum, the description shall include: [¶]...[¶]

(3) A description of practices for operating and maintaining public streets, roads and highways and procedures for reducing the impact on receiving waters of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems, including pollutants discharged as a result of deicing activities. (40 CFR § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3).) [Emphasis added.]

The Commission finds that the plain language of the federal statute (33 USCA § 1342 (p)(3)(B)) and regulation (40 CFR § 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(A)(3)) does not require the permitees to install and maintain trash receptacles at transit stops.

Specifically, the state freely chose[89] to impose the transit trash receptacle requirement on the permittees because neither the federal statute nor the regulations require it. Nor do they require the permittees to implement "practices for operating and maintaining public streets, roads and highways and procedures for reducing the impact on receiving waters of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems"[90] although the regulation requires a description of practices for doing so. Because installing and maintaining trash receptacles at transit stops is not expressly required of cities or counties or municipal separate storm sewer dischargers in the federal statutes or regulations, these are activities that "mandate costs that exceed the mandate in the federal law or regulation."[91]

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[88] Minimum control measures are defined in 40 CFR § 122.34 to include: 1) Public education and outreach on storm water impacts; (2) Public involvement/participation; (3) Illicit discharge detection and elimination. (4) Construction site storm water runoff control; (5) Post-construction storm water management in new development and redevelopment.; (6) Pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations.

[89] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

[90] 40 CFR § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3).

[91] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

In *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[92] the court considered whether a state executive order involving school desegregation constituted a state mandate. The court held that the executive order required school districts to provide a higher level of service than required by federal constitutional or case law because the state requirements went beyond federal requirements.[93] The *Long Beach Unified School District* court stated:

> Where courts have suggested that certain steps and approaches may be helpful [in meeting constitutional and case law requirements] the executive Order and guidelines require *specific actions.* ...[T]he point is that these steps are no longer merely being suggested as options which the local school district may wish to consider but are required acts. These requirements constitute a higher level of service.[94] [Emphasis added.]

The reasoning of *Long Beach Unified School Dist.* is applicable to this claim. Although "operating and maintaining public streets, roads and highways and procedures for reducing the impact on receiving waters of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems..."[95] is a federal requirement on municipalities, the permit requirement to place trash receptacles at all transit stops and maintain them is an activity, like in *Long Beach Unified School Dist.,* that is a *specified action* going beyond federal law.[96]

Neither of the cases cited by the State Water Board demonstrate that placing trash receptacles at transit stops is required by federal law. In *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Board –Santa Ana Region*[97] the court upheld a stormwater permit similar to the one at issue in this claim. The City of Rancho Cucamonga challenged the permit on a variety of grounds, including that it exceeded the federal requirements for stormwater dischargers to "reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable"[98] and that it was overly prescriptive. The court concluded that the permit did not exceed the maximum extent practicable standard and upheld the permit in all respects. There is no indication in that case, however, that the permit at issue required trash receptacles at transit stops. Similarly, in a suit regarding the same permit at issue in this case, the *Los Angeles County*[99] court dismissed various challenges to the permit, but made no mention of the permit's transit trash receptacle provision.

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[92] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[93] *Id.* at page 173.

[94] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155, 173.

[95] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(A)(3).

[96] *Ibid.*

[97] *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Board- Santa Ana Region, supra,* 135 Cal.App.4th 1377.

[98] 33 USCA section 1342 (p)(3(B)(iii).

[99] *County of Los Angeles v. California State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 143 Cal.App.4th 985.

Therefore, the Commission finds that placing and maintaining trash receptacles at all transit stops within the jurisdiction of each permittee, as specified, is not a federal mandate within the meaning of article XIII B, sections 6 and 9, subdivision (b).

Part 4F5c3 of the permit states as follows:

> c. Permittees not subject to a trash TMDL shall: (3) Place trash receptacles at all transit stops within its jurisdiction that have shelters no later than August 1, 2002, and at all transit stops within its jurisdiction no later than February 3, 2003. All trash receptacles shall be maintained as necessary.

Based on the mandatory language (i.e., "shall") in part 4F5c3 of the permit, the Commission finds it is a state mandate for the claimants that are not subject to a trash TMDL to place trash receptacles at all transit stops within its jurisdiction that have shelters no later than August 1, 2002, and at all transit stops within its jurisdiction no later than February 3, 2003, and to maintain all trash receptacles as necessary.

Inspecting commercial facilities (part 4C2a): Section 4C2a of the permit requires inspections of restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets and automotive dealerships as follows:

> 2. Inspect Critical Sources – Each Permittee shall inspect all facilities in the categories and at a level and frequency as specified in the following subsections:
>
> (a) Commercial Facilities
>
> (1) Restaurants
>
> Frequency of Inspections: Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.
>
> Level of Inspections: Each Permittee, in cooperation with its appropriate department (such as health or public works), shall inspect all restaurants within its jurisdiction to confirm that stormwater BMPs are being effectively implemented in compliance with Statw law, County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP. At each restaurant, inspectors shall verify that the restaurant operator:
>
> - has received educational materials on stormwater pollution prevention practices;
> - does not pour oil and grease or oil and grease residue onto a parking lot, street or adjacent catch basin;
> - keeps the trash bin area clean and trash bin lids closed, and does not fill trash bins with washout water or any other liquid;
> - does not allow illicit discharges, such as discharge of washwater from floormats, floors, porches, parking lots, alleys, sidewalks and street areas (in the immediate vicinity of the establishment), filters or garbage/trash containers;

- removes food waste, rubbish or other materials from parking lot areas in a sanitary manner that does not create a nuisance or discharge to the storm drain.

(2) Automotive Service Facilities

Frequency of Inspections: Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Level of Inspections: Each permittee shall inspect all automotive service facilities within its jurisdiction to confirm that stormwater BMPs are effectively implemented in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP. At each automotive service facility, inspectors shall verify that each operator:

- maintains the facility area so that it is clean and dry without evidence of excessive staining;
- implements housekeeping BMPs to prevent spills and leaks;
- properly discharges wastewaters to a sanitary sewer and/or contains wastewaters for transfer to a legal point of disposal;
- is aware of the prohibition on discharge of non-stormwater to the storm drain;
- properly manages raw and waste materials including proper disposal of hazardous waste;
- protects outdoor work and storage areas to prevent contact of pollutants with rainfall and runoff;
- labels, inspects, and routinely cleans storm drain inlets that are located on the facility's property; and
- trains employees to implement stormwater pollution prevention practices.

(3) Retail Gasoline Outlets and Automotive Dealerships

Frequency of Inspection: Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Level of Inspection: Each Permittee shall confirm that BMPs are being effectively implemented at each RGO and automotive dealership within its jurisdiction, in compliance with the SQMP, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the Stormwater Quality Task Force Best Management Practice Guide for RGOs. At each RGO and automotive dealership, inspectors shall verify that each operator:

- routinely sweeps fuel-dispensing areas for removal of litter and debris, and keeps rags and absorbents ready for use in case of leaks and spills;
- is aware that washdown of facility area to the storm drain is prohibited;
- is aware of design flaws (such as grading that doesn't prevent run-on, or inadequate roof covers and berms), and that equivalent BMPs are implemented;

- inspects and cleans storm drain inlets and catch basins within each facility's boundaries no later than October 1st of each year;
- posts signs close to fuel dispensers, which warn vehicle owners/operators against "topping off" of vehicle fuel tanks and installation of automatic shutoff fuel dispensing nozzles;
- routinely checks outdoor waste receptacle and air/water supply areas, cleans leaks and drips, and ensures that only watertight waste receptacles are used and that lids are closed; and
- trains employees to properly manage hazardous materials and wastes as well as to implement other stormwater pollution prevention practices. [¶]...[¶]

Level of Inspection: Each Permittee shall confirm that each operator:

- has a current Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number for facilities discharging stormwater associated with industrial activity, and that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is available on-site, and
- is effectively implementing BMPs in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP.

The state asserts that these inspection requirements in permit part 4C2a are a federal mandate.

In comments filed April 18, 2008, the State Water Board quotes from the MS4 Program Evaluation Guide issued by U.S. EPA, asserting that it requires inspections of businesses. The State Water Board also states:

> The federal regulations also specifically require local stormwater agencies, as part of their responsibilities under NPDES permits, to conduct inspections. [citing 40 CFR § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C).] Throughout the federal law, there are numerous requirements for entities that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States to monitor and inspect their facilities and their effluent. [citing Clean Water Act §402(b)(2)(B); 40 CFR § 122.44(i)).] The claimants are the dischargers of pollutants into surface waters; as part of their permit allowing these dischargers they must conduct inspections.

Similarly, the April 10, 2008 letter from U.S. EPA to the State Water Board and attached to the Board's comments submitted April 18, 2008, states:

> A program for commercial and industrial facility inspection and enforcement that includes restaurants and automobile facilities, would appear to be both practicable and effective. Such an inspection program ensures that stormwater discharges from such facilities are reducing their contribution of pollutants and that there are no non-stormwater discharges or illicit connections. Thus these programs are founded in both 402 (p)(3)(B)(ii) and (iii) and are well within the scope of 40 CFR § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) and (B).

The County of Los Angeles, in its June 23, 2008 rebuttal comments, asserts that federal law requires prohibiting non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers, and reducing the discharge of pollutants in stormwater to the maximum extent practicable (33 USC 1342(p)) but not inspecting restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gas outlets, or automotive dealerships.

Only municipal landfills, hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities and related facilities are required to be inspected (40 CFR § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C)).

In comments received June 25, 2008, the city claimants argue that the LA Regional Board freely chose to impose the permit requirements on the permittees, and make the following arguments: (1) The inspection obligations were not contained in two prior permits issued to the cities and the County—thus, the requirements are not federal mandates; (2) No federal statute or regulation requires the cities or the County to inspect restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gas outlets, automotive dealerships or facilities that hold general industrial permits; (3) Stormwater NPDES permits issued by the U.S. EPA do not contain the requirement to inspect restaurants, auto service facilities, retail gas outlets and automotive dealerships, or require the extensive inspection of facilities that hold general industrial stormwater permits as contained in the Order [i.e. permit]; (4) The Administrator of U.S. EPA, as well as the head of the water division for U.S. EPA Region IX, have specifically stated that a municipality has an obligation under a stormwater permit only to assure compliance with local ordinances; the state retains responsibility to inspect for compliance with state law, including state-issued permits.

The city claimants dispute the State Board's contention that the court in *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Board* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4th 1377 held that federal law required inspections like those at issue in the permit. The cities quote part of the *City of Rancho Cucamonga* case with the following emphasis:

> Rancho Cucamonga and the other permittees are responsible for inspecting construction and industrial sites and commercial facilities within their jurisdiction for compliance with and enforcement of local municipal ordinances and permits. *But the Regional Board continues to be responsible under the 2002 NPDES permit for inspections under the general permits.* The Regional Board may conduct its own inspections but permittees must still enforce their own laws at these sites. (40 C.F.R. § 122.26, subd. (d)(2) (2005).)

In discussing the federal mandate issue, the applicable federal law is section 402 of the Clean Water Act, which states that municipal storm sewer system permits:

> (i) may be issued on a system- or jurisdiction-wide basis; (ii) shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers; and (iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (33 USCA § 1342 (p)(3)(B).)

The applicable federal regulations (40 CFR § 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(B)&(C)) state as follows:

> (d) Application requirements for large and medium municipal separate storm sewer discharges. The operator of a discharge from a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer or a municipal separate storm sewer that is designated by the Director under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section, may submit a jurisdiction-wide or system-wide permit application. Where more than one public entity owns or operates a municipal separate storm sewer within a geographic area (including adjacent or interconnected municipal separate storm sewer systems), such

operators may be a coapplicant to the same application. Permit applications for discharges from large and medium municipal storm sewers or municipal storm sewers designated under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section shall include; [¶]...[¶]

(2) Part 2 of the application shall consist of: [¶]...[¶]

(iv) Proposed management program. A proposed management program covers the duration of the permit. It shall include a comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate. The program shall also include a description of staff and equipment available to implement the program. Separate proposed programs may be submitted by each coapplicant. Proposed programs may impose controls on a systemwide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls. Proposed programs will be considered by the Director when developing permit conditions to reduce pollutants in discharges to the maximum extent practicable. Proposed management programs shall describe priorities for implementing controls. Such programs shall be based on: [¶]...[¶]

(B) A description of a program, including a schedule, to detect and remove (or require the discharger to the municipal separate storm sewer to obtain a separate NPDES permit for) illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer. The proposed program shall include:

(1) A description of a program, <u>including inspections</u>, to implement and enforce an ordinance, orders or similar means <u>to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system</u>; this program description shall address all types of illicit discharges, however the following category of non-stormwater discharges or flows shall be addressed where such discharges are identified by the municipality as sources of pollutants to waters of the United States [¶]...[¶]

(C) A description of a program to monitor and control pollutants in stormwater discharges to municipal systems from municipal landfills, hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities, industrial facilities that are subject to section 313 of title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), and industrial facilities that the municipal permit applicant determines are contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the municipal storm sewer system. The program shall:

(1) Identify priorities and procedures <u>for inspections</u> and establishing and implementing control measures for such discharges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.26, subd. (d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) & (C)(1).) [Emphasis added.]

There is a requirement in subdivision (d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) for implementing and enforcing "an ordinance, orders, or similar means to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm system." There is no express requirement in federal law, however, to inspect restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, or automotive dealerships. Nor does the

portion of the MS4 Program Evaluation Guide quoted by the State Water Board contain mandatory language to conduct inspections for these facilities.

In its April 2008 comments, the State Water Board argues that this reading of the regulations is not reasonable, and that U.S. EPA acknowledged that the initial selection by MS4s was only a starting point. In its comments (p.15), the State Water Board also states:

> Because the federal mandate requires Water Boards to choose specific BMPs [Best Management Practices] that are included in MS4 permits as requirements, the 'discretion' exercised in selecting those BMPs is necessarily a part of the federal mandate. It is not comparable to the discretion that the courts in *Hayes* or *San Diego* spoke of, where the state truly had a 'free choice.' The Los Angeles Water Board was mandated by federal law to select BMPs that would result in compliance with the federal MEP [Maximum Extent Practicable] standard. ... Therefore, it is clear that the mere exercise of discretion in selecting BMPs does not create a reimbursable mandate.

The State Water Board would have the Commission read requirements into the federal law that are not there. The Commission, however, cannot read a requirement into a statute or regulation that is not on its face or its legislative history.[100]

Based on the plain language of the federal regulations that are silent on the types of facilities at issue in the permit, the Commission finds that performing inspections at restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, or automotive dealerships, as specified in the permit, is not a federal mandate.

Moreover, the requirement to inspect the facilities listed in the permit is an activity, as in the *Long Beach Unified School Dist.* case discussed above, [101] that is a specified action going beyond the federal requirement for inspections "to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system." (40 C.F.R. § 122.26, subd. (d)(2)(iv)(B)(1).) As such, the inspections are not federally mandated.

The permit states in part: "Each Permittee shall inspect all facilities in the categories and at a level and frequency as specified ..." Based on the mandatory language in part 4C2a of the permit, the Commission finds that this part is a state mandate on the claimants to perform the inspections at restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, and automotive dealerships at the frequency and levels specified in the permit.

Inspecting phase I industrial facilities (part 4C2b): Part 4C2b of the permit regarding phase I industrial facilities requires the following:

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[100] *Gillett-Harris-Duranceau & Associates, Inc. v. Kemple* (1978) 83 Cal.App.3d 214, 219-220. "Rules governing the interpretation of statutes also apply to interpretation of regulations." *Diablo Valley College Faculty Senate v. Contra Costa Community College Dist.* (2007) 148 Cal.App.4th 1023, 1037.

[101] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

b) Phase I Facilities[102]

Permittees need not inspect facilities that have been inspected by the Regional Board within the past 24 months. For the remaining Phase I facilities that the Regional Board has not inspected, each Permittee shall conduct compliance inspections as specified below.

Frequency of Inspection

Facilities in Tier 1 Categories:[103] Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Facilities in Tier 2 Categories:[104] Twice during the 5-year term of the permit, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, Permittees need not perform additional inspections at those facilities determined to have no risk of exposure of industrial activity to stormwater. For those facilities that do have exposure of industrial activities to stormwater, a Permittee may reduce that frequency of additional compliance inspections to once every 5 years, provided that the Permittee inspects at least 20% of the facilities in Tier 2 each year.

Level of Inspection: Each Permittee shall confirm that each operator:

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[102] On page 62 of the permit, U.S. EPA Phase I Facilities are defined as "facilities in specified industrial categories that are required to obtain an NPDES permit for storm water discharges, as required by 40 CFR 122.26(c). These categories include: (i) facilities subject to storm water effluent limitation guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards (40 CFR N); (ii) manufacturing facilities; (iii) oil and gas/mining facilities; (iv) hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities; (v) landfills, land application sites, and open dumps; (vi) recycling facilities; (vii) steam electric power generating facilities; (viii) transportation facilities; (ix) sewage or wastewater treatment works; (x) light manufacturing facilities.

[103] Attachment B of the permit (pp. B-1 to B-2) lists the Tier 1 categories as follows (with Phase I facilities listed in italics): "*Municipal landfills ...; Hazardous Waste Treatment, Disposal and Recovery Facilities; Facilities Subject to SARA Title III ...;* Restaurants; *Wholesale trade (scrap, auto dismantling)...;* Automotive service facilities; *Fabricated metal products ...; Motor freight ...; Chemical/allied products ...;* Automotive Dealers/Gas Stations ...; *Primary Metals.*"

[104] Attachment B of the permit (pp. B-1 to B-2) lists the Tier 2 categories as follows (with Phase I facilities listed in italics): "*Electric/Gas/Sanitary...; Air Transportation ...; Rubbers/Miscellaneous Plastics ...; Local/Suburban Transit ...; Railroad Transportation ...; Oil & Gas Extraction ...; Lumber/Wood Products...; Machinery Manufacturing ...; Transportation Equipment ...; Stone, Clay, Glass, Concrete ...; Leather/Leather Products...; Miscellaneous Manufacturing ...; Food and kindred Products...; Mining of Nonmetallic Minerals ...; Printing and Publishing ...; Electric/Electronics ...; Paper and Allied Products ...; Furniture and Fixtures ...;* Laundries ...; *Instruments...; Textile Mills Products ...; Apparel ...*"

- has a current Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number for facilities discharging stormwater associated with industrial activity, and that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is available on-site, and is effectively implementing BMPs in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP.

The issue is whether these inspection requirements for phase I industrial facilities is a federal mandate. The governing federal regulation is 40 CFR section 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(B)&(C), which is cited above. Specifically on point is subpart (C), which states that the proposed management program must include the following:

> (C) A description of a program to monitor and control pollutants in stormwater discharges to municipal systems from municipal landfills, hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities, industrial facilities that are subject to section 313 of title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), and industrial facilities that the municipal permit applicant determines are contributing a substantial pollutant loading to the municipal storm sewer system. The program shall:
>
> (1) Identify priorities and procedures for inspections and establishing and implementing control measures for such discharges; (40 C.F.R. § 122.26, subd. (d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) & (C)(1).) [Emphasis added.]

The phase I facilities in the permit are defined to include.

> (i) facilities subject to storm water effluent limitation guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards (40 CFR N); (ii) manufacturing facilities; (iii) oil and gas/mining facilities; (iv) hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities; (v) landfills, land application sites, and open dumps; (vi) recycling facilities; (vii) steam electric power generating facilities; (viii) transportation facilities; (ix) sewage or wastewater treatment works; (x) light manufacturing facilities. (Permit, p. 62)

And the Tier 1 facilities in the permit include municipal landfills, hazardous waste treatment, disposal and recovery facilities and facilities subject to SARA Title III (see permit attachment B, pp. B-1 to B-2). Thus, there is a federal requirement to inspect these phase I and tier 1 facilities in the permit. The issue is whether this requirement constitutes a federal mandate on local agencies. The Commission finds that it does not.

It is the state that mandates the phase I inspection and related activities in that the state freely chooses to impose the inspection and enforcement requirements on the local agency permittees.[105] This is because the federal regulatory scheme provides an alternative means of regulating and inspecting these industrial facilities under the state-enforced, statewide permit, as follows:

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[105] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

(c) Application requirements for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity[106] and stormwater discharges associated with small construction activity -

(1) Individual application. Dischargers of stormwater associated with industrial activity and with small construction activity are required to apply for an individual permit or seek coverage under a promulgated stormwater general permit. Facilities that are required to obtain an individual permit, or any discharge of stormwater which the Director is evaluating for designation (see 124.52(c) of this chapter) under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section and is not a municipal storm sewer, shall submit an NPDES application in accordance with the requirements of § 122.21 as modified and supplemented by the provisions of this paragraph. [Emphasis added.]

The state has issued a statewide general activity industrial permit (GIASP) that is enforced through the regional boards.[107] This, along with the statewide construction permit, is described in the permit itself:

> To facilitate compliance with federal regulations, the State Board has issued two statewide general NPDES permits for stormwater discharges: one for stormwater from industrial sites [NPDES No. CAS000001, General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit (GIASP)] and the other for stormwater from construction sites [NPDES No. CAS000002, General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit (GCASP)]. The GCASP was reissued on August 19, 1999. The GIASP was reissued on April 17, 1997. Facilities discharging stormwater associated with industrial activities and construction projects with a disturbed area of five acres or more are required to obtain individual NPDES permits for stormwater discharges, or to be covered by a statewide general permit by completing and filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the State Board. The USEPA guidance anticipates coordination of the state-administered programs for industrial and construction activities with the local agency program to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the MS4. The Regional Board is the enforcement authority in the Los Angeles Region for the two statewide general permits regulating discharges from industrial facilities and construction sites, and all NPDES stormwater and

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[106] According to 40 CFR § 122.26, (b)(14): "Storm water discharge associated with industrial activity means the discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying storm water and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. ... The following categories of facilities are considered to be engaging in "industrial activity" for purposes of paragraph (b)(14): [¶]...[¶](x) Construction activity including clearing, grading and excavation, except operations that result in the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area. Construction activity also includes the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area that is a part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb five acres or more."

[107] For example, page 2 of the Fact Sheet for the General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit states: "This General Permit shall be implemented and enforced by the nine California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs)."

> non-stormwater permits issued by the Regional Board. These industrial and construction sites and discharges are also regulated under local laws and regulations.[108]

There is nothing in the federal statutes or regulations that would prevent the state (rather than local agencies) from performing the inspections of industrial facilities (specified in part 4C2b of the permit) under the state-enforced general permit. Nor does federal law require the owner or operator of the discharge to perform these activities in part 4C2b of the permit. In fact, the State Board collects fees for the regional boards for performing inspections under the GIASP (see Wat. Code, § 13260, subd. (d)(2)(B)(ii)).

In its April 18, 2008 comments, the State Water Board asserts:

> Because the federal mandate requires Water Boards to choose specific BMPs [Best Management Practices] that are included in MS4 permits as requirements, the 'discretion' exercised in selecting those BMPs is necessarily a part of the federal mandate. It is not comparable to the discretion that the courts in *Hayes* or *San Diego* spoke of, where the state truly had a 'free choice.' The Los Angeles Water Board was mandated by federal law to select BMPs that would result in compliance with the federal MEP [Maximum Extent Practicable] standard. ... Therefore, it is clear that the mere exercise of discretion in selecting BMPs does not create a reimbursable mandate.[109]

The Commission disagrees. Inasmuch as the federal regulation (40 CFR § 122.26 (c)) authorizes coverage under a statewide general permit for the inspections of industrial activities, and the federal regulation (40 CFR § 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(D)) does not expressly require those inspections to be performed by the county or cities (or the "owner or operator of the discharge") the Commission finds that the state has freely chosen[110] to impose these activities on the permittees. Therefore, the Commission finds that there is no federal mandate on the claimants to perform inspections of phase I facilities as specified in part 4C2b of the permit.

As to whether the permit is a state mandate, part 4C2b contains the following mandatory language:

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[108] Permit, page 11, paragraph 22.

[109] State Water Board comments, submitted April 18, 2008, page 15.

[110] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

b) Phase I Facilities[111]

Permittees need not inspect facilities that have been inspected by the Regional Board within the past 24 months. For the remaining Phase I facilities that the Regional Board has not inspected, each Permittee shall conduct compliance inspections as specified below. [Emphasis added.]

Frequency of Inspection

Facilities in Tier 1 Categories:[112] Twice during the 5-year term of the Order, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, and that there is a minimum interval of one year in between the first compliance inspection and the second compliance inspection.

Facilities in Tier 2 Categories:[113] Twice during the 5-year term of the permit, provided that the first inspection occurs no later than August 1, 2004, Permittees need not perform additional inspections at those facilities determined to have no risk of exposure of industrial activity[114] to stormwater. For those facilities that do

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[111] On page 62 of the permit, U.S. EPA Phase I Facilities are defined as "facilities in specified industrial categories that are required to obtain an NPDES permit for storm water discharges, as required by 40 CFR 122.26(c). These categories include: (i) facilities subject to storm water effluent limitation guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards (40 CFR N); (ii) manufacturing facilities; (iii) oil and gas/mining facilities; (iv) hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities; (v) landfills, land application sites, and open dumps; (vi) recycling facilities; (vii) steam electric power generating facilities; (viii) transportation facilities; (ix) sewage or wastewater treatment works; (x) light manufacturing facilities.

[112] Attachment B of the permit (pp. B-1 to B-2) lists the Tier 1 categories as follows (with Phase I facilities listed in italics): "*Municipal landfills ...; Hazardous Waste Treatment, Disposal and Recovery Facilities; Facilities Subject to SARA Title III ...;* Restaurants; *Wholesale trade (scrap, auto dismantling)...;* Automotive service facilities; *Fabricated metal products ...; Motor freight ...; Chemical/allied products ...;* Automotive Dealers/Gas Stations ...; *Primary Metals.*"

[113] Attachment B of the permit (pp. B-1 to B-2) lists the Tier 2 categories as follows (with Phase I facilities listed in italics): "*Electric/Gas/Sanitary...; Air Transportation ...; Rubbers/Miscellaneous Plastics ...; Local/Suburban Transit ...; Railroad Transportation ...; Oil & Gas Extraction ...; Lumber/Wood Products...; Machinery Manufacturing ...; Transportation Equipment ...; Stone, Clay, Glass, Concrete ...; Leather/Leather Products...; Miscellaneous Manufacturing ...; Food and kindred Products...; Mining of Nonmetallic Minerals ...; Printing and Publishing ...; Electric/Electronics ...; Paper and Allied Products ...; Furniture and Fixtures ...;* Laundries ...; *Instruments...; Textile Mills Products ...; Apparel ...*"

[114] "Storm water discharge associated with industrial activity means the discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying storm water and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant. ... The following categories of facilities are considered to be engaging in "industrial activity" for purposes of paragraph (b)(14): [¶]...[¶] (x) Construction activity including clearing, grading and excavation,

have exposure of industrial activities to stormwater, a Permittee may reduce that frequency of additional compliance inspections to once every 5 years, provided that the Permittee inspects at least 20% of the facilities in Tier 2 each year.

Level of Inspection: Each Permittee shall confirm that each operator:

- has a current Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number for facilities discharging stormwater associated with industrial activity, and that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is available on-site, and is effectively implementing BMPs in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP.

Based on this mandatory language to perform the inspections of phase I facilities as specified, the Commission finds that part 4C2b of the permit is a state-mandate.

Inspecting construction sites (part 4E): Part 4E of the permit contains the following requirements:

- Implement a program to control runoff from construction activity at all construction sites within each permittees jurisdiction, and ensure the specified minimum requirements are effectively implemented at all construction sites. (Permit, 4E1.)

  For construction sites one acre or greater, each permittee shall:

- Require the preparation and submittal of a Local SWPPP [Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan], with specified contents, for approval prior to issuing a grading permit for construction projects. (Permit, 4E2a.)
- Inspect all construction sites for stormwater quality requirements during routine inspections a minimum of once during the wet seasons. (Permit, 4E2b.)
- Review the Local SWPPP for compliance with local codes, ordinances, and permits. (Permit, 4E2b.)
- For inspected sites that have not adequately implemented their Local SWPPP, conduct a follow-up inspection to ensure compliance will take place within 2 weeks.
  - If compliance has not been attained, take additional actions to achieve compliance (as specified in municipal codes).
  - If compliance has not been achieved, and the site is also covered under a statewide general construction stormwater permit, enforce the local ordinance requirements, and
  - If non-compliance continues the Regional Board shall be notified for further joint enforcement actions. (Permit, 4E2b.)

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except operations that result in the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area. Construction activity also includes the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area that is a part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb five acres or more." [40 CFR §122.26 (b)(14), Emphasis added.]

- Require by March 10, 2003, before issuing a grading permit for all projects less than five acres requiring coverage under a statewide general construction stormwater permit, proof of a Waste Discharger Identification Number for filing a Notice of Intent for permit coverage and a certification that a SWPPP has been prepared by the project developer. A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs [Best Management Practices] as the State SWPPP (Permit, 4E2c.)
- For sites five acres and greater:
    - Require, prior to issuing a grading permit for all projects requiring coverage under the state general permit, proof of a Waste Discharger Identification (WDID) number for filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the GCASP [General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit] and a certification that a SWPPP has been prepared by the project developer. A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs as the State SWPPP.
    - Require proof of an Notice of Intent (NOI) and a copy of the SWPPP at any time a transfer of ownership takes place for the entire development or portions of the common plan of development where construction activities are still on-going.
    - Use an effective system to track grading permits issued by each permittee. (Permit, 4E3.)
- For projects subject to the GCASP [General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit], permittees shall refer non-filers (i.e., those projects which cannot demonstrate that they have a WDID number) to the Regional Board, within 15 days of making a determination. In making such referrals, permittees shall include, at a minimum, the following documentation: Project location; Developer; Estimated project size; and Records of communication with the developer regarding filing requirements. (Permit, 4E4b.)
- Train employees in targeted positions (whose jobs or activities are engaged in construction activities including construction inspection staff) regarding the requirements of the stormwater management program no later than August 1, 2002, and annually thereafter. For permittees with a population of 250,000 or more (2000 US Census), initial training shall be completed no later than February 3, 2003. Each permittee shall maintain a list of trained employees. (Permit, 4E5.)

The applicable federal regulation (40 CFR § 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(D)) on the issue of whether the inspection of construction sites is a federal mandate is as follows:

> (d) Application requirements for large[115] and medium[116] municipal separate storm sewer discharges. The operator[117] of a discharge from a large or medium

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[115] "(4) Large municipal separate storm sewer system means all municipal separate storm sewers that are either: (i) Located in an incorporated place with a population of 250,000 or more as

municipal separate storm sewer or a municipal separate storm sewer that is designated by the Director under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section, may submit a jurisdiction-wide or system-wide permit application. ... Permit applications for discharges from large and medium municipal storm sewers or municipal storm sewers designated under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section shall include; [¶]...[¶]

(2) Part 2 of the application shall consist of: [¶]...[¶]

(iv) Proposed management program. A proposed management program covers the duration of the permit. It shall include a comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate. The program shall also include a description of staff and equipment available to implement the program. Separate proposed programs may be submitted by each coapplicant. Proposed programs may impose controls on a systemwide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls. Proposed programs will be considered by the Director when developing permit conditions to reduce pollutants in discharges to the maximum extent practicable. Proposed management programs shall describe priorities for implementing controls. Such programs shall be based on: [¶]...[¶]

(D) A description of a program to implement and maintain structural and non-structural best management practices to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff

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determined by the 1990 Decennial Census by the Bureau of the Census (Appendix F of this part); or (ii) Located in the counties listed in appendix H, except municipal separate storm sewers that are located in the incorporated places, townships or towns within such counties; or (iii) Owned or operated by a municipality other than those described in paragraph (b)(4)(i) or (ii) of this section and that are designated by the Director as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system due to the interrelationship between the discharges of the designated storm sewer and the discharges from municipal separate storm sewers described under paragraph (b)(4)(i) or (ii) of this section. ..." (40 CFR § 122.26 (b)(4).)

[116] "(7) Medium municipal separate storm sewer system means all municipal separate storm sewers that are either: (i) Located in an incorporated place with a population of 100,000 or more but less than 250,000, as determined by the 1990 Decennial Census by the Bureau of the Census (Appendix G of this part); or (ii) Located in the counties listed in appendix I, except municipal separate storm sewers that are located in the incorporated places, townships or towns within such counties; or (iii) Owned or operated by a municipality other than those described in paragraph (b)(7)(i) or (ii) of this section and that are designated by the Director as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system due to the interrelationship between the discharges of the designated storm sewer and the discharges from municipal separate storm sewers described under paragraph (b)(7)(i) or (ii) of this section. ..." (40 CFR § 122.26 (b)(7).)

[117] "*Owner or operator* means the owner or operator of any 'facility or activity' subject to regulation under the NPDES program." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

from construction sites to the municipal storm sewer system, which shall include: [¶]...[¶]

(3) A description of procedures for identifying priorities for inspecting sites and enforcing control measures which consider the nature of the construction activity, topography, and the characteristics of soils and receiving water quality; and ... [Emphasis added.]

The language of the federal regulation indicates a duty to inspect construction sites and enforce control measures as specified in part 4E of the permit. The *Rancho Cucamonga* case cited by the State Board also states that federal law requires NPDES permittees to inspect construction sites.[118]

The issue, however, is whether the federal requirements to inspect construction sites and enforce control measures amounts to a federal mandate on the local agencies. The Commission finds that it does not. First, the federal regulations quoted above do not specify the frequency or other specifics of the inspection program as the permit does. These are activities, as in the *Long Beach Unified School Dist.* case discussed above,[119] that are specified actions going beyond the federal requirement for inspections "to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system." (40 C.F.R. § 122.26, subd. (d)(2)(iv)(B)(1).) As such, it is not a federal mandate for the local agency permittees to inspect construction sites.

Moreover, it is the state that mandates the inspections of construction sites and related activities in that the state freely chooses to impose the inspection and enforcement requirements on the local agency permittees.[120] The federal regulations do not require: (1) a municipality to have a separate permit for construction activity or enforcement; or (2) that the inspections and related activities in part 4E of the permit be conducted by the owner or operator of the discharge. Rather, these activities may be conducted by the state under a state-wide, state-enforced, general permit, as stated in the federal stormwater regulation (40 CFR § 122.26 (c)), which states in part:

(c) Application requirements for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity [includes construction activity of five or more acres] and stormwater discharges associated with small construction activity[121] [construction activity from one to less than five acres]--

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[118] *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Bd.-Santa Ana Region, supra,* 135 Cal.App.4th 1377, 1390.

[119] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[120] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

[121] According to 40 CFR § 122.26, (b)(15): "Storm water discharge associated with small construction activity means the discharge of storm water from: (i) Construction activities including clearing, grading, and excavating that result in land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre and less than five acres. Small construction activity also includes the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one and less than five acres. Small construction activity does not include routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the facility. The

(1) Individual application. Dischargers of stormwater associated with industrial activity and with small construction activity are required to apply for an individual permit or seek coverage under a promulgated stormwater general permit. [Emphasis added.]

The state has issued a statewide general construction permit, as described on page 11 of the permit as quoted above, which is enforced through the regional boards.[122] In fact, the State Board collects fees for the regional board for performing inspections under the GCASP (see Wat. Code, § 13260, subd. (d)(2)(B)(ii)).

There is nothing in the federal statutes or regulations that would prevent the state (rather than local agencies) from performing the inspection of construction sites and related activities (in part 4E of the permit) under the state-enforced general permit. Nor does federal law require the owner or operator of the discharge to perform these activities in part 4E of the permit. Therefore, the Commission finds that the requirement for local-agency permittees to inspect construction sites in section 4E of the permit is not a federal mandate.

The Commission finds that, based on the permit's mandatory language, the following activities in part 4E are state mandates on the permittees within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6:

- Implement a program to control runoff from construction activity at all construction sites within each permittee's jurisdiction, and ensure the specified minimum requirements are effectively implemented at all construction sites. (Permit, 4E1.)

  For construction sites one acre or greater:

- Require the preparation of a Local SWPPP [Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan], with specified contents, for approval prior to issuing a grading permit for construction projects. (Permit, 4E2a.)
- Inspect all construction sites for stormwater quality requirements during routine inspections a minimum of once during the wet seasons. (Permit, 4E2b.)
- Review the Local SWPPP for compliance with local codes, ordinances, and permits. (Permit, 4E2b.)
- For inspected sites that have not adequately implemented their Local SWPPP, conduct a follow-up inspection to ensure compliance will take place within 2 weeks.
  - If compliance has not been attained, take additional actions to achieve compliance (as specified in municipal codes).

Director may waive the otherwise applicable requirements in a general permit for a storm water discharge from construction activities that disturb less than five acres where: ..."

[122] For example, page 2 of the Fact Sheet for the General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit states: "This General Permit shall be implemented and enforced by the nine California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs)."

- If compliance has not been achieved, and the site is also covered under a statewide general construction stormwater permit, enforce the local ordinance requirements, and
- If non-compliance continues, notify the Regional Board for further joint enforcement actions. (Permit, 4E2b.)

- Require by March 10, 2003, before issuing a grading permit for all projects less than five acres requiring coverage under a statewide general construction stormwater permit, proof of a Waste Discharger Identification Number for filing a Notice of Intent for permit coverage and a certification that a SWPPP has been prepared by the project developer. A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs [Best Management Practices] as the State SWPPP. (Permit, 4E2c.)
- For sites five acres and greater:
  - Require, prior to issuing a grading permit for all projects requiring coverage under the state general permit, proof of a Waste Discharger Identification (WDID) number for filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the GCASP [General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit] and a certification that a SWPPP has been prepared by the project developer. A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs as the State SWPPP.
  - Require proof of an Notice of Intent (NOI) and a copy of the SWPPP at any time a transfer of ownership takes place for the entire development or portions of the common plan of development where construction activities are still on-going.
  - Use an effective system to track grading permits issued by each permittee. (Permit, 4E3.)
- For projects subject to the GCASP [General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit], permittees shall refer non-filers (i.e., those projects which cannot demonstrate that they have a WDID number) to the Regional Board, within 15 days of making a determination. In making such referrals, permittees shall include, at a minimum, the following documentation: Project location; Developer; Estimated project size; and Records of communication with the developer regarding filing requirements. (Permit, 4E4b.)
- Train employees in targeted positions (whose jobs or activities are engaged in construction activities including construction inspection staff) regarding the requirements of the stormwater management program no later than August 1, 2002, and annually thereafter. For permittees with a population of 250,000 or more (2000 US Census), initial training shall be completed no later than February 3, 2003. Each permittee shall maintain a list of trained employees. (Permit, 4E5.)

One of the requirements in part 4E3c of the permit is to: "Use an effective system to track grading permits issued by each permittee. To satisfy this requirement, the use of a database or

GIS system is encouraged, but not required." The Commission finds that, based on the plain language of this provision, using an effective system to track grading permits is a state mandate, although use of a database or GIS system is not.

Overall, the Commission finds that the permit provisions (parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E & 4F5c3) are subject to article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution.

Issue 2: Do the transit trash receptacle and inspection permit provisions (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E, and 4F5c3) impose a new program or higher level of service?

The next issue is whether the permit provisions at issue, i.e., found above to be state-mandated, are a program, and whether they are a new program or higher level of service.

First, courts have defined a "program" for purposes of article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution, as one that carries out the governmental function of providing public services, or a law that imposes unique requirements on local agencies or school districts to implement a state policy, but does not apply generally to all residents and entities in the state.[123]

The State Water Board, in its April 2008 comments, argues that the NPDES program is not a program because "the NPDES permit program, and the stormwater requirements specifically, are not peculiar to local government. Industrial and construction facilities must also obtain NPDES stormwater permits."

In comments submitted June 25, 2008, the cities call the State Board's argument inapposite, and cite the *Carmel Valley Fire Protection District* case[124] regarding whether the permit constitutes a "program." According to claimant, "[t]he test is not whether the general program applies to both governmental and non-governmental entities. The test is whether the specific executive orders at issue apply to both government and non-governmental entities."

The Commission finds that the permit activities constitute a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6. The permit activities are limited to local governmental entities. The permit defines the "permittees" as the County of Los Angeles and 84 incorporated cities within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Permit, p. 1 & attachment A). The permit lists no private entities as "permittees." Moreover, the permit provides a service to the public by preventing or abating pollution in waterways and beaches in Los Angeles County. (Or as stated on page 13 of the permit: "The objective of this Order is to protect the beneficial uses of receiving waters in Los Angeles County.") Therefore, the Commission finds that the permit is a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.

In its comments on the draft staff analysis submitted June 5, 2009, the State Board disagrees with this conclusion because NPDES permits may also apply to private entities.

The State Board made this same argument in *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates*, which the court addressed by stating: "[T]he applicability of permits to public and private dischargers does not inform us about whether a particular permit or an obligation

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[123] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 874, (reaffirming the test set out in *County of Los Angeles v. State of California, supra,* 43 Cal.3d 46, 56; *Lucia Mar, supra,* 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.)

[124] *Carmel Valley Fire Protection District v. State of California* (1987) 190 Cal.App.3d 521, 537.

thereunder imposed on local governments constitutes a state mandate necessitating subvention under article XIII B, section 6."[125]

In other words, the issue is not whether NPDES permits generally constitute a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6. The only issue before the Commission is whether the permit in this test claim (Los Angeles Regional Quality Control Board Order No. 01-182, Permit CAS004001) constitutes a program because this permit is the only one over which the Commission has jurisdiction. Because they apply exclusively to local agencies, the Commission finds that the activities (parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E & 4F5c3) in this permit (Los Angeles Regional Quality Control Board Order No. 01-182, Permit CAS004001) constitute a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.

The next step to determine whether the permit is a new program or higher level of service, the permit is compared to the legal requirements in effect immediately before its adoption.[126]

The Commission finds that local agencies were not required by state or federal law to place and maintain trash receptacles at transit stops before the permit was adopted. Whether or not most cities or counties do so, as argued by the State Water Board in its April 2008 comments, is not relevant to finding a state-mandated new program or higher level of service because even if they do, Government Code section 17565 states: "If a local agency ... at its option, has been incurring costs which are subsequently mandated by the state, the state shall reimburse the local agency ... for those costs incurred after the operative date of the mandate."

Because the transit trash receptacle requirement is newly mandated by the permit, and based on the plain language of part 4F5c3 of the permit, the Commission finds that it is a new program or higher level of service to place trash receptacles at transit stops and maintain them as specified in the permit.

For the same reason, the Commission finds that the inspections and enforcement activities at industrial and commercial facilities, including restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, automotive dealerships, and phase I facilities (in parts 4C2a & 4C2b of the permit) as well as inspection and enforcement at construction sites (in part 4E of the permit) are a new program or higher level of service. These were not required activities of the permittees prior to the permit's adoption.

In sum, the Commission finds that all the permit provisions at issue in this test claim impose a new program or higher level of service within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution.

Issue 3: Do the transit trash receptacle and inspection permit provisions (Parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E & 4F5c3) impose costs mandated by the state within the meaning of Government Code sections 17514 and 17556?

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[125] *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates* (2007) 150 Cal.App.4th 898, 919.

[126] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 878; *Lucia Mar, supra,* 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.

The final issue is whether the permit provisions impose costs mandated by the state,[127] and whether any statutory exceptions listed in Government Code section 17556 apply to the test claims. Government Code section 17514 defines "cost mandated by the state" as follows:

> [A]ny increased costs which a local agency or school district is required to incur after July 1, 1980, as a result of any statute enacted on or after January 1, 1975, or any executive order implementing any statute enacted on or after January 1, 1975, which mandates a new program or higher level of service of an existing program within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

Government Code section 17564 requires reimbursement claims to exceed $1000 to be eligible for reimbursement.

In test claims 03-TC-20 and 03-TC-21, the cities' claimant representative declares (p. 24) that the cities will incur costs estimated to exceed $1000 to implement the permit conditions.

In test claim 03-TC-04, the County of Los Angeles states (p. 18) that the costs in providing the services claimed "far exceed the minimum reimbursement amount of $1000 per annum." In the attached declaration for *Transit Trash Receptacles*, the County declares (pp. 22-23) the following itemization of costs from December 13, 2001 to October 31, 2002:

> (1) Identify all transit stops in the jurisdiction: $19,989.17;
>
> (2) Select proper trash receptacle design, evaluate proper placement, specification and drawing preparation: $38,461.87;
>
> (3) Preliminary engineering works (construction contract preparation, specification reviewing process, bid advertising and awarding): $19,662.02;
>
> (4) Construct and install trash receptacle units: $230,755.58, construction management $34,628.31;
>
> (5) Trash collection and receptacle maintenance in FY 2002-03, $3,513.94, maintenance contractor costs for maintaining and collecting trash in FY 2002-03, $93,982.50;
>
> (6) Projected costs for on-going maintenance in FY 2003-04, $375,570.00.

Similarly, attached to claim 03-TC-19 (pp. 20-21) are declarations that itemize the County of Los Angeles' costs for *Inspection of Industrial/Commercial Facilities* program, from December 13, 2001 to September 15, 2003, as follows:

> (1) inspect 1744 restaurants: $234,931.83;
>
> (2) inspect 1110 automotive service facilities: $149,526.36;
>
> (3) inspect 249 retail gasoline outlets and automotive dealerships: $33,542.45;
>
> (4) Identify and inspect all Phase I (387 Tier 1 and 543 Tier 2) facilities within the jurisdiction: $125,155.31;
>
> (5) Total $543,155.95.

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[127] *Lucia Mar, supra*, 44 Cal.3d 830, 835; Government Code section 17514.

These declarations illustrate that the costs associated with the permit activities exceed $1,000. The Commission, however, cannot find "costs mandated by the state" within the meaning of Government Code section 17514 if any exceptions in Government Code section 17556 apply, which is discussed below.

A. Did the claimants request the activities in the permit within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (a)?

The first issue is whether the claimants requested the activities in the permit. The Department of Finance and the State Water Board both asserted that they did. As discussed above, the claimants were required to submit a Report of Waste Discharge and Stormwater Quality Management Plan before the permit was issued.

Government Code section 17556, subdivision (a), provides that the Commission shall not find costs mandated by the state if:

> (a) The claim is submitted by a local agency ... that requested legislative authority for that local agency ... to implement the program specified in the statute, and that statute imposes costs upon that local agency or school district requesting the legislative authority. A resolution from the governing body or a letter from a delegated representative of the governing body of a local agency ... that requests authorization for that local agency ... to implement a given program shall constitute a request within the meaning of this subdivision.

Based on the language of the statute, section 17556, subdivision (a), does not apply because the permit is not a statute, the claimants did not request "legislative authority" to implement the permit, and the record lacks any resolutions adopted by the claimants. Therefore, the Commission finds that the claimants did not request the activities in the permit within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (a).

B. Do the claimants have fee authority for the permit activities within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d)?

Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), states:

> The commission shall not find costs mandated by the state, as defined in Section 17514, in any claim submitted by a local agency ... if, after a hearing, the commission finds any one of the following: [¶]...[¶] (d) The local agency ... has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service.

The constitutionality of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), was upheld by the California Supreme Court in *County of Fresno v. State of California*,[128] in which the court held that the term "costs" in article XIII B, section 6, excludes expenses recoverable from sources other than taxes. The court stated:

> Section 6 was included in article XIII B in recognition that article XIII A of the Constitution severely restricted the taxing powers of local governments. (See *County of Los Angeles, supra,* 43 Cal.3d at p. 61.) The provision was intended to

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[128] *County of Fresno v. State of California , supra,* 53 Cal.3d 482.

> preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions onto local entities that were ill equipped to handle the task. (*Ibid.*; see *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist. v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 830, 836, fn. 6 [244 Cal.Rptr. 677, 750 P.2d 318].) Specifically, it was designed to protect the tax revenues of local governments from state mandates that would require expenditure of such revenues. Thus, although its language broadly declares that the "state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse ... local government for the costs [of a state-mandated new] program or higher level of service," read in its textual and historical context section 6 of article XIII B requires subvention only when the costs in question can be recovered *solely from tax revenues.*
>
> In view of the foregoing analysis, the question of the facial constitutionality of section 17556(d) under article XIII B, section 6, can be readily resolved. As noted, the statute provides that "The commission shall not find costs mandated by the state ... if, after a hearing, the commission finds that" the local government "has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service." Considered within its context, the section effectively construes the term "costs" in the constitutional provision as excluding expenses that are recoverable from sources other than taxes. Such a construction is altogether sound. As the discussion makes clear, the Constitution requires reimbursement only for those expenses that are recoverable solely from taxes. It follows that section 17556(d) is facially constitutional under article XIII B, section 6.[129]

In *Connell v. Superior Court,*[130] the dispute was whether local agencies had sufficient fee authority for a mandate involving increased purity of reclaimed wastewater used for certain types of irrigation. The court cited statutory fee authority for the reclaimed wastewater, and noted that the water districts did not dispute their fee authority. Rather, the water districts argued that they lacked "sufficient" fee authority in that it was not economically feasible to levy fees sufficient to pay the mandated costs. In finding the fee authority issue is a question of law, the court stated that Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), is clear and unambiguous, in that its plain language precludes reimbursement where the local agency has the authority, i.e., the right or the power, to levy fees sufficient to cover the costs of the state-mandated program." The court rejected the districts' argument that "authority" as used in the statute should be construed as a "practical ability in light of surrounding economic circumstances" because that construction cannot be reconciled with the plain language of section 17556, and would create a vague standard not capable of reasonable adjudication. The court also said that nothing in the fee authority statute (Wat. Code, § 35470) limited the authority of the Districts to levy fees "sufficient" to cover their costs. Thus, the court concluded that the plain language of section

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[129] *County of Fresno v. State of California, supra,* 53 Cal.3d 482, 487.

[130] *Connell v. Superior Court* (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th 382.

17556 made the fee authority issue solely a question of law, and that the water districts could not be reimbursed due to that fee authority.[131]

In its April 18, 2008 comments (p. 19), the State Board asserted that the claimants have fee authority to pay for the trash receptacle and inspection programs in the permit. Likewise, the Department of Finance, in its March 2008 comments, states that "some local agencies have set fees to be used toward funding the claimed permit activities" that should be considered offsetting revenues.

Los Angeles County, in its comments submitted in June 2008, states (p. 2) that it is "without sufficient fee authority to recover its costs." The County points out that the state or regional board has fee authority in Water Code section 13260, subdivision (d)(2)(B)(iii) for inspections of industrial and commercial facilities, but those fees are not shared with the County or the cities.[132] The County also states that the inspections are to determine compliance with the general industrial permit that is enforced by the regional boards.[133]

In their comments received June 25, 2008, the city claimants assert that they do not have fee authority. The cities first note that, for facilities that hold state-issued general industrial or general construction stormwater permits, the state already imposes an annual fee and therefore has occupied the field (Wat. Code, § 13260, subd. (d)(2)(B)(iii)). The cities also relate the difficulty of imposing a fee for inspecting restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets and automotive dealerships because, although the cities could enact a general businesses license on all businesses, "the cities could not charge other businesses for the cost of inspecting this subgroup without again running the risk of charging fees on the other businesses for services not related to regulation of them." The cities also dispute the State Water Board's assertion that transit users could be charged a fee for the transit trash receptacles because the County and cities do not operate the transit system.

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[131] *Connell v. Superior Court, supra,* 59 Cal.App.4th 382, 398-402.

[132] Water Code section 13260, subdivision (d)(2)(B)(i) - (iii) states:

> (i) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the fees collected pursuant to this section from stormwater dischargers that are subject to a general industrial or construction stormwater permit under the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) shall be separately accounted for in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund. (ii) Not less than 50 percent of the money in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund that is separately accounted for pursuant to clause (i) is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for expenditure by the regional board with jurisdiction over the permitted industry or construction site that generated the fee to carry out stormwater programs in the region. (iii) Each regional board that receives money pursuant to clause (ii) shall spend not less than 50 percent of that money solely on stormwater inspection and regulatory compliance issues associated with industrial and construction stormwater programs.

[133] Page 3 of the General Industrial Permit states in part: "Following adoption of this General Permit, the Regional Water Boards shall enforce its provisions."

In comments on the draft staff analysis submitted in June 2009, the League of California Cities and California State Association of Counties (CSAC) question whether the decisions in *Connell* (1997), and *County of Fresno* (1991), can any longer be cited as good authority for the constitutionality of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), given the voter-approval requirement of Proposition 218 (discussed below) added to the state Constitution in 1996. Proposition 218 requires, among other things, that new or increased property-related fees be approved by a majority of the affected property owners, or two-thirds registered voter approval, or weighted ballot approval by the affected property owners, except for property-related fees for sewer, water, or refuse collection services (Cal. Const., art. XIII D, § 6, subd. (c)).

The League and CSAC also urge the Commission, to the extent there may be legal doubt whether a local agency has the authority to impose a fee, to not find that the fee authority exception to reimbursement in Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), applies.

The Commission disagrees with the League and CSAC. The Commission cannot ignore the precedents of *Connell* or *County of Fresno*, or find that they conflict with article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218), until the issue is decided by a court of law. With regards to Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), article III, section 3.5 of the California Constitution forbids the Commission or any state agency from declaring a statute unenforceable or refusing to enforce it on the basis of its unconstitutionality unless an appellate court declares that it is unconstitutional. Since no appellate court has so declared, the Commission is bound to uphold and analyze the application of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), to this test claim.

The issue of local fee authority for the municipal stormwater permit activities, however, is one of first impression for the Commission. Although there are no authorities directly on point, some legal principles emerge that guide the analysis, as discussed below.

1. Local fee authority to inspect commercial and industrial and construction sites (parts 4C2a, 4C2b & 4E)

Fee authority to inspect under the police power: The law on local government fee authority begins with article XI, section 7, of the California Constitution, which states: "A county or city may make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary, and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws."

The Third District Court of Appeal has stated that article XI, section 7, includes the authority to impose fees. In *Mills v. Trinity County*,[134] a taxpayer challenged a county ordinance that imposed new and increased fees for county services in processing subdivision, zoning, and other land-use applications that had been adopted without the two-thirds affirmative vote of the county electors. In upholding the fees, the court stated:

> [S]o long as the local enactments are not in conflict with general laws, the power to impose valid regulatory fees does not depend on legislatively authorized taxing power but exists pursuant to the direct grant of police power under article XI, section 7, of the California Constitution.[135]

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[134] *Mills v. County of Trinity* (1980) 108 Cal.App.3d 656.

[135] *Mills v. County of Trinity, supra,* 108 Cal.App.3d 656, 662.

In addition to the *Mills* case, courts have held that water pollution prevention is a valid exercise of government police power.[136] And municipal inspections in furtherance of sanitary regulations have been upheld as "an exercise of that branch of the police power which pertains to the public health."[137]

In *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization,* [138] the California Supreme Court upheld a fee imposed on manufacturers of paint that funded a child lead-poisoning program, ruling it was a regulatory fee and not a special tax requiring a two-thirds vote under article XIII A, section 4, of the California Constitution (Proposition 13). The court recognized that determining under Proposition 13 whether impositions were fees or taxes is a question of law. In holding that the fee on paint manufacturers was "regulatory" and not a special tax, the court stated:

> From the viewpoint of general police power authority, we see no reason why statutes or ordinances calling on polluters or producers of contaminating products to help in mitigation or cleanup efforts should be deemed less "regulatory" in nature than the initial permit or licensing programs that allowed them to operate.
>
> Viewed as a mitigating effects measure, [the fee] is comparable in character to several police power measures imposing fees to defray the actual or anticipated adverse effects of various business operations.[139] [Emphasis added.]

The *Sinclair Paint* court also recognized that regulatory fees help to prevent pollution when it stated: "imposition of 'mitigating effects' fees in a substantial amount ... also 'regulates' future conduct by deterring further manufacture, distribution, or sale of dangerous products, and by stimulating research and development efforts to produce safer or alternative products."[140]

Although the court's holding in *Sinclair Paint* applied to a state-wide fee, the language it used (putting "ordinances" in the same category as "statutes") recognizes that local agencies also have the police power to impose regulatory fees. Moreover, the court relied on local government police power cases in its analysis.[141]

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[136] *Freeman v. Contra Costa County Water Dist.* (1971) 18 Cal.App.3d 404, 408.

[137] *Sullivan v. City of Los Angeles Dept. of Bldg. & Safety* (1953) 116 Cal.App.2d 807, 811.

[138] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 866.

[139] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 866, 877.

[140] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 866, 877.

[141] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 866, 873. The Court stated: "Because of the close, 'interlocking' relationship between the various sections of article XIII A (Citation omitted) we believe these "special tax" cases [under article XIII A, § 3, state taxes] may be helpful, though not conclusive, in deciding the case before us. The reasons why particular fees are, or are not, "special taxes" under article XIII A, section 4, [local government taxes] may apply equally to section 3 cases."

A regulatory fee is an imposition that funds a regulatory program[142] and is "enacted for purposes broader than the privilege to use a service or to obtain a permit. ...the regulatory program is for the protection of the health and safety of the public."[143] Courts will uphold regulatory fees if they comply with the following principles:

> Fees charged for the associated costs of regulatory activities are not special taxes under an article XIII A section 4 analysis if the "fees do not exceed the reasonable cost of providing services necessary to the activity for which the fee is charged and [they] are not levied for unrelated revenue purposes." [Citations omitted] "A regulatory fee may be imposed under the police power when the fee constitutes an amount necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of the regulation." [Citations omitted] "Such costs ... include all those incident to the issuance of the license or permit, investigation, inspection, administration, maintenance of a system of supervision and enforcement." [Citations omitted] Regulatory fees are valid despite the absence of any perceived "benefit" accruing to the fee payers. [Citations omitted] Legislators "need only apply sound judgment and consider 'probabilities according to the best honest viewpoint of informed officials' in determining the amount of the regulatory fee."[144] [Emphasis added.]

Local fees for inspections of commercial and industrial facilities, and construction sites, would be preventative and could be imposed to comply with the criteria the courts have used to uphold regulatory fees, articulated above. And the regulatory fees fall within the local police power to prevent, clean up, or mitigate pollution.

Therefore, pursuant to article XI, section 7, the Commission finds that the claimants have fee authority within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), sufficient to carry out the mandated activities in parts 4C2a, 4C2b and 4E of the permit. Therefore, the Commission finds that there are no "costs mandated by the state" within the meaning of Government Code section 17514 and 17556 to perform the activities in those parts of the permit (commercial, phase I, and construction site inspections and related activities).

In fact, in June 2005, claimant Covina adopted stormwater inspection fees on restaurants, retail gasoline outlets, automotive service facilities, etc., as part of its business license fee, expressly for the purpose of complying with the permit at issue in this test claim.[145]

Statutory fee authority to operate and maintain storm drains: Health and Safety Code section 5471 expressly authorizes cities and counties to charge fees for storm drainage maintenance and operation services:

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[142] *California Assn. of Prof. Scientists v. Dept. of Fish and Game* (2000) 79 Cal.App.4th 935, 950.

[143] *Ibid.*

[144] *California Assn. of Prof. Scientists v. Dept. of Fish and Game, supra,* 79 Cal.App.4th 935, 945.

[145] City of Covina, Resolution No. 05-6455.

> [A]any entity[146] shall have power, by an ordinance approved by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body thereof, to prescribe, revise and collect, fees, tolls, rates, rentals, or other charges for services and facilities furnished by it, either within or without its territorial limits, in connection with its water, sanitation, storm drainage, or sewerage system. ... Revenues derived under the provisions in this section, shall be used only for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and operation of water systems and sanitation, storm drainage, or sewerage facilities ....

The statute makes no mention of "inspecting" commercial or industrial facilities or construction sites. Rather, the fee revenues are used for "maintenance and operation" of storm drainage facilities. Thus, for the types of businesses regulated by the permit (restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, automotive dealerships, phase I facilities, as defined, and construction sites) the Commission cannot find that pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 5471, the claimants have fee authority "sufficient" to pay for the mandated inspection program within the meaning of Government Code section 17556. The statute's "operation and maintenance" of storm drainage facilities does not encompass the state-mandated inspections of the facilities or construction sites specified in the permit.

2. Local fee authority under the police power and the Public Resources Code to place and maintain trash receptacles at transit stops (Permit, 4F5c3)

As discussed above, part 4F5c3 of the permit requires the County and cities to place and maintain trash receptacles at transit stops in their jurisdictions. Public Resources Code section 40059, subdivision (a), suggests that the County and cities have fee authority to perform this activity as follows:

> (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each county, city, district, or other local governmental agency may determine all of the following: (1) Aspects of solid waste handling which are of local concern, including, but not limited to, frequency of collection, means of collection and transportation, level of services, charges and fees, and nature, location, and extent of providing solid waste handling services.

The statute gives local governments the authority over the "nature, location and extent of providing solid waste handling services" and is broad enough to encompass "placing and maintaining" receptacles at transit stops. The statute also provides local governments with broad authority over the "level of services, charges and fees."

The draft staff analysis determined that the claimants had fee authority under Public Resources Code section 40059 and the police power (Cal. Const. art. XI, § 7) to install and maintain trash receptacles at transit stops and recommended that the Commission deny the test claim with respect to part 4F5c3 of the permit.

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[146] Entity is defined to include "counties, cities and counties, cities, sanitary districts, county sanitation districts, sewer maintenance districts, and other public corporations and districts authorized to acquire, construct, maintain and operate sanitary sewers and sewerage systems." Health and Safety Code section 5470, subdivision (e).

The city claimants, in June 2009 comments on the draft staff analysis, argue that section 40059, subdivision (a), does not apply here because it was adopted as a "savings provision" in legislation establishing the Integrated Waste Management Board (IWMB) in order to ensure that local trash collection agreements would not be affected by the IWMB legislation. The cities also cite *Waste Resources Technologies v. Department of Public Health* (1994) 23 Cal.app.4th 299, which held that the statute reflected the Legislature's intent to allow for local regulation of waste collection. According to the cities, the statute "was not intended as an *imprimatur* for local agencies to assess fees on their residents or on businesses to pay for the costs of trash generated by transit users when that requirement was established not as a matter of local choice but rather state mandate." (Comments, p. 7.)

The cities also argue that a valid fee must have a causal connection or nexus between the person or entity paying the fee, and the benefit or burden being addressed. Claimants assert that there is no group on which the claimants can assess a fee that has a relationship with the trash receptacles because the burden is created by the transit riders but benefits the public at large. City claimants also argue that they cannot assess fees on transit agencies or increase transit fares to recoup the cost of installing and maintaining trash receptacles because they have no authority to do so. As an example, the claimants cite the Metropolitan Transit Authority's (the largest public transit operator in Los Angeles County) authority to set fares (Pub. Util. Code, § 30638) that rests exclusively with the MTA's board.

As to the police power, City claimants argue that they cannot use it to assess fees on property owners or businesses for the cost of transit trash receptacles because doing so would collect more than the actual cost of the collection and thereby create a special tax that would require a two-thirds vote (Cal. Const. art. XIII A, § 4). And according to the claimants, they do not have statutory fee authority to assess property owners for the cost of installing and maintaining trash receptacles. Finally, claimants assert that a fee on property owners for transit stop trash receptacles, even if it were not a special tax, would require a vote under Proposition 218 (Cal. Const., art. XIII D).

The County of Los Angeles, in its June 2009 comments on the draft staff analysis, argues that local agencies do not have fee authority over bus operators, and for support cites *Biber Electric Co. v. City of San Carlos* (1960) 181 Cal.App.2d 342, which held that a local fee would conflict with a general state Vehicle Code provision. The County also asserts that no fee could be imposed on bus riders because the pollution prevention would benefit all county residents, not only those riding buses, and that such a fee would require a vote under Proposition 218 because the fee's purpose would be excluding trash from storm drains rather than routine collection.

The League of California Cities and CSAC, in their June 2009 comments on the draft staff analysis, criticize the conclusion that fee authority exists for transit trash receptacles because the analysis does not discuss upon whom the fee would be imposed. They also dispute the application of the *Connell* case because the issue is not whether the fee is economically feasible, but whether it is legally feasible. The League and CSAC point out that local agencies have no authority to impose the fee on transit agencies or their ridership, and that Proposition 218 imposes procedural and substantive requirements on adjacent business owners and residences, so that the local agency could not impose the fee or assessment on them without their consent. Thus, the League and CSAC argue that the local agencies do not have fee authority pursuant to

Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d): "sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service."

After considering these arguments, the Commission agrees that Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), does not apply to the placement and maintenance of transit trash receptacles as specified in the permit because the claimants do not have the authority to impose fees.

Michael Lauffer was asked at the Commission hearing on July 31, 2009, why the transit trash requirement in the permit was not imposed on transit agencies. Mr. Lauffer testified that transit agencies were not named historically on the permits, and that the Board, at the time it established the requirements, thought it was appropriate to place them on municipalities. He also testified that nothing would prevent the municipalities under the permit from working with Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) to cooperatively implement the transit trash requirement, or to have the MTA carry out the primary obligation for meeting it. He added that the transit stops were public facilities, the language used in the federal regulations, which is why the permit included the requirement to place the trash receptacles there.[147]

Because the trash receptacles are required to be placed at transit stops that would typically be on city property (sidewalks)[148] or transit district property (for bus or metro or subway stations), there are no entities on which the claimants would have authority to impose the fees. The plain language of Public Resources Code section 40059 provides no fee authority over transit districts or transit riders, and the Metropolitan Transit Authority's fee statutes grant fee authority exclusively to its board (Pub. Util. Code, §§ 30638 & 130051.12).

Additionally, the claimants do not have fee authority under the police power because they do not provide the "services necessary to the activity for which the fee is charged."[149]

Thus, the Commission finds that part 4F5c3 of the permit imposes costs mandated by the state within the meaning of Government Code section 17514 and 17556.

The remainder of this analysis addresses the arguments raised by the claimants that their local fee authority for inspections would be preempted by a statute granting the state fee authority, and that a local fee would be a special tax. The application of Proposition 218 on the fee authority for inspection is also discussed.

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[147] Commission on State Mandates, Public Hearing, Reporter's Transcript of Proceedings, July 31, 2009, pages 52-53.

[148] "The general rule views the sidewalk as part of the street; it ... holds the city liable for pedestrian injuries caused by the dangerous condition of the sidewalk." *Low v. City of Sacramento* (1970) 7 Cal.App.3d 826, 832.

[149] *California Assn. of Prof. Scientists v. Dept of Fish and Game, supra,* 79 Cal.App.4th, 935, 945.

3. Local fee authority to inspect industrial or construction sites (parts 4C2a, 4C2b & 4E) performed under the statewide general permits would not be preempted by state fee authority in Water Code section 13260, subdivision (b)(2)(B)

In their comments submitted in June 2008 (p. 14), the city claimants argue that the permittees cannot impose fees for inspections of industrial or commercial or construction sites as follows:

> [W]ith respect to facilities that hold state-issued general industrial or general construction stormwater permits, the state had occupied the field. ...[T]he state already imposes an annual fee on general industrial and general construction stormwater permittees. That fee is explicitly designated, in part, to cover inspections of these facilities and regulatory compliance. Water Code § 13260(d)(2)(B).
>
> This state fee thus preempts any fee that the Cities or County could charge for inspection of these facilities.

The cities also assert that in 2001, the regional board initiated negotiation of a contract with the County whereby the regional board would pay the County to perform inspections of facilities that held general industrial stormwater permits (the 'Phase I facilities') on the regional board's behalf. Immediately after the permit was issued, the regional board terminated those negotiations.

In comments submitted in June 2009 on the draft staff analysis, city claimants clarify that their comments "are not directed towards the claimants' ability to assess fees for inspections of the other commercial establishments, i.e., restaurants and automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets and automobile dealerships, or Phase I facilities or construction sites that are not required to hold a state-issued general industrial or general construction stormwater permit."

According to the city claimants, fees for inspecting the phase I industrial facilities and construction sites under the statewide permits (the GIASP and GCASP) would be preempted by state fee authority in Water Code section 13260, under which the State Board collects fees for inspecting those sites. The city claimants state the fact that the specific destination of the funds from the fees in Water Code section 13260, subdivision (d)(2)(iii) is spelled out is evidence of intent that the Legislature fully occupied the field for inspections of GIASP and GCASP permit holders.

Because the fee authority to inspect commercial facilities (identified in the permit as restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets and automotive dealerships) is not contested by the city claimants, the discussion below is limited to industrial and construction site inspections performed under the statewide permits concurrently with the permit at issue in this claim.

The California Supreme Court has outlined the following rules as to when a statute preempts a local ordinance by fully occupying the field:

> A local ordinance *enters a field fully occupied* by state law in either of two situations-when the Legislature "expressly manifest[s]" its intent to occupy the legal area or when the Legislature "impliedly" occupies the field. (*Sherwin-Williams, supra,* 4 Cal.4th at p. 898, 16 Cal.Rptr.2d 215, 844 P.2d 534; see also 8 Witkin, Summary of Cal. Law (10th ed. 2005) Constitutional Law, § 986, p.

551["[W]here the Legislature has manifested an intention, expressly or by implication, wholly to occupy the field ... municipal power [to regulate in that area] is lost."].)

When the Legislature has not expressly stated its intent to occupy an area of law, we look to whether it has *impliedly* done so. This occurs in three situations: when " '(1) the subject matter has been so fully and completely covered by general law as to clearly indicate that it has become exclusively a matter of state concern; (2) the subject matter has been partially covered by general law couched in such terms as to indicate clearly that a paramount state concern will not tolerate further or additional local action; or (3) the subject matter has been partially covered by general law, and the subject is of such a nature that the adverse effect of a local ordinance on the transient citizens of the state outweighs the possible benefit to the' locality." (*Sherwin-Williams, supra,* 4 Cal.4th at p. 898, 16 Cal.Rptr.2d 215, 844 P.2d 534.)[150]

The state statute at issue, the stormwater fee statute, in subdivision (d) of section 13260 of the Water Code, reads in pertinent part:

(d)(1)(A) Each person who is subject to subdivision (a) [who discharges waste that affects the quality of waters of the state] or (c) shall submit an annual fee according to a fee schedule established by the state board.

(B) The total amount of annual fees collected pursuant to this section shall equal that amount necessary to recover costs incurred in connection with the issuance, administration, reviewing, monitoring, and enforcement of waste discharge requirements and waivers of waste discharge requirements.

(C) Recoverable costs include, but are not limited to, costs incurred in reviewing waste discharge reports, prescribing terms of waste discharge requirements and monitoring requirements, enforcing and evaluating compliance with waste discharge requirements and waiver requirements, conducting surface water and groundwater monitoring and modeling, analyzing laboratory samples, and reviewing documents prepared for the purpose of regulating the discharge of waste, and administrative costs incurred in connection with carrying out those actions. [¶]...[¶]

(2) Subject to subparagraph (B), any fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund which is hereby created. The money in the fund is available for expenditure by the state board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for the purposes of carrying out this division.

(B) (i) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the fees collected pursuant to this section from stormwater dischargers that are subject to a general industrial or construction stormwater permit under the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) shall be separately accounted for in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund.

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[150] *O'Connell v. City of Stockton* (2007) 41 Cal.4th 1061, 1068. Emphasis in original.

> (ii) Not less than 50 percent of the money in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund that is separately accounted for pursuant to clause (i) is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for expenditure by the regional board with jurisdiction over the permitted industry or construction site that generated the fee to carry out stormwater programs in that region. (iii) Each regional board that receives money pursuant to clause (ii) shall spend not less than 50 percent of that money solely on stormwater inspection and regulatory compliance issues associated with industrial and construction stormwater programs. (Wat. Code, § 13260, subds. (d)(1) & (d)(2).) [Emphasis added.]

The State Water Board has adopted regulations to implement the stormwater fee that include fee schedules based on the threat to water quality and a complexity rating.[151] At the hearing on July 31, 2009, Michael Lauffer of the State Water Board testified that the fee is established annually by the State Board, based on the legislative appropriation for the boards to carry out their responsibilities. Mr. Lauffer testified that the annual fee for industrial facilities under this Water Code statute is $833, and the fee for construction facilities is variable, starting at $238, plus $24 per acre, with a cap of $2,600. [152]

The issue is whether Water Code section 13260, subdivision (d)(1) and (d)(2), preempts local fee authority. In resolving this, we look for express or implied preemption or intent to occupy the field.[153]

First, there is no express intent on the face of the Water Code statute to preempt any local fee ordinance because the statute is silent on local fees. As to implied intent to occupy the field of law, the Supreme Court has stated that it may be found if:

> (1) the subject matter has been so fully and completely covered by general law as to clearly indicate that it has become exclusively a matter of state concern; (2) the subject matter has been partially covered by general law couched in such terms as to indicate clearly that a paramount state concern will not tolerate further or additional local action; or (3) the subject matter has been partially covered by general law, and the subject is of such a nature that the adverse effect of a local ordinance on the transient citizens of the state outweighs the possible benefit to the locality.[154]

The city claimants, in their comments on the draft staff analysis submitted in June 2009, argue as follows with regard to Water Code section 13260:

> Here, the Legislature adopted a statute that specifically established a mechanism for fees to be assessed on GIASP and GCASP holders, for those funds to be

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[151] Fees for NPDES permits for municipal separate stormwater sewer systems are in subdivision (b) of section 2200 of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

[152] Commission on State Mandates, Public Hearing, Reporter's Transcript of Proceedings, July 31, 2009, page 111.

[153] *O'Connell v. City of Stockton, supra,* 41 Cal.4th 1061, 1068.

[154] *O'Connell v. City of Stockton, supra,* 41 Cal.4th 1061, 1068.

> segregated and sent to the regional boards, and for a specified amount of those funds ("not less than 50 percent of the money") to be used by the regional boards "solely" on stormwater inspection and regulatory compliance issues associated with industrial and construction stormwater programs. Water Code section 13260(d)(2)(iii). Such a specific determination as to the destination of the funds for the purposes of inspection and compliance evidences the intent of the Legislature that the issue of funding for GIASP and GCASP inspections be "fully occupied."

The Commission disagrees. Specific determination of funds is not a factor the courts use to determine whether a state statute fully occupies the field. Applying the Supreme Court's factors from the *O'Connell v. City of Stockton* case, the subject matter of stormwater fees has not been "so fully and completely covered by general law as to clearly indicate that it has become exclusively a matter of state concern."[155] The Water Code's single fee statute for state permit holders does not rise to that level. Second, the Commission cannot find that "the subject matter has been partially covered by general law couched in such terms as to indicate clearly that a paramount state concern will not tolerate further or additional local action."[156] No clear indication of a paramount state concern can be found on the face of the Water Code fee statute. And the third instance does not apply because the subject is not "of such a nature that the adverse effect of a local ordinance on the transient citizens of the state outweighs the possible benefit to the locality."

The legislative history of the Water Code provision does not indicate any intent to occupy the field. The legislative history of the amendment to require 50 percent of the fees to be used for stormwater inspection and regulatory compliance issues indicated as follows:

> ...California's 1994 Water Quality Inventory Report states that storm waters and urban run-off are the leading sources of pollution in California estuaries and ocean waters. Proponents argue that non-compliance is rampant, with approximately 10,000 industries in the Los Angeles area alone who are required but have failed to obtain storm water permits. Further, proponents point out that the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board has only two staff to contact, educate, and control each site and question whether adequate revenues are returned to the regional boards for this program.[157]

The Legislature acknowledged that the state inspections at the time the statute was enacted were inadequate to prevent the pollution that the statewide permits were intended to prevent.

And the regional board, via the permit, acknowledges the role of both local regulation and state regulation under the general permits. Page 11 of the permit states:

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[155] *O'Connell v. City of Stockton, supra,* 41 Cal.4th 1061, 1068.

[156] *Ibid.*

[157] Senate Rules Committee, Office of Senate Floor Analyses, third reading analysis of Assem. Bill No. 1186 (1997-1998 Reg. Sess.) as amended August 6, 1997.

> The U.S. EPA guidance anticipates coordination of the state-administered programs for industrial and construction activities with the local agency program to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges to the MS4. The Regional Board is the enforcement authority in the Los Angeles Region for the two statewide general permits regulating discharges from industrial facilities and construction sites, and all NPDES stormwater and non-stormwater permits issued by the Regional Board. These industrial and construction sites and discharges are also regulated under local laws and regulations.

As to inspection of construction sites, section 4E of the permit states:

> If compliance has not been achieved, and the site is also covered under a statewide general construction stormwater permit, each Permittee shall enforce their local ordinance requirements, and if non-compliance continues the Regional Board shall be notified for further joint enforcement actions.

Moreover, the Water Code statute provides broader fee authority than a local inspection fee. The statute requires the regional board to "spend not less than 50 percent of that money solely on stormwater inspection and regulatory compliance issues associated with industrial and construction stormwater programs." (Wat. Code, § 13260, subd. (d)(2)(iii). Emphasis added.) Because the fees for GIASP and GCASP permit holders may also be spent on "regulatory compliance issues" in addition to the inspections, the Commission cannot find that a local fee ordinance would duplicate or be "coextensive" with state fee authority, and therefore cannot find that the state fee statute occupies the field. A local fee would merely partially overlap with the state fee.

As for the phase I facilities[158] subject to inspection, the inspections do not occupy the field because the permit specifies that these need not be inspected if the regional board has inspected them within the past 24 months.

According to the State Board's April 2008 comments, the overlapping fees were envisioned by U.S./EPA.

> In addition to the requirements for permits issued to municipalities, the Water Boards are also mandated to issue permits to entities that discharge stormwater "associated with industrial activity." (fn. CWA § 402(p)(2)(B)). As part of its responsibilities for its in lieu program, the State Boards must administer and enforce all of its permits. (fn. CWA § 402(p).) The State Water Board has issued

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[158] On page 62 of the permit, U.S. EPA Phase I Facilities are defined as "facilities in specified industrial categories that are required to obtain an NPDES permit for storm water discharges, as required by 40 CFR 122.26(c). These categories include: (i) facilities subject to storm water effluent limitation guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards (40 CFR N); (ii) manufacturing facilities; (iii) oil and gas/mining facilities; (iv) hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities; (v) landfills, land application sites, and open dumps; (vi) recycling facilities; (vii) steam electric power generating facilities; (viii) transportation facilities; (ix) sewage or wastewater treatment works; (x) light manufacturing facilities.

> permits for industrial and construction discharges of stormwater, and the Los Angeles Water Board administers those permits within its jurisdiction. Therefore, the Los Angeles Water Board does conduct inspections at businesses in Los Angeles County to ensure compliance with the state permits. In addition, the MS4 Permit requires the permittees also to conduct inspections. This approach, which may result in two different entities inspecting the same businesses to review stormwater practices, was specifically envisioned and required by U.S. EPA in adopting its stormwater regulations.

U.S./EPA, in its "MS4 Program Evaluation Guidance" document, acknowledged regulation at both the local and state levels as follows:[159]

> In addition to regulation of construction site stormwater at the local level, EPA regulations also require construction sites disturbing greater than one acre to obtain an NPDES permit. This permit can be issued by the state permitting authority or EPA, depending on whether the state has been delegated the NPDES authority. This dual regulation of construction sites at both the local and state or federal level can be confusing to permittees and construction operators.[160]

In fact, as to inspection duties and costs under two permit systems, one court has stated regarding a permit similar to the one in this claim:

> Rancho Cucamonga and the other permittees are responsible for inspection construction and industrial sites and commercial facilities within their jurisdiction for compliance with the enforcement of local municipal ordinance and permits. But the Regional Board continues to be responsible under the 2002 NPDES permit for inspections under the general permits.[161]

The reasoning of the *City of Rancho Cucamonga* case is instructive because a local regulatory fee could be used for local-government inspections, and the state fee is for state or regional inspections under the general statewide permits.

The state permit program and local inspection program under the regional board's permit can be viewed as two programs with similar, overlapping goals. Viewed in this way, the fees for two sets of inspections for construction sites (or for phase I facilities not inspected by the regional board within the past two years) would not necessarily exceed the costs of both sets of inspections.

In short, a local regulatory fee ordinance that provided for inspections of the industrial facilities and construction sites specified in the permit (parts 4C2a, 4C2b & 4E) would not be preempted

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[159] State Water Resources Control Board, comments submitted April 18, 2008, attachment 33.

[160] *Ibid.*

[161] *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Board, supra,* 135 Cal.App.4th 1377. The test claim record is silent as to the number of facilities within the permit area that are subject to the General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit, or how many construction sites within the permit area are subject to the General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit.

by the state fee authority in Water Code section 13260 or in title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

4. Local fee authority to inspect industrial or construction sites covered under the state permits would not be a "special tax" under article XIII A, section 4, of the California Constitution

In their June 2008 rebuttal comments, the city claimants assert that they do not have sufficient fee authority under Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d). They focus on facilities that hold state-issued general industrial or construction stormwater permits and pay the state-imposed fees pursuant to Water Code section 13260, arguing that an additional local fee for inspecting these facilities would be considered a special tax. According to the city claimants:

> In order for a fee to be considered a "fee" as opposed to a "special tax," the fee cannot exceed the reasonable cost of providing the services necessary for which the fee is charged. See *Mills v. County of Trinity* (1980) 108 Cal.App.3d 656, 659-660. Any fee assessed by the Cities or the County for inspection of these facilities would be a double assessment, and thus run afoul of this rule.

The city claimants, in their June 2009 comments on the draft staff analysis, again assert that forcing claimants to recover their costs for inspecting the state-permitted GIASP and GCASP facilities and sites, the regional board is creating a special tax on holders of those state permits.

Special taxes are governed by article XIII A, section 4, of the California Constitution:

> Cities, Counties and special districts, by a two-thirds vote of the qualified electors of such district, may impose special taxes on such district, except ad valorem taxes on real property or a transaction tax or sales tax on the sale of real property within such City, County or special district.

Government Code section 50076 states that a fee is not a special tax under article XIII A, section 4, if the fees are: (1) "charged in connection with regulatory activities which fees do not exceed the reasonable cost of providing services necessary to the activity for which the fee is charged," and (2) "are not levied for unrelated revenue purposes." The California Supreme Court has reaffirmed this rule.[162]

The Commission finds that a local regulatory stormwater fee, if appropriately calculated and charged, would not be a special tax within the meaning of article XIII A, section 4. There is no evidence in the record that a local regulatory fee charged for the stormwater inspections would exceed the reasonable cost of providing the inspections and related services or would otherwise violate the criteria in section 50076.

As the court stated in the *Connell v. Superior Court* case discussed above:

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[162] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization, supra,* 15 Cal.4th at p. 876: "[T]he term "special taxes" in article XIII A, section 4, does not embrace fees charged in connection with regulatory activities which fees do not exceed the reasonable cost of providing services necessary to the activity for which the fee is charged and which are not levied for unrelated revenue purposes."

> The [Water] Districts argue any fees levied by the districts "cannot exceed the cost to the local agency to provide such service," because such excessive fees would constitute a special tax. However, the districts fail to explain how this is an issue. No one is suggesting the districts levy fees that exceed their costs.[163]

Similarly, in this claim no one is suggesting that the local agencies levy regulatory fees that exceed their costs. Therefore, the Commission finds that a local regulatory fee for stormwater would not be a "special tax" under article XIII A, section 4, of the California Constitution for the activities at issue in the permit.

5. The local fee to inspect industrial and construction sites would not be subject to voter approval under article XIII D (Proposition 218) of the California Constitution

Some local government fees are subject to voter approval under article XIII D of the California Constitution, as added by Proposition 218 (1996). Article XIII D defines a property-related fee or charge as any levy other than an ad valorem tax, a special tax, or an assessment, imposed by an agency on a parcel or a person as an incident of property ownership, including a user fee or charge for a property-related service. Among other things, new or increased property-related fees require a majority-vote of the affected property owners, or two-thirds registered voter approval, or weighted ballot approval by the affected property owners (article XIII D, § 6, subd. (c)). Exempt from voter approval, however, are property-related fees for sewer, water, or refuse collection services (*Ibid*).

In 2002, an appellate court decision in *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association v. City of Salinas* (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1351, found that a city's charges on developed parcels to fund stormwater management were property-related fees, and were not covered by Proposition 218's exemption for "sewer" or "water" services. This means that an election would be required to impose storm water fees if they are imposed "as an incident of property ownership."

The Commission finds that local fees for inspections of phase I facilities, restaurants, retail gasoline outlets, automotive dealerships, etc., would not be subject to the vote requirement of Proposition 218. In a case involving inspections of apartments in the City of Los Angeles in which a fee was charged to landlords, the California Supreme Court ruled that the regulatory fee for inspecting apartments was not a "levy ... upon a parcel or upon a person as an incident of property ownership, including a user fee or charge for a property-related service" [164] within the meaning of Proposition 218. The court interpreted the phrase "incident of property ownership" as follows:

> The foregoing language means that a levy may not be imposed on a property owner as such-i.e., in its capacity as property owner-unless it meets constitutional prerequisites. In this case, however, the fee is imposed on landlords not in their capacity as landowners, but in their capacity as business owners. The exaction at issue here is more in the nature of a fee for a business license than a charge

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[163] *Connell v. Superior Court, supra,* 59 Cal.App.4th 382, 402.

[164] That is the definition of "fee" or "charge" in article XIII D, section 2, subdivision (e).

against property. It is imposed only on those landowners who choose to engage in the residential rental business, and only while they are operating the business.[165]

[¶]...[¶] In other words, taxes, assessments, fees, and charges are subject to the constitutional strictures when they burden landowners *as landowners.* The [City of Los Angeles'] ordinance does not do so: it imposes a fee on its subjects by virtue of their ownership of a business-i.e., because they are landlords.[166]

Following the reasoning of the *Apartment Assoc.* case, the inspection fees on restaurants, retail gasoline outlets, automotive dealerships, phase I facilities, etc., like the fee in *Apartment Assoc.*, would not be imposed on landowners as landowners, nor as an incident of property ownership, but by virtue of business ownership. Thus, the inspection fee would fall outside the voter requirement of Proposition 218.

As to the fees for inspecting construction sites, the Commission finds that they too would not be subject to Proposition 218's voter requirement. Article XIII D of the California Constitution states that it shall not be construed to "affect existing laws relating to the imposition of fees or charges as a condition of property development."[167]

Moreover, the California Supreme Court, in determining whether water connection fees are within the purview of Proposition 218, reasoned that "water service" fees were within the meaning of "property-related services" but "water connection" fees were not.

> Rather, we conclude that a water service fee is a fee or charge under article XIII D if, but only if, it is imposed "upon a person as an incident of property ownership." (Art. XIII D, § 2, subd. (e).) A fee for ongoing water service through an existing connection is imposed "as an incident of property ownership" because it requires nothing other than normal ownership and use of property. But a fee for making a new connection to the system is not imposed "as an incident of property ownership" because it results from the owner's voluntary decision to apply for the connection.[168]

The Supreme Court's reasoning applies to local stormwater fees for inspecting construction sites. That is, the fee would not be an incident of property ownership because it results from the owner's voluntary decision to build on or develop the property. Therefore, the Commission finds that local inspection fees for stormwater compliance at construction sites would not be within the purview of the election requirement of Proposition 218. A recent report by the Office of the Legislative Analyst concurs with this conclusion.[169]

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[165] *Apartment Assoc. of Los Angeles County v. City of Los Angeles* (2001) 24 Cal.4th 830, 839-840.

[166] *Id.* at 842 [Emphasis in original.]

[167] Article XIII D, section 1, subdivision (b).

[168] *Richmond v. Shasta Community Services Dist.* (2004) 32 Cal.4th 409, 427.

[169] "Local governments finance stormwater clean–up services from revenues raised from a variety of fees and, less frequently, through taxes. Property owner fees for stormwater services typically require approval by two–thirds of the voters, or a majority of property owners.

In its June 2009 comments, the County disagrees that stormwater pollution fees would not be subject to the voter requirement in Proposition 218, or that fee authority exists. In support, the County points to unadopted legislation pending in the current or in past legislative sessions that would provide fee authority or expressly exempt stormwater fees from the Proposition 218 voting requirement. For example SCA 18 (2009) would add "stormwater and urban runoff management" fees to those expressly exempted from the vote requirement in article XIII D, putting them in the same category as trash and sewer fees. SB 2058 (2002) would have required the regional water boards to share their fees with counties and cities. And SB 210 (2009) would provide cities and counties with stormwater regulatory or user-based fee authority.

The Commission finds that the unadopted legislative proposals cited by the County are unconvincing to show a lack of regulatory fee authority for business inspections as discussed above. First, courts have said that "As evidence of legislative intent, unadopted proposals have been held to have little value."[170] Second, if they were enacted, the legislative proposals would grant broader fee authority than is found in this analysis. For example, SCA 18, by adding a stormwater exception from the vote requirement in Proposition 218, would authorize *user* fees on residential property for stormwater and urban runoff programs, whereas this analysis addresses the much narrower issue of *regulatory* fees on businesses for inspections. Likewise, SB 2058 would have required the State Board's permit fees to be shared with "counties and cities" for the broad purpose of carrying out stormwater programs rather than for the narrower purpose of inspecting businesses. And SB 210 would likewise provide fee authority that is broader than regulatory fees; as the May 28, 2009 version expressly states in proposed section 16103, subdivision (c), of the Water Code: "The fees authorized under subdivision (a) may be imposed as user-based or regulatory fees consistent with this chapter." In short, the legislative proposals cited by the County do not indicate that fee authority does not exist. Rather, the proposals would, if enacted, provide broader fee authority than now exists.

In comments received June 3, 2009, the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) contends that many permit requirements relate to local communities and their residents rather than specific business activities, and require public services that are essentially incident to real property ownership, and/or may only be financed via fees that remain subject to the voting requirements of Proposition 218 or increased property taxes. BASMAA also states that many permit activities would fall on joint power authorities or special districts that have no fee authority, or for which exemptions from Proposition 218 would not be applicable. BASMAA requests that the analysis be revised to revisit the conclusions regarding "funded vs. unfunded" requirements, and to recognize and distinguish the many types of stormwater activities for which regulatory fees would not apply.

Developer fees and fees imposed on businesses that contribute to urban runoff, in contrast, are not restricted by Proposition 218 and may be approved by a vote of the governing body. Taxes for stormwater services require approval by two–thirds of the electorate." Office of the Legislative Analyst. *California's Water: An LAO Primer* (October 22, 2008) page 56.

[170] *County of Sacramento v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2007) 153 Cal.App.4th 1579, 1590.

The Commission disagrees. BASMAA raises issues that are outside the scope of the portions of the Los Angeles stormwater permit (parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E & 4Fc3) that were pled by the test claimants. Because the Commission's jurisdiction is limited by those parts of the permit pled in the test claim, it cannot opine on other issues outside the pleadings, even if it would raise issues closely related to other NPDES permits (or even other parts of this NPDES permit).

In sum, the Commission finds that the inspections and related activities at issue in the Los Angeles stormwater permit are not subject to voter approval in article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218), so a regulatory fee ordinance for stormwater inspections would not be subject to voter approval.

Given the existence of local regulatory fee authority under the police power (Cal. Const, art. XI, § 7), and lacking any evidence or information to the contrary, the Commission finds that the claimants' authority to adopt a regulatory fee is sufficient (pursuant to Gov. Code, § 17556, subd. (d)) to pay for the inspections of restaurants, automotive service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, automotive dealerships, phase I facilities, as defined, and construction sites, and related activities specified in the permit. Therefore, for the inspections and related activities at issue, the Commission finds that there are no "costs mandated by the state" within the meaning of Government Code sections 17514 and 17556.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, the Commission finds that the following activity in part 4F5c3 of the permit is a reimbursable state mandate within the meaning of Government Code sections 17514 and 17556: For local agencies subject to the permit that are not subject to a trash TMDL[171] to: "Place trash receptacles at all transit stops within its jurisdiction that have shelters no later than August 1, 2002, and at all transit stops within its jurisdiction no later than February 3, 2003. All trash receptacles shall be maintained as necessary."

The Commission also finds that the remainder of the permit (parts 4C2a, 4C2b & 4E) does not impose costs mandated by the state within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution because the claimants have fee authority (under Cal. Const. article XI, § 7) within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), sufficient to pay for the activities in those parts of the permit.

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[171] A Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards.

Abbreviations

BMP - Best management practice

CWA – Clean Water Act

GCASP - General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit

GIASP - General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit

MS4 - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems

NOI - Notice of Intent for coverage under the GCASP

NPDES - national pollutant discharge elimination system

RGO - Retail Gasoline Outlet

ROWD – Report of Waste Discharge

SQMP - Storm Water Quality Management Program

SWPPP - Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan

TMDL - Total Maximum Daily Load

U.S. EPA – United States Environmental Protection Agency

WDID - Waste Discharger Identification

Tab 19

BEFORE THE

COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE TEST CLAIM ON: San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Order No. R9-2007-0001 Permit CAS0108758 Parts D.1.d.(7)-(8), D.1.g., D.3.a.(3), D.3.a.(5), D.5, E.2.f, E.2.g, F.1, F.2, F.3, I.1, I.2, I.5, J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii & x-xv, and L. Filed June 20, 2008, by the County of San Diego, Cites of Carlsbad, Del Mar, Imperial Beach, Lemon Grove, Poway, San Marcos, Santee, Solana Beach, Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Encinitas, Escondido, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Oceanside, San Diego, and Vista, Claimants.	Case No.: 07-TC-09 *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff - Order No. R9-2007-0001* STATEMENT OF DECISION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 17500 ET SEQ.; TITLE 2, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 2.5, ARTICLE 7. *(Adopted on March 26, 2010)*

STATEMENT OF DECISION

The Commission on State Mandates ("Commission") heard and decided this test claim during a regularly scheduled hearing on March 26, 2010. Tim Barry, John VanRhyn, Helen Peak, Shawn Hagerty and James Lough appeared on behalf of the claimants. Elizabeth Jennings appeared on behalf of the State Water Resources Control Board. Carla Shelton and Susan Geanacou appeared on behalf of the Department of Finance.

The law applicable to the Commission's determination of a reimbursable state-mandated program is article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, Government Code section 17500 et seq., and related case law.

The Commission adopted the staff analysis to partially approve the test claim at the hearing by a vote of 6-1.

Summary of Findings

The test claim, filed by the County of San Diego and several cities, alleges various activities related to reducing stormwater pollution in compliance with a permit issued by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, a state agency.

The Commission finds that the following activities in the permit (as further specified on pp. 122-132 below) are a reimbursable state-mandated new program or higher level of service within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution:

- street sweeping (permit part D.3.a(5));
- street sweeping reporting (part J.3.a.(3)(c) x-xv);
- conveyance system cleaning (part D.3.a.(3));
- conveyance system cleaning reporting (J.3.a.(3)(c)(iv)-(viii));
- educational component (part D.5.a.(1)-(2) & D.5.b.(1)(c)-(d) & D.5.(b)(3));
- watershed activities and collaboration in the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program (part E.2.f & E.2.g);
- Regional Urban Runoff Management Program (parts F.1., F.2. & F.3);
- program effectiveness assessment (parts I.1 & I.2);
- long-term effectiveness assessment (part I.5) and
- all permittee collaboration (part L.1.a.(3)-(6)).

The Commission also finds that the following test claim activities are not reimbursable because the claimants[1] have fee authority sufficient (within the meaning of Gov. Code § 17556, subd. (d)) to pay for them: hydromodification management plan (part D.1.g) and low-impact development (parts D.1.d.(7) & D.1.d.(8)), as specified below.

Further, the Commission finds the following would be identified as offsetting revenue in the parameters and guidelines:

- Any fees or assessments approved by the voters or property owners for any activities in the permit, including those authorized by Public Resources Code section 40059 for street sweeping or reporting on street sweeping, and those authorize by Health and Safety Code section 5471, for conveyance-system cleaning, or reporting on conveyance-system cleaning; and
- Any proposed fees that are not subject to a written protest by a majority of parcel owners and that are imposed for street sweeping.
- Effective January 1, 2010, fees imposed pursuant to Water Code section 16103 only to the extent that a local agency voluntarily complies with Water Code section 16101 by developing a watershed improvement plan pursuant to Statutes 2009, chapter 577, and the Regional Board approves the plan and incorporates it into the test claim permit to satisfy the requirements of the permit.

BACKGROUND

The claimants allege various activities for reducing stormwater pollution in compliance with a permit issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, (Regional Board), a state agency. Before discussing the specifics of the permit, an overview of the permit's purpose, and municipal stormwater pollution in general, puts the permit in context.

[1] In this analysis, claimants and the permit term "copermittees" are used interchangeably, even though two of the copermittees (the San Diego Unified Port District and San Diego County Regional Airport Authority) are not claimants. The following are the claimants and copermittees that are subject to the permit requirements: Carlsbad, Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Encinitas, Escondido, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Oceanside, Poway, San Diego, San Marcos, Santee, Solana Beach, Vista, County of San Diego.

Municipal Stormwater

The purpose of the permit is to specify "requirements necessary for the copermittees[2] to reduce the discharge of pollutants in urban runoff to the maximum extent practicable (MEP)." Each of the copermittees or dischargers "owns or operates a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4),[3] through which it discharges urban runoff into waters of the United States within the San Diego region."

Stormwater[4] runoff flowing untreated from urban streets directly into creeks, streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean, creates pollution, as the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal has stated:

> Storm water runoff is one of the most significant sources of water pollution in the nation, at times "comparable to, if not greater than, contamination from industrial and sewage sources." [Citation omitted.] Storm sewer waters carry suspended metals, sediments, algae-promoting nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), floatable trash, used motor oil, raw sewage, pesticides, and other toxic contaminants into streams, rivers, lakes, and estuaries across the United States. [Citation omitted.] In 1985, three-quarters of the States cited urban storm water runoff as a major cause of waterbody impairment, and forty percent reported construction site runoff as a major cause of impairment. Urban runoff has been named as the foremost cause of impairment of surveyed ocean waters. Among the sources of storm water contamination are urban development, industrial facilities, construction sites, and illicit discharges and connections to storm sewer systems.[5]

Because of these stormwater pollution problems described by the Ninth Circuit, both California and the federal government regulate stormwater runoff.

California Law

The California Supreme Court summarized the state statutory scheme and regulatory agencies applicable to this test claim as follows:

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[2] "Copermittees" are entities responsible for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit conditions pertaining to their own discharges. (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (b)(1).)

[3] Municipal separate storm sewer system means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains): (i) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States; (ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water; (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; and (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.2. (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (b)(8).)

[4] Storm water means "storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage." (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (b)(13).)

[5] *Environmental Defense Center, Inc. v. U.S. E.P.A.* (2003) 344 F.3d 832, 840-841.

> In California, the controlling law is the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne Act), which was enacted in 1969. (Wat. Code, § 13000 et seq., added by Stats.1969, ch. 482, § 18, p. 1051.) Its goal is "to attain the highest water quality which is reasonable, considering all demands being made and to be made on those waters and the total values involved, beneficial and detrimental, economic and social, tangible and intangible." (§ 13000.) The task of accomplishing this belongs to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards; together the State Board and the regional boards comprise "the principal state agencies with primary responsibility for the coordination and control of water quality." (§ 13001.)
>
> Whereas the State Board establishes statewide policy for water quality control (§ 13140), the regional boards "formulate and adopt water quality control plans for all areas within [a] region" (§ 13240).[6]
>
> In California, wastewater discharge requirements established by the regional boards are the equivalent of the NPDES permits [national pollutant discharge elimination system] required by federal law. (§ 13374.)[7]

As to waste discharge requirements, section 13377 of the California Water Code states:

> Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the state board or the regional boards shall, as required or authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, issue waste discharge requirements and dredged or fill material permits which apply and ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, together with any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.

Much of what the Regional Board does, especially that pertains to permits like the one in this claim, is based in the federal Clean Water Act.

Federal Law

The Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was amended in 1972 to implement a permitting system for all discharges of pollutants[8] from point sources[9] to waters of the United States, since

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[6] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal.4th 613, 619.

[7] *Id.* at page 621. State and regional board permits allowing discharges into state waters are called "waste discharge requirements." (Wat. Code, § 13263).

[8] According to the federal regulations, "Discharge of a pollutant" means: (a) Any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source," or (b) Any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. This definition includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other

discharges of pollutants are illegal except under a permit.[10] The permits, issued under the national pollutant discharge elimination system, are called NPDES permits. Under the CWA, each state is free to enforce its own water quality laws so long as its effluent limitations[11] are not "less stringent" than those set out in the CWA (33 USCA 1370). The California Supreme Court described NPDES permits as follows:

> Part of the federal Clean Water Act is the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), "[t]he primary means" for enforcing effluent limitations and standards under the Clean Water Act. (*Arkansas v. Oklahoma, supra,* 503 U.S. at p. 101, 112 S.Ct. 1046.) The NPDES sets out the conditions under which the federal EPA or a state with an approved water quality control program can issue permits for the discharge of pollutants in wastewater. (33 U.S.C. § 1342(a) & (b).) In California, wastewater discharge requirements established by the regional boards are the equivalent of the NPDES permits required by federal law. (§ 13374.)[12]

In the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Wat. Code, §§ 13370 et seq.), the Legislature found that the state should implement the federal law in order to avoid direct regulation by the federal government. The Legislature requires the permit program to be consistent with federal law, and charges the State and Regional Water Boards with implementing the federal program (Wat. Code, §§ 13372 & 13370). The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) incorporates the regulations from the U.S. EPA for implementing the federal permit program, so both the Clean Water Act and U.S. EPA regulations apply to California's permit program (Cal.Code Regs., tit. 23, § 2235.2).

When a Regional Board adopts an NPDES permit, it must adopt as stringent a permit as U.S. EPA would have (federal Clean Water Act, § 402 (b)). As the California Supreme Court stated:

> The federal Clean Water Act reserves to the states significant aspects of water quality policy (33 U.S.C. § 1251(b)), and it specifically grants the states authority

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conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works. This term does not include an addition of pollutants by any "indirect discharger." (40 C.F.R. § 122.2.)

[9] A point source is "any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged." 33 U.S.C. § 1362(14).

[10] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.21 (a). The section applies to U.S. EPA-issued permits, but is incorporated into section 123.25 (the state program provision) by reference.

[11] *Effluent limitation* means any restriction imposed by the Director on quantities, discharge rates, and concentrations of "pollutants" which are "discharged" from "point sources" into "waters of the United States," the waters of the "contiguous zone," or the ocean. (40 C.F.R. § 122.2.)

[12] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd., supra,* 35 Cal.4th 613, 621. State and regional board permits allowing discharges into state waters are called "waste discharge requirements" (Wat. Code, § 13263).

> to "enforce any effluent limitation" that is not "*less stringent*" than the federal standard (*id.* § 1370, italics added). It does not prescribe or restrict the factors that a state may consider when exercising this reserved authority, and thus it does not prohibit a state-when imposing effluent limitations that are *more stringent* than required by federal law-from taking into account the economic effects of doing so.[13]

Actions that dischargers must implement as prescribed in permits are commonly called "best management practices" or BMPs.[14]

Stormwater was not regulated by U.S. EPA in 1973 because of the difficulty of doing so. This exemption from regulation was overturned in *Natural Resources Defense Council v. Costle* (1977) 568 F.2d 1369, which ordered U.S. EPA to require NPDES permits for stormwater runoff. By 1987, U.S. EPA still had not adopted regulations to implement a permitting system for stormwater runoff. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals explained the next step as follows:

> In 1987, to better regulate pollution conveyed by stormwater runoff, Congress enacted Clean Water Act § 402(p), 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p), "Municipal and Industrial Stormwater Discharges." Sections 402(p)(2) and 402(p)(3) mandate NPDES permits for stormwater discharges "associated with industrial activity," discharges from large and medium-sized municipal storm sewer systems, and certain other discharges. Section 402(p)(4) sets out a timetable for promulgation of the first of a two-phase overall program of stormwater regulation.[15]

NPDES permits are required for "A discharge from a municipal separate storm sewer system serving a population of 250,000 or more."[16] The federal Clean Water Act specifies the following criteria for municipal storm sewer system permits:

> (i) may be issued on a system- or jurisdiction-wide basis;
>
> (ii) shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers; and
>
> (iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.[17]

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[13] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd., supra,* 35 Cal.4th 613, 627-628.

[14] Best management practices are "schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of "waters of the United States." BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

[15] *Environmental Defense Center, Inc. v. U.S. E.P.A., supra,* 344 F.3d 832, 841-842.

[16] 33 USCA section 1342 (p)(2)(C).

[17] 33 USCA section 1342 (p)(3)(B).

In 1990, U.S. EPA adopted regulations to implement Clean Water Act section 402(p), defining which entities need to apply for permits and the information to include in the permit application. The permit application must propose management programs that the permitting authority will consider in adopting the permit. The management programs must include the following:

> [A] comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate.[18]

General State-Wide Permits

In addition to the regional stormwater permit at issue in this claim, the State Board has issued two general statewide permits,[19] as described in the permit as follows:

> In accordance with federal NPDES regulations and to ensure the most effective oversight of industrial and construction site discharges, discharges of runoff from industrial and construction sites are subject to dual (state and local) storm water regulation. Under this dual system, the Regional Board is responsible for enforcing the General Construction Activities Storm Water Permit, SWRCB Order 99-08 DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000002 (General Construction Permit) and the General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit, SWRCB Order 97-03 DWQ, NPDES No. CAS000001 (General Industrial Permit), and each municipal Copermittee is responsible for enforcing its local permits, plans, and ordinances, which may require the implementation of additional BMPs than required under the statewide general permits.

The State and Regional Boards have statutory fee authority to conduct inspections to enforce the general statewide permits.[20]

The Regional Board Permit (Order No. R9-2007-001, Permit CAS0108758)

Under Part A, "Basis for the Order," the permit states:

> This Order Renews National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CAS0108758, which was first issued on July 16, 1990 (Order No. 90-42), and then renewed on February 21, 2001 (Order No. 2001-01). On August 25, 2005, in accordance with Order NO. 2001-01, the County of San Diego, as the Principal Permittee, submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for renewal of their MS4 Permit.

Attachment B of the permit (part 7(q)) states that "This Order expires five years after adoption." Attachment B also says (part 7 (r)) that the terms and conditions of the permit "are automatically

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[18] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (d)(2)(iv).

[19] A general permit means "an NPDES 'permit' issued under [40 CFR] §122.28 authorizing a category of discharges under the CWA within a geographical area." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

[20] Water Code section 13260, subdivision (d)(2)(B)(i) - (iii).

continued pending issuance of a new permit if all requirements of the federal NPDES regulations on the continuation of the expired permits (40 CFR 122.6) are complied with."[21]

Part J.2.d. of the permit requires the Principal Permittee (County of San Diego) to "submit to the Regional Board, no later than 210 days in advance of the expiration of this order, a report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) as an application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements." The permit specifies the contents of the ROWD.

The permit is divided into 16 sections. It prohibits discharges from MS4s that contain pollutants that "have not been reduced to the maximum extent practicable" as well as discharges "that cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards." The permit also prohibits non-storm water discharges unless they are authorized by a separate NPDES permit, or fall within specified exemptions. The copermittees are required to "establish, maintain, and enforce adequate legal authority to control pollutant discharges into and from its MS4 through ordinance, statute, permit, contract or similar means." The copermittees are also required to develop and implement an updated Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (JURMP) for their jurisdictions that meets the requirements specified in the permit as well as a Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program (watersheds are defined in the permit) and a Regional Urban Runoff Management Program, each of which are to be assessed annually and reported on. Annual fiscal analyses are also required of the copermittees. The principal permittee has additional responsibilities, as specified.

The Regional Board prepared a 115-page Fact Sheet/Technical Report for this permit in which are listed, among other things, Regional Board findings, the federal law, and the reasons for the various permit requirements.

The 2001 version of the Regional Board's permit (treated as prior law in this analysis) was challenged by the Building Industry Association of San Diego County, among others. They alleged that the permit provisions violate federal law because they prohibit the municipalities from discharging runoff from storm sewers if the discharge would cause a water body to exceed the applicable water quality standard established under state law.[22] The court held that the Clean Water Act's "maximum extent practicable" standard did not prevent the water boards from including provisions in the permit that required municipalities to comply with state water quality standards.[23]

Attached to the claimants' February 2009 comments is a document entitled "Comparison Between the Requirement of Tentative Order 2001-01, the Federal NPDES Storm Water Regulations, the Existing San Diego Municipal Storm Water Permit (Order 90-42), and Previous Drafts of the San Diego Municipal Stormwater Permit" that compares the 2001 permit with the 1990 and earlier permits. One of the document's conclusions regarding the 2001 permit is: "40% of the requirements in Tentative Order 2001-01 which 'exceed the federal regulations' are based

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[21] California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 2235.4.

[22] *Building Industry Assoc. of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 866, 880.

[23] *Id.* at page 870.

almost exclusively on (1) guidance documents developed by USEPA and (2) SWRCB's [State Board's] orders describing statewide precedent setting decision on MS4 permits."

Claimants' Position

Claimants assert that various parts of the Regional Board's 2007 permit constitute a reimbursable state mandate within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6, and Government Code section 17514. The parts of the permit pled by claimants are quoted below:

I. Regional Requirements for Urban Runoff Management Programs

A. Copermittee collaboration

Parts F.2. and F.3. (F. Regional Urban Runoff Management Program) of the permit provide:

> Each Copermittee shall collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop, implement, and update as necessary a Regional Urban Runoff Management Program. The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program shall meet the requirements of section F of this Order, reduce the discharge of pollutants[24] from the MS4 to the MEP, and prevent urban runoff[25] discharges from the MS4 from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards.[26] The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program shall, at a minimum: [¶]...[¶]
>
> 2. Develop the standardized fiscal analysis method required in section G of this Order.[27]
>
> 3. Facilitate the assessment of the effectiveness of jurisdictional, watershed,[28] and regional programs.

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[24] Pollutant is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "Any agent that may cause or contribute to the degradation of water quality such that a condition of pollution or contamination is created or aggravated."

[25] Urban Runoff is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "All flows in a storm water conveyance system and consists of the following components: (1) storm water (wet weather flows) and (2) non-storm water illicit discharges (dry weather flows).

[26] Water Quality Standards is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "The beneficial uses (e.g., swimming, fishing, municipal drinking water supply, etc.) of water and the water quality objectives necessary to protect those uses.

[27] Section G requires the permittees to "collectively develop a standardized method and format for annually conducting and reporting fiscal analyses of their urban runoff management programs in their entirety (including jurisdictional, watershed, and regional activities)." Specific components of the method and time tables are specified in the permit (Permit parts G.2 & G.3).

[28] Watershed is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "That geographical area which drains to a specified point on a water course, usually a confluence of streams or rivers (also known as a drainage area, catchment, or river basin)."

Part L (All Copermittee Collaboration) of the Permit states:

> 1. Each Copermittee collaborate [sic] with all other Copermittees regulated under this Order to address common issues, promote consistency among Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Programs and Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs, and to plan and coordinate activities required under this Order.
>
> a. Management structure – All Copermittees shall jointly execute and submit to the Regional Board no later than 180 days after adoption of this Order, a Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Powers Authority, or other instrument of formal agreement which at a minimum:
>
> (1) Identifies and defines the responsibilities of the Principal Permittee[29] and Lead Watershed Permittees;[30]
> (2) Identifies Copermittees and defines their individual and joint responsibilities, including watershed responsibilities;
> (3) Establishes a management structure to promote consistency and develop and implement regional activities;
> (4) Establishes standards for conducting meetings, decision-making, and cost-sharing.
> (5) Provides guidelines for committee and workgroup structure and responsibilities;
> (6) Lays out a process for addressing Copermittee non-compliance with the formal agreement;
> (7) Includes any and all other collaborative arrangements for compliance with this order.

Claimants stated that the Copermittees' costs to comply with this activity for fiscal year 2007-2008 was $260,031.29.

B. Copermittee collaboration – Regional Residential Education Program Development and Implementation

Part F.1 of the Permit provides:

The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program shall, at a minimum:

> 1. Develop and implement a Regional Residential Education Program. The program shall include:
>
> a. Pollutant specific education which focuses educational efforts on bacteria, nutrients, sediment, pesticides, and trash. If a different pollutant is determined to be more critical for the education program, the pollutant can be substituted for one of these pollutants.
>
> b. Education efforts focused on the specific residential sources of the pollutants listed in section F.1.a.

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[29] The Principal Permittee is the County of San Diego.

[30] According to the permit: "Watershed Copermittees shall identify the Lead Watershed Permittee for their WMA [Watershed Management Area]."

Claimants stated that the Copermittees' costs to comply with this activity was $131,250 in fiscal year 2007-2008.

C. Hydromodification[31]

Part D.1.g. of the Permit (D. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program, 1. Development Planning Component, g. Hydromodification – Limits on Increases of Runoff Discharge Rates and Durations) states:

> g. HYDROMODIFICATION – LIMITATIONS ON INCREASES OF RUNOFF DISCHARGE RATES AND DURATIONS
>
> Each Copermittee shall collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop and implement a hydromodification management plan (HMP) to manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all priority development projects,[32]

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[31] Hydromodification is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "The change in the natural watershed hydrologic processes and runoff characteristics (i.e., interception, infiltration, overland flow, interflow and groundwater flow) caused by urbanization or other land use changes that result in increased stream flows and sediment transport. In addition, alteration of stream and river channels, installation of dams and water impoundments, and excessive streambank and shoreline erosion are also considered hydromodification, due to their disruption of natural watershed hydrologic processes."

Hydromodification is also defined as changes in the magnitude and frequency of stream flows as a result of urbanization, and the resulting impacts on the receiving channels in terms of erosion, sedimentation and degradation of in-stream habitat." *Draft Hydromodification Management Plan for San Diego County*, page 4. <http://www.projectcleanwater.org/pdf/susmp/sd_hmp_2009.pdf> as of May 28, 2009 .

[32] According to the permit, "Priority Development Projects" are: a) all new Development Projects that fall under the project categories or locations listed in section D.1.d.(2), and b) those redevelopment projects that create, add or replace at least 5,000 square feet of impervious surfaces on an already developed site that falls under the project categories or locations listed in section D.1.d.(2).

[¶]...[¶] [Part D.1.d.(2):] (2) Priority Development Project Categories (a) Housing subdivisions of 10 or more dwelling units. This category includes single-family homes, multi-family homes, condominiums, and apartments. (b) Commercial developments greater than one acre. This category is defined as any development on private land that is not for heavy industrial or residential uses where the land area for development is greater than one acre. The category includes, but is not limited to: hospitals; laboratories and other medical facilities; educational institutions; recreational facilities; municipal facilities; commercial nurseries; multi-apartment buildings; car wash facilities; mini-malls and other business complexes; shopping malls; hotels; office buildings; public warehouses; automotive dealerships; airfields; and other light industrial facilities. (c) Developments of heavy industry greater than one acre. This category includes, but is not limited to, manufacturing plants, food processing plants, metal working facilities, printing plants, and fleet storage areas (bus, truck, etc.). (d) Automotive repair shops. This category is defined as a facility that is categorized in any one of the following Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534, or 7536-7539. (e) Restaurants. This

where such increased rates and durations are likely to cause increased erosion[33] of channel beds and banks, sediment pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses[34] and stream habitat due to increased erosive force. The HMP, once approved by the Regional Board, shall be incorporated into the local SUSMP [Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan][35] and implemented by each Copermittee so that post-project runoff discharge rates and durations shall not exceed estimated pre-project discharge rates and durations where the increased discharge rates and durations will result in increased potential for

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category is defined as a facility that sells prepared foods and drinks for consumption, including stationary lunch counters and refreshment stands selling prepared foods and drinks for immediate consumption (SIC code 5812), where the land area for development is greater than 5,000 square feet. Restaurants where land development is less than 5,000 square feet shall meet all SUSMP requirements except for structural treatment BMP and numeric sizing criteria requirement D.1.d.(6)(c) and hydromodification requirement D.1.g. (f) All hillside development greater than 5,000 square feet. This category is defined as any development which creates 5,000 square feet of impervious surface which is located in an area with known erosive soil conditions, where the development will grade on any natural slope that is twenty-five percent or greater. (g) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs). All development located within or directly adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA (where discharges from the development or redevelopment will enter receiving waters within the ESA), which either creates 2,500 square feet of impervious surface on a proposed project site or increases the area of imperviousness of a proposed project site to 10% or more of its naturally occurring condition. "Directly adjacent" means situated within 200 feet of the ESA. "Discharging directly to" means outflow from a drainage conveyance system that is composed entirely of flows from the subject development or redevelopment site, and not commingled with flows from adjacent lands. (h) Parking lots 5,000 square feet or more or with 15 or more parking spaces and potentially exposed to urban runoff. Parking lot is defined as a land area or facility for the temporary parking or storage of motor vehicles used personally, for business, or for commerce. (i) Street, roads, highways, and freeways. This category includes any paved surface that is 5,000 square feet or greater used for the transportation of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other vehicles. (j) Retail Gasoline Outlets (RGOs). This category includes RGOs that meet the following criteria: (a) 5,000 square feet or more or (b) a projected Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 100 or more vehicles per day.

[33] Erosion is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "When land is diminished or worn away due to wind, water, or glacial ice. Often the eroded debris (silt or sediment) becomes a pollutant via storm water runoff. Erosion occurs naturally but can be intensified by land clearing activities such as farming, development, road building and timber harvesting."

[34] Beneficial Uses is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "the uses of water necessary for the survival or well being of man, plants, and wildlife. These uses of water serve to promote tangible and intangible economic, social, and environmental goals. … "Beneficial Uses" are equivalent to "Designated Uses" under federal law." (Wat. Code, § 13050, subd. (f).)

[35] The Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "A plan developed to mitigate the impacts of urban runoff from Priority Development Projects."

erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in the discharge rates and durations.

(1) The HMP shall:

(a) Identify a standard for channel segments which receive urban runoff discharges from Priority Development Projects. The channel standard shall maintain the pre-project erosion and deposition characteristics of channel segments receiving urban runoff discharges from Priority Development Projects as necessary to maintain or improve the channel segments' stability conditions.

(b) Utilize continuous simulation of the entire rainfall record to identify a range of runoff flows for which Priority Development Project post-project runoff flow rates and durations[36] shall not exceed pre-project runoff flow rates and durations,[37] where the increased flow rates and durations will result in increased potential for erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in the flow rates and durations. The lower boundary of the range of runoff flows identified shall correspond with the critical channel flow[38] that produces the critical shear stress that initiates channel bed movement or that erodes the toe of channel banks. The identified range of runoff flows may be different for specific watersheds, channels, or channel reaches.

(c) Require Priority Development Projects to implement hydrologic control measures so that Priority Development Projects' post-project runoff flow rates and durations (1) do not exceed pre-project runoff flow rates and durations for the range of runoff flows identified under section D.1.g.(1)(b), where the increased flow rates and durations will result in increased potential for erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in the flow rates and durations, and (2) do not result in channel conditions which do not meet the channel standard developed under section D.1.g.(1)(a) for channel segments downstream of Priority Development Project discharge points.

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[36] Flow duration is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "The long-term period of time that flows occur above a threshold that causes significant sediment transport and may cause excessive erosion damage to creeks and streams (not a single storm event duration). … Flow duration within the range of geomorphologically significant flows is important for managing erosion.

[37] Attachment C of the permit defines "Pre-project or pre-development runoff conditions (discharge rates, durations, etc.) as "Runoff conditions that exist onsite immediately before the planned development activities occur. This definition is not intended to be interpreted as that period before any human-induced land activities occurred. This definition pertains to redevelopment as well as initial development."

[38] Critical channel flow, according to Attachment C of the permit, is "the channel flow that produces the critical shear stress that initiates bed movement or that erodes the toe of channel banks. When measuring Qc [critical channel flow], it should be based on the weakest boundary material – either bed or bank."

(d) Include other performance criteria (numeric or otherwise) for Priority Development Projects as necessary to prevent urban runoff from the projects from increasing erosion of channel beds and banks, silt pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force.

(e) Include a review of pertinent literature.

(f) Include a protocol to evaluate potential hydrograph change impacts to downstream watercourses from Priority Development Projects.

(g) Include a description of how the Copermittees will incorporate the HMP requirements into their local approval processes.

(h) Include criteria on selection and design of management practices and measures (such as detention, retention, and infiltration) to control flow rates and durations and address potential hydromodification impacts.

(i) Include technical information supporting any standards and criteria proposed.

(j) Include a description of inspections and maintenance to be conducted for management practices and measures to control flow rates and durations and address potential hydromodification impacts.

(k) Include a description of pre- and post-project monitoring and other program evaluations to be conducted to assess the effectiveness of implementation of the HMP.

(l) Include mechanisms for addressing cumulative impacts within a watershed on channel morphology.

(m) Include information on evaluation of channel form and condition, including slope, discharge, vegetation, underlying geology, and other information, as appropriate.

(2) The HMP may include implementation of planning measures (e.g., buffers and restoration activities, including revegetation, use of less-impacting facilities at the point(s) of discharge, etc.) to allow expected changes in stream channel cross sections, vegetation, and discharge rates, velocities, and/or durations without adverse impacts to channel beneficial uses. Such measures shall not include utilization of non-naturally occurring hardscape materials such as concrete, riprap, gabions, etc.

(3) Section D.1.g.(1)(c) does not apply to Development Projects[39] where the project discharges stormwater runoff into channels or storm drains where the preexisting channel or storm drain conditions result in minimal potential for erosion or other impacts to beneficial uses. Such situations may include discharges into channels that are concrete-lined or significantly hardened (e.g.,

[39] Development projects, according to Attachment C of the permit, are "New development or redevelopment with land disturbing activities; structural development, including construction or installation of a building or structure, the creation of impervious surfaces, public agency projects, and land subdivision."

with rip-rap, sackrete, etc.) downstream to their outfall in bays or the ocean; underground storm drains discharging to bays or the ocean; and construction of projects where the sub-watersheds below the projects' discharge points are highly impervious (e.g., >70%) and the potential for single-project and/or cumulative impacts is minimal. Specific criteria for identification of such situations shall be included as a part of the HMP. However, plans to restore a channel reach may reintroduce the applicability of HMP controls, and would need to be addressed in the HMP.

(4) HMP Reporting

The Copermittees shall collaborate to report on HMP development as required in section J.2.a of this Order.[40]

(5) HMP Implementation

180 days after approval of the HMP by the Regional Board, each Copermittee shall incorporate into its local SUSMP and implement the HMP for all applicable Priority Development Projects. Prior to approval of the HMP by the Regional Board, the early implementation of measures likely to be included in the HMP shall be encouraged by the Copermittees.

(6) Interim Hydromodification Criteria for Projects Disturbing 50 Acres or More

Within 365 days of adoption of this Order, the Copermittees shall collectively identify an interim range of runoff flow rates for which Priority Development Project post-project runoff flow rates and durations shall not exceed pre-project runoff flow rates and durations (Interim Hydromodification Criteria), where the increased discharge flow rates and durations will result in increased potential for erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in flow rates and durations. Development of the Interim Hydromodification Criteria shall include identification of methods to be used by Priority Development Projects to exhibit compliance with the criteria, including continuous simulation of the entire rainfall record. Starting 365 days after adoption of this Order and until the final Hydromodification Management Plan standard and criteria are implemented, each Copermittee shall require Priority Development Projects disturbing 50 acres or more to implement hydrologic controls to manage post-project runoff flow rates and durations as required by the Interim Hydromodification Criteria. Development Projects disturbing 50 acres or more are exempt from this requirement when:

(a) the project would discharge into channels that are concrete-lined or significantly hardened (e.g., with rip-rap, sackcrete, etc.) downstream to their outfall in bays or the ocean;

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[40] Section J.2.a of the permit requires collaborating with other copermittees to develop the HMP, and submitting it for approval by the Regional Board. Part J.2.a also includes timelines for HMP completion and approval.

(b) the project would discharge into underground storm drains discharging directly to bays or the ocean; or

(c) the project would discharge to a channel where the watershed areas below the project's discharge points are highly impervious (e.g. >70%).

Claimants stated that the total cost of this activity is $1.05 million, of which $630,000 was spent in fiscal year 2007-2008, and the remaining $420,000 will be spent in fiscal year 2008-2009.

D. Low-Impact Development[41] ("LID") and Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan ("SMUSP")

Part D.1.d. of the Permit (D. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program, 1. Development Planning Component, d. Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans – Approval Process Criteria and Requirements for Priority Development Projects), paragraphs (7) and (8) state as follows:

(7) Update of SUSMP BMP Requirements

The Copermittees shall collectively review and update the BMP requirements that are listed in their local SUSMPs. At a minimum, the update shall include removal of obsolete or ineffective BMPs, addition of LID and source control BMP[42] requirements that meet or exceed the requirements of sections D.1.d.(4)[43] and D.1.d.(5),[44] and addition of LID BMPs that can be used for treatment, such as bioretention cells, bioretention swales, etc. The update shall also add appropriate LID BMPs to any tables or discussions in the local SUSMPs addressing pollutant removal efficiencies of treatment control BMPs.[45] In addition, the update shall

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[41] Low Impact Development (LID) is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "A storm water management and land development strategy that emphasizes conservation and the use of on-site natural features integrated with engineered, small-scale hydrologic controls to more closely reflect pre-development hydrologic functions."

[42] Source Control BMPs are defined in Attachment C of the permit as "Land use or site planning practices, or structural or nonstructural measures that aim to prevent urban runoff pollution by reducing the potential for contamination at the source of pollution. Source control BMPs minimize the contact between pollutants and urban runoff."

[43] Part D.1.d.(4) of the permit includes LID BMP requirements: "Each Copermittee shall require each Priority Development Project to implement LID BMPs which will collectively minimize directly connected impervious areas and promote infiltration at Priority Development Projects:" The Permit lists various LID site design BMPs that must be implemented at all Priority Development Projects, and other LID BMPs that must be implemented at all Priority Development Projects "where applicable and feasible."

[44] Part D.1.d.(5), regarding "Source control BMP Requirements" requires permittees to require each Priority Development Project to implement source control BMPs that must "Minimize storm water pollutants of concern in urban runoff" and include five other specific criteria.

[45] A treatment control BMP, according to Attachment C of the permit, is "Any engineered system designed to remove pollutants by simple gravity settling of particulate pollutants,

include review, and revision where necessary, of treatment control BMP pollutant removal efficiencies.

(8) Update of SUSMPs to Incorporate LID and Other BMP Requirements

(a) In addition to the implementation of the BMP requirements of sections D.1.d.(4-7) within one year of adoption of this Order, the Copermittees shall also develop and submit an updated Model SUSMP that defines minimum LID and other BMP requirements to be incorporated into the Copermittees' local SUSMPs for application to Priority Development Projects. The purpose of the updated Model SUSMP shall be to establish minimum standards to maximize the use of LID practices and principles in local Copermittee programs as a means of reducing stormwater runoff. It shall meet the following minimum requirements:

i. Establishment of LID BMP requirements that meet or exceed the minimum requirements listed in section D.1.d.(4) above.
ii. Establishment of source control BMP requirements that meet or exceed the minimum requirements listed in section D.1.d.(5) above.
iii. Establishment of treatment control BMP requirements that meet or exceed the minimum requirements listed in section D.1.d.(6) above.
iv. Establishment of siting, design, and maintenance criteria for each LID and treatment control BMP listed in the Model SUSMP, so that implemented LID and treatment control BMPs are constructed correctly and are effective at pollutant removal and/or runoff control. LID techniques, such as soil amendments, shall be incorporated into the criteria for appropriate treatment control BMPs.
v. Establishment of criteria to aid in determining Priority Development Project conditions where implementation of each LID BMP listed in section D.1.d.(4)(b) is applicable and feasible.
vi. Establishment of a requirement for Priority Development Projects with low traffic areas and appropriate or amendable soil conditions to construct a portion of walkways, trails, overflow parking lots, alleys, or other low-traffic areas with permeable surfaces, such a pervious concrete, porous asphalt, unit pavers, and granular materials.
vii. Establishment of restrictions on infiltration of runoff from Priority Development Project categories or Priority Development Project areas that generate high levels of pollutants, if necessary.

(b) The updated Model SUSMP shall be submitted within 18 months of adoption of this Order. If, within 60 days of submittal of the updated Model SUSMP, the Copermittees have not received in writing from the Regional Board either

(1) a finding of adequacy of the updated Model SUSMP or (2) a modified schedule for its review and revision, the updated Model SUSMP shall be deemed adequate, and the Copermittees shall implement its provisions in accordance with section D.1.d.(8)(c) below.

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filtration, biological uptake, media absorption or any other physical, biological, or chemical process."

(c) Within 365 days of Regional Board acceptance of the updated Model SUSMP, each Copermittee shall update its local SUSMP to implement the requirements established pursuant to section D.1.d.(8)(a). In addition to the requirements of section D.1.d.(8)(a), each Copermittee's updated local SUSMP shall include the following:

i. A requirement that each Priority Development Project use the criteria established pursuant to section D.1.d.(8)(a)v to demonstrate applicability and feasibility, or lack thereof, of implementation of the LID BMPs listed in section D.1.d.(4)(b).
ii. A review process which verifies that all BMPs to be implemented will meet the designated siting, design, and maintenance criteria, and that each Priority Development Project is in compliance with all applicable SUSMP requirements.

Claimants stated that the total cost of this activity is $52,200 to be spent in fiscal year 2007-2008.

E. Long Term Effectiveness Assessment

Part I.5 (I. Program Effectiveness Assessment) of the permit states:

5. Long-term Effectiveness Assessment

a. Each Copermittee shall collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop a Longterm Effectiveness Assessment (LTEA), which shall build on the results of the Copermittees' August 2005 Baseline LTEA. The LTEA shall be submitted by the Principal Permittee to the Regional Board no later than 210 days in advance of the expiration of this Order.

b. The LTEA shall be designed to address each of the objectives listed in section I.3.a.(6) of this Order, and to serve as a basis for the Copermittees' Report of Waste Discharge for the next permit cycle.

c. The LTEA shall address outcome levels 1-6, and shall specifically include an evaluation of program implementation to changes in water quality (outcome levels 5 and 6).[46]

d. The LTEA shall assess the effectiveness of the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program in meeting its objectives and its ability to answer the five core management questions. This shall include assessment of the frequency of monitoring conducted through the use of power analysis and other pertinent statistical methods. The power analysis shall identify the frequency and intensity of sampling needed to identify a 10% reduction in the concentration of constituents causing the high priority water quality problems within each watershed over the next permit term with 80% confidence.

e. The LTEA shall address the jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs, with an emphasis on watershed assessment.

The claimants state that this activity is budgeted to cost $210,000.

[46] See footnote 50, page 21.

II. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program

A. Street Sweeping

Part D.3.a.(5) of the Permit (D.3 Existing Development Component, a. Municipal) provides:

> (5) Sweeping of Municipal Areas
>
> Each Copermittee shall implement a program to sweep improved (possessing a curb and gutter) municipal roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities. The program shall include the following measures:
>
> (a) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept at least two times per month.
>
> (b) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept at least monthly.
>
> (c) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as generating low volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept as necessary, but no less than once per year.

Part J.3.a.(3)(c)x-xv (J. Reporting, 3. Annual Reports, a. jurisdictional urban runoff management program annual reports (3) Minimum contents (c) Municipal) requires annual reports to include the following:

> x. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
> xi. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
> xii. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating low volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
> xiii. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles swept.
> xiv. Identification of the number of municipal parking lots, the number of municipal parking lots swept, and the frequency of sweeping.
> xv. Amount of material (tons) collected from street and parking lot sweeping.

Claimants state the following costs for this activity: in fiscal year 2007-2008: Equipment: $2,080,245, Staffing: $1,014,321, Contract costs: $382,624; for 2008-2009: Equipment: $3,566,139 (for 2008-2012), Staffing $1,054,893 (4% increase), Contract costs: $382,624.

B. Conveyance System Cleaning

Part D.3.a.(3) of the Permit (D.3. Existing Development Component, a. Municipal) provides:

> (3) Operation and Maintenance of Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System and Structural Controls
>
> (a) Each Copermittee shall implement a schedule of inspection and maintenance activities to verify proper operation of all municipal structural treatment controls designed to reduce pollutant discharges to or from its MS4s and related drainage structures.
>
> (b) Each Copermittee shall implement a schedule of maintenance activities for the MS4 and MS4 facilities (catch basins, storm drain inlets, open channels, etc). The maintenance activities shall, at a minimum, include:
>
> i. Inspection at least once a year between May 1 and September 30 of each year[47] for all MS4 facilities that receive or collect high volumes of trash and debris. All other MS4 facilities shall be inspected at least annually throughout the year.
> ii. Following two years of inspections, any MS4 facility that requires inspection and cleaning less than annually may be inspected as needed, but not less than every other year.
> iii. Any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of design capacity shall be cleaned in a timely manner. Any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning shall be cleaned of any accumulated trash and debris immediately. Open channels shall be cleaned of observed anthropogenic litter[48] in a timely manner.
> iv. Record keeping of the maintenance and cleaning activities including the overall quantity of waste removed.
> v. Proper disposal of waste removed pursuant to applicable laws.
> vi. Measures to eliminate waste discharges during MS4 maintenance and cleaning activities.

Part J.3.a.(3)(c) iv-viii (J. Reporting, 3. Annual Reports, a. jurisdictional urban runoff management program annual reports (3) Minimum contents (c) Municipal) requires annual reports to include the following:

> iv. Identification of the total number of catch basins and inlets, the number of catch basins and inlets inspected, the number of catch basins and inlets found with accumulated waste exceeding cleaning criteria, and the number of catch basins and inlets cleaned.
> v. Identification of the total distance (miles) of the MS4, the distance of the MS4 inspected, the distance of the MS4 found with accumulated waste exceeding cleaning criteria, and the distance of the MS4 cleaned.

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[47] According to Attachment C of the permit, May 1 through September 30 is the dry season.

[48] Attachment C of the permit defines "anthropogenic litter" as "trash generated from human activities, not including sediment."

vi. Identification of the total distance (miles) of open channels, the distance of the open channels inspected, the distance of the open channels found with anthropogenic litter, and the distance of open channels cleaned.
vii. Amount of waste and litter (tons) removed from catch basins, inlets, the MS4, and open channels, by category.
viii. Identification of any MS4 facility found to require inspection less than annually following two years of inspection, including justification for the finding.

The claimants state that this activity costs $3,456,087 in fiscal year 2007-2008, and increases 4% in subsequent years.

C. Program Effectiveness Assessment

Part I.1 and I.2 of the permit states:

1. Jurisdictional

a. As part of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program, each Copermittee shall annually assess the effectiveness of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program implementation. At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall:

(1) Specifically assess the effectiveness of each of the following:

(a) Each significant jurisdictional activity/BMP or type of jurisdictional activity/BMP implemented;

(b) Implementation of each major component of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (Development Planning, Construction, Municipal, Industrial/Commercial, Residential, Illicit Discharge[49] Detection and Elimination, and Education); and

(c) Implementation of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole.

(2) Identify and utilize measurable targeted outcomes, assessment measures, and assessment methods for each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above.

(3) Utilize outcome levels 1-6[50] to assess the effectiveness of each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.

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[49] Illicit discharge, as defined in Attachment C of the permit, is "any discharge to the MS4 that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit and discharges resulting from firefighting activities [40 C.F.R. 122.26 (b)(2)]."

[50] Effectiveness assessment outcome levels are defined in Attachment C of the permit as follows: Effectiveness assessment outcome level 1 – Compliance with Activity-based Permit Requirements – Level 1 outcomes are those directly related to the implementation of specific activities prescribed by this Order or established pursuant to it. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 2 – Changes in Attitudes, Knowledge, and Awareness – Level 2 outcomes are measured as increases in knowledge and awareness among target audiences such as residents, business, and municipal employees. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 3 – Behavioral

(4) Utilize monitoring data and analysis from the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program to assess the effectiveness each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.

(5) Utilize Implementation Assessment,[51] Water Quality Assessment,[52] and Integrated Assessment,[53] where applicable and feasible.

b. Based on the results of the effectiveness assessment, each Copermittee shall annually review its jurisdictional activities or BMPs to identify modifications and improvements needed to maximize Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness, as necessary to achieve compliance with section A of this Order. The Copermittees shall develop and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements. Jurisdictional activities/BMPs that are ineffective or less effective than other comparable jurisdictional activities/BMPs shall be replaced or improved upon by implementation of more effective jurisdictional activities/BMPs. Where monitoring data exhibits persistent water quality problems that are caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges, jurisdictional activities or BMPs applicable to the water quality problems shall be modified and improved to correct the water quality problems.

c. As part of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Reports, each Copermittee shall report on its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff

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Changes and BMP Implementation – Level 3 outcomes measure the effectiveness of activities in affecting behavioral change and BMP implementation. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 4 – Load Reductions – Level 4 outcomes measure load reductions which quantify changes in the amounts of pollutants associated with specific sources before and after a BMP or other control measure is employed. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 5 – Changes in Urban Runoff and Discharge Quality – Level 5 outcomes are measured as changes in one or more specific constituents or stressors in discharges into or from MS4s. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 6 – Changes in Receiving Water Quality – Level 6 outcomes measure changes to receiving water quality resulting from discharges into and from MS4s, and may be expressed through a variety of means such as compliance with water quality objectives or other regulatory benchmarks, protection of biological integrity [i.e., ecosystem health], or beneficial use attainment.

[51] Implementation Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment conducted to determine the effectiveness of copermittee programs and activities in achieving measureable targeted outcomes, and in determining whether priority sources of water quality problems are being effectively addressed."

[52] Water Quality Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment conducted to evaluate the condition of non-storm water discharges, and the water bodies which receive these discharges."

[53] Integrated Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment to be conducted to evaluate whether program implementation is properly targeted to and resulting in the protection and improvement of water quality."

Management Program effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the requirements of sections I.1.a and I.1.b above.

2. Watershed

a. As part of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program, each watershed group of Copermittees (as identified in Table 4)[54] shall annually assess the effectiveness of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program implementation. At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall:

(1) Specifically assess the effectiveness of each of the following:

(a) Each Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented;
(b) Each Watershed Education Activity implemented; and
(c) Implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole.

(2) Identify and utilize measurable targeted outcomes, assessment measures, and assessment methods for each of the items listed in section I.2.a.(1) above.

(3) Utilize outcome levels 1-6 to assess the effectiveness of each of the items listed in sections I.2.a.(1)(a) and I.2.a.(1)(b) above, where applicable and feasible.

(4) Utilize outcome levels 1-4 to assess the effectiveness of implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole, where applicable and feasible.

(5) Utilize outcome levels 5 and 6 to qualitatively assess the effectiveness of implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole, focusing on the high priority water quality problem(s) of the watershed. These assessments shall attempt to exhibit the impact of Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program implementation on the high priority water quality problem(s) within the watershed.

(6) Utilize monitoring data and analysis from the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program to assess the effectiveness each of the items listed in section I.2.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.

(7) Utilize Implementation Assessment, Water Quality Assessment, and Integrated Assessment, where applicable and feasible.

b. Based on the results of the effectiveness assessment, the watershed Copermittees shall annually review their Watershed Water Quality Activities, Watershed Education Activities, and other aspects of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program to identify modifications and improvements needed to maximize Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness, as

[54] Table 4 of the permit divides the copermittees into nine watershed management areas. For example, the San Luis Rey River watershed management area lists the city of Oceanside, Vista and the County of San Diego as the responsible watershed copermittees. Table 4 also lists the hydrologic units and major receiving water bodies.

necessary to achieve compliance with section A of this Order.[55] The Copermittees shall develop and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements. Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities that are ineffective or less effective than other comparable Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities shall be replaced or improved upon by implementation of more effective Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities. Where monitoring data exhibits persistent water quality problems that are caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges, Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities applicable to the water quality problems shall be modified and improved to correct the water quality problems.

c. As part of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Reports, each watershed group of Copermittees (as identified in Table 4) shall report on its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the requirements of section I.2.a and I.2.b above.

Claimants state that this activity in I.1. and I.2 costs $392,363 in fiscal year 2007-2008, is expected to increase to $862,293 in fiscal year 2008-2009, and is expected to increase 4% annually thereafter.

D. Educational Surveys and Tests

Part D.5 of the permit (under D. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program) states:

5. Education Component

Each Copermittee shall implement an education program using all media as appropriate to (1) measurably increase the knowledge of the target communities regarding MS4s, impacts of urban runoff on receiving waters, and potential BMP solutions for the target audience; and (2) to measurably change the behavior of target communities and thereby reduce pollutant releases to MS4s and the environment. At a minimum, the education program shall meet the requirements of this section and address the following target communities:

· Municipal Departments and Personnel
· Construction Site Owners and Developers
· Industrial Owners and Operators
· Commercial Owners and Operators
· Residential Community, General Public, and School Children

a. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

(1) Each Copermittee shall educate each target community on the following topics where appropriate:

[55] Section A is "Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations."

Table 3. Education

Laws, Regulations, Permits, & Requirements	**Best Management Practices**
• Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations • Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities (Except Construction). • Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities • Regional Board's General NPDES Permit for Ground Water Dewatering • Regional Board's 401 Water Quality Certification Program • Statewide General NPDES Utility Vault Permit • Requirements of local municipal permits and ordinances (e.g., storm water and grading ordinances and permits)	• Pollution prevention and safe alternatives • Good housekeeping (e.g., sweeping impervious surfaces instead of hosing) • Proper waste disposal (e.g., garbage, pet/animal waste, green waste, household hazardous materials, appliances, tires, furniture, vehicles, boat/recreational vehicle waste, catch basin/ MS4 cleanout waste) • Non-storm water disposal alternatives (e.g., all wash waters) • Methods to minimized the impact of land development and construction • Erosion prevention • Methods to reduce the impact of residential and charity car-washing • Preventive Maintenance • Equipment/vehicle maintenance and repair • Spill response, containment, and recovery • Recycling • BMP maintenance
General Urban Runoff Concepts	**Other Topics**
• Impacts of urban runoff on receiving waters • Distinction between MS4s and sanitary sewers • BMP types: facility or activity specific, LID, source control, and treatment control • Short-and long-term water quality impacts associated with urbanization (e.g., land-use decisions, development, construction) • Non-storm water discharge prohibitions • How to conduct a storm water inspections	• Public reporting mechanisms • Water quality awareness for Emergency/ First Responders • Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination observations and follow-up during daily work activities • Potable water discharges to the MS4 • Dechlorination techniques • Hydrostatic testing • Integrated pest management • Benefits of native vegetation • Water conservation •Alternative materials and designs to maintain peak runoff values •Traffic reduction, alternative fuel use

(2) Copermittee educational programs shall emphasize underserved target audiences, high-risk behaviors, and "allowable" behaviors and discharges, including various ethnic and socioeconomic groups and mobile sources.

b. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

(1) Municipal Departments and Personnel Education

(a) Municipal Development Planning – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that its planning and development review staffs (and Planning Boards and Elected Officials, if applicable) have an understanding of:

i. Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to Development Projects;
ii. The connection between land use decisions and short and long-term water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land development and urbanization);
iii. How to integrate LID BMP requirements into the local regulatory program(s) and requirements; and
iv. Methods of minimizing impacts to receiving water quality resulting from development, including:

[1] Storm water management plan development and review;
[2] Methods to control downstream erosion impacts;
[3] Identification of pollutants of concern;
[4] LID BMP techniques;
[5] Source control BMPs; and
[6] Selection of the most effective treatment control BMPs for the pollutants of concern.

(b) Municipal Construction Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program that includes annual training prior to the rainy season so that its construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and other responsible construction staff have, at a minimum, an understanding of the following topics, as appropriate for the target audience:

i. Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to construction and grading[56] activities.
ii. The connection between construction activities and water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land development and urbanization and impacts from construction material such as sediment).
iii. Proper implementation of erosion and sediment control and other BMPs to minimize the impacts to receiving water quality resulting from construction activities.
iv. The Copermittee's inspection, plan review, and enforcement policies and procedures to verify consistent application.
v. Current advancements in BMP technologies.
vi. SUSMP Requirements including treatment options, LID BMPs, source control, and applicable tracking mechanisms.

[56] Attachment C of the permit defines grading as "the cutting and/or filling of the land surface to a desired slope or elevation."

(c) Municipal Industrial/Commercial Activities - Each Copermittee shall train staff responsible for conducting storm water compliance inspections and enforcement of industrial and commercial facilities at least once a year. Training shall cover inspection and enforcement procedures, BMP implementation, and reviewing monitoring data.

(d) Municipal Other Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that municipal personnel and contractors performing activities which generate pollutants have an understanding of the activity specific BMPs for each activity to be performed.

(2) New Development and Construction Education

As early in the planning and development process as possible and all through the permitting and construction process, each Copermittee shall implement a program to educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, community planning groups, and other responsible parties. The education program shall provide an understanding of the topics listed in Sections D.5.b.(1)(a) and D.5.b.(1)(b) above, as appropriate for the audience being educated. The education program shall also educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, and other responsible parties on the importance of educating all construction workers in the field about stormwater issues and BMPs through formal or informal training.

(3) Residential, General Public, and School Children Education

Each Copermittee shall collaboratively conduct or participate in development and implementation of a plan to educate residential, general public, and school children target communities. The plan shall evaluate use of mass media, mailers, door hangers, booths at public events, classroom education, field trips, hands-on experiences, or other educational methods.

Claimants state that this activity in D.5 will cost $62,617 in fiscal year 2007-2008, and is expected to increase to $171,319 in fiscal year 2008-2009, and rise 4% annually thereafter.

III. Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program

A. Copermittee Collaboration

Parts E.2.f and E.2.g of the permit state:

2. Each Copermittee shall collaborate with other Copermittees within its WMA(s) [Watershed Management Area] as in Table 4 below to develop and implement an updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program for each watershed. Each updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program shall meet the requirements of section E of this Order, reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP, and prevent urban runoff discharges from the MS4 from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards. At a minimum, each Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program shall include the elements described below: [¶]...[¶]

f. Watershed Activities[57]

(1) The Watershed Copermittees shall identify and implement Watershed Activities that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA. Watershed Activities shall include both Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities. These activities may be implemented individually or collectively, and may be implemented at the regional, watershed, or jurisdictional level.

(a) Watershed Water Quality Activities are activities other than education that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA. A Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented on a jurisdictional basis must be organized and implemented to target a watershed's high priority water quality problems or must exceed the baseline jurisdictional requirements of section D of this Order.

(b) Watershed Education Activities are outreach and training activities that address high priority water quality problems in the WMA.

(2) A Watershed Activities List shall be submitted with each updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan (WURMP) and updated annually thereafter. The Watershed Activities List shall include both Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities, along with a description of how each activity was selected, and how all of the activities on the list will collectively abate sources and reduce pollutant discharges causing the identified high priority water quality problems in the WMA.

(3) Each activity on the Watershed Activities List shall include the following information:

(a) A description of the activity;
(b) A time schedule for implementation of the activity, including key milestones;
(c) An identification of the specific responsibilities of Watershed Copermittees in completing the activity;
(d) A description of how the activity will address the identified high priority water quality problem(s) of the watershed;
(e) A description of how the activity is consistent with the collective watershed strategy;
(f) A description of the expected benefits of implementing the activity; and
(g) A description of how implementation effectiveness will be measured.

(4) Each Watershed Copermittee shall implement identified Watershed Activities pursuant to established schedules. For each Permit year, no less than two Watershed Water Quality Activities and two Watershed Education Activities shall be in an active implementation phase. A Watershed Water Quality Activity is in an active implementation phase when significant pollutant load reductions, source

[57] In their rebuttal comments submitted in February 2009, claimants mention part E.(3) of the permit that requires a detailed description of each activity on the Watershed Activities List. Part E.(3), however, was not in the test claim so staff makes no findings on it.

abatement, or other quantifiable benefits to discharge or receiving water quality can reasonably be established in relation to the watershed's high priority water quality problem(s). Watershed Water Quality Activities that are capital projects are in active implementation for the first year of implementation only. A Watershed Education Activity is in an active implementation phase when changes in attitudes, knowledge, awareness, or behavior can reasonably be established in target audiences.

g. Copermittee Collaboration

Watershed Copermittees shall collaborate to develop and implement the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs. Watershed Copermittee collaboration shall include frequent regularly scheduled meetings.

Claimants state that the copermittees' staffing costs for watershed program implementation in fiscal year 2007-2008 is $1,033,219 and is expected to increase to $1,401,765 in fiscal year 2008-2009, and are expected to increase four percent annually. For consultant services, the costs are $599,674 in fiscal year 2007-2008 and are expected to be $657,101 in 2008-2009, and are expected to rise five percent annually. For Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program implementation, claimants allege that the cost in fiscal year 2008-2009 is $1,053,880.

Claimants filed a 60-page rebuttal to Finance's and the State Board's comments on February 9, 2009, which is addressed in the analysis below.

Claimant County of San Diego filed comments on the draft staff analysis in January 2010 that disagrees with the findings regarding fee authority for certain permit activities involving development. These arguments are discussed further below.

State Agency Positions

Department of Finance: In comments filed November 16, 2008, Finance alleges that the permit does not impose a reimbursable mandate within the meaning of section 6 of article XIII B of the California Constitution because the permit conditions are required by federal laws so they are not reimbursable pursuant to Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c). Finance asserts that the State and Regional Water Boards "act on behalf of the federal government to develop, administer, and enforce the NPDES program in compliance with Section 402 of the CWA." Finance also states that more activities were included in the 2007 permit than the prior permit because "it appears … they were necessary to comply with federal law."

Finance also argues that the claimants had discretion over the activities and conditions to include in the permit application. The copermittees elected to use "best management practices" to identify alternative practices to reduce water pollution. Since the local agencies proposed the activities to be included in the permit, the requirements are a downstream result of the local agencies' decision to include the particular activities in the permit. Finance cites the *Kern* case,[58] which held that if participation in the underlying program is voluntary, the resulting new consequential requirements are not reimbursable mandates.

[58] *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates (Kern High School Dist.)* (2003) 30 Cal.4th 727.

As to the claimants' identifying NPDES permits approved by other states to show the permit exceeds federal law, Finance states that this "demonstrates the variation envisioned by the federal authority in granting the administering agencies flexibility to address specific regional needs in the most practical manner."

Finally, Finance states that some local agencies are using fees for funding the claimed permit activities, so should the Commission find that the permit constitutes a reimbursable mandate, the fees should be considered as offsetting revenues.

Finance commented on the draft staff analysis in February 2010, echoing the comments of the State Board, which are summarized and addressed below.

State Water Resources Control Board: The State Board and Regional Board filed joint comments on the test claim on October 27, 2008, alleging that the permit is mandated on the local agencies by federal law, and that it is not unique to government because NPDES permits apply to private dischargers also. The State Board also states that the requirements are consistent with the minimum requirements of federal law, but even if the permit is interpreted as going beyond federal law, any additional state requirements are de minimis. In addition, the State Board alleges that the costs are not subject to reimbursement because most of the programs were proposed by the cities and County themselves, and because the claimants may comply with the permit requirements by charging fees and are not required to raise taxes.

The State Board further comments that the 2007 permit mirrors or is identical to the requirements in the 2001 permit, only providing more detail to the requirements already in existence and to implement the MEP performance standard. Like earlier permits, the 2007 permit implements the federal standard of reducing pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP (maximum extent practicable), but according to the State Board, "what *has* changed in successive permits is the level of specificity included in the permit to define what constitutes MEP." [Emphasis in original.] The State Board asserts that this level of specificity does not make the permit a state mandate, but that even if it is, the additional requirements are de minimis. The State Board also states that the local agencies have fee authority to pay for the permit requirements.

The State Board also addresses specific allegations in the test claim, as discussed below.

The State Board submitted comments on the draft staff analysis in January 2010, arguing that the test claim should not be reimbursable because (1) federal law requires local agencies to obtain NPDES permits from California Water Boards; (2) federal law mandates the permit that was issued, which is less stringent than permits for private industry; (3) the draft staff analysis incorrectly applies the *Hayes* case because the state did not shift the cost of the federal mandate to the local agencies; rather the federal mandate was imposed directly on local agencies and not on the state; (4) the permit provisions are not in addition to, but are required by federal law; (5) even though municipalities are singled out in the federal storm water law, the law is one of general application; and (6) potential limitations on the exercise of fee authority due to Proposition 218 do not invalidate claimants' fee authority because Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), does not require unlimited or unilateral fee authority. These arguments are addressed below.

Interested Party Comments

Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA): In comments submitted February 4, 2009, BASMAA speaks generally about California's municipal stormwater permitting program, stating that "increased requirements entail both new programs and higher levels of service." BASMAA also states:

> [T]he State essentially asserts that the federal minimum for stormwater permitting is anything one of its Water Boards says it is. Likewise, the State's assertion that its 'discretion to exceed MEP [the maximum extent practicable standard] originates in federal law' and 'requires [it], as a matter of law, to include other such permit provisions as it deems appropriate' is nothing more than an oxymoron that begs the question of what the federal Clean Water Act actually mandates rather than allows a delegated state permit writer to require as a matter of discretion. [Emphasis in original.]

BASMAA emphasizes that the water boards have wide discretion in determining the content of a municipal stormwater permit beyond the federal minimum requirements, and says that the boards need to work "proactively and collaboratively" with local governments in "prioritizing and phasing in actions that realistically can be implemented given existing and projected local revenues."

League of California Cities (League) and California State Association of Counties (CSAC): The League and CSAC filed joint comments on the draft staff analysis on January 26, 2010, expressing support for it "and its recognition of the constraints placed on cities and counties with respect to adopting new or increased property-related fees."

The League and CSAC disagree, however, with the finding that the hydromodification management plan (HMP, part D.1.g.), the requirement to include low impact development (LID) in the Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plans (SUSMPs) (part D.1.d.(7)-(8)), and parts of the education component (part D.5) are not reimbursable because the claimants have fee authority (under Gov. Code, § 66000 et seq., The Mitigation Fee Act) sufficient to pay for them. The League and CSAC point out examples where a city or county constructs a priority development project for which no third party is available upon whom to assess a fee. They also assert that for these city or county projects, a nexus requirement cannot be demonstrated "because no private development impact have generated the need for the projects."

COMMISSION FINDINGS

The courts have found that article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution[59] recognizes the state constitutional restrictions on the powers of local government to tax and spend.[60] "Its

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[59] Article XIII B, section 6, subdivision (a), provides:

> (a) Whenever the Legislature or any state agency mandates a new program or higher level of service on any local government, the State shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse that local government for the costs of the program or increased level of service, except that the Legislature may, but need not, provide a subvention of funds for the following mandates: (1) Legislative mandates requested by the local agency affected. (2) Legislation defining a new

purpose is to preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions to local agencies, which are 'ill equipped' to assume increased financial responsibilities because of the taxing and spending limitations that articles XIII A and XIII B impose."[61] A test claim statute or executive order may impose a reimbursable state-mandated program if it orders or commands a local agency or school district to engage in an activity or task.[62]

In addition, the required activity or task must be new, constituting a "new program," or it must create a "higher level of service" over the previously required level of service.[63]

The courts have defined a "program" subject to article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution, as one that carries out the governmental function of providing public services, or a law that imposes unique requirements on local agencies or school districts to implement a state policy, but does not apply generally to all residents and entities in the state.[64] To determine if the program is new or imposes a higher level of service, the test claim legislation must be compared with the legal requirements in effect immediately before the enactment of the test claim legislation.[65] A "higher level of service" occurs when the new "requirements were intended to provide an enhanced service to the public."[66]

Finally, the newly required activity or increased level of service must impose costs mandated by the state.[67]

The Commission is vested with exclusive authority to adjudicate disputes over the existence of state-mandated programs within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.[68] In making its

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crime or changing an existing definition of a crime. (3) Legislative mandates enacted prior to January 1, 1975, or executive orders or regulations initially implementing legislation enacted prior to January 1, 1975.

[60] *Kern High School Dist., supra,* 30 Cal.4th 727, 735.

[61] *County of San Diego v. State of California (County of San Diego)*(1997) 15 Cal.4th 68, 81.

[62] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California* (1990) 225 Cal.App.3d 155, 174.

[63] *San Diego Unified School Dist. v. Commission on State Mandates* (2004) 33 Cal.4th 859, 878 (*San Diego Unified School Dist.)*; *Lucia Mar Unified School District v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 830, 835-836 (*Lucia Mar*).

[64] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 874, (reaffirming the test set out in *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 56; *Lucia Mar, supra,* 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.)

[65] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 878; *Lucia Mar, supra*, 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.

[66] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 878.

[67] *County of Fresno v. State of California* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482, 487; *County of Sonoma v. Commission on State Mandates* (2000) 84 Cal.App.4th 1265, 1284 (*County of Sonoma*); Government Code sections 17514 and 17556.

decisions, the Commission must strictly construe article XIII B, section 6, and not apply it as an "equitable remedy to cure the perceived unfairness resulting from political decisions on funding priorities."[69]

The permit provisions in the test claim are discussed separately to determine whether they are reimbursable state-mandates.

Issue 1: Is the permit subject to article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution?

The issues discussed here are whether the permit provisions are an executive order within the meaning of Government Code section 17516, whether they are discretionary, whether they constitute a program, and whether they are a federal mandate or a state-mandated new program or higher level of service.

A. Is the permit an executive order within the meaning of Government Code section 17516?

The Commission has jurisdiction over test claims involving statutes and executive orders as defined by Government Code section 17516, which describes "executive order" for purposes of state mandates, as "any order, plan, requirement, rule, or regulation issued by any of the following: (a) The Governor. (b) Any officer or official serving at the pleasure of the Governor. (c) Any agency, department, board, or commission of state government."[70]

The California Regional Water Board, San Diego Region, is a state agency.[71] The permit it issued is a plan for reducing water pollution, and contains requirements for local agencies toward that end. Therefore, the Commission finds that the permit is an executive order within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 and Government Code section 17516.

B. Is the permit the result of claimants' discretion?

The permit requires claimants to undertake various activities to reduce stormwater pollution in compliance with a permit issued by the Regional Board.

The Department of Finance, in comments submitted November 6, 2008, asserts that the claimants "had the option to use best management practices that would identify alternative practices to reduce pollution in water to the maximum extent practicable" Finance asserts that the claimants proposed permit requirements when they submitted the application for the permit,

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[68] *Kinlaw v. State of California* (1991) 54 Cal.3d 326, 331-334; Government Code sections 17551, 17552.

[69] *County of Sonoma, supra,* 84 Cal.App.4th 1265, 1280, citing *City of San Jose v. State of California* (1996) 45 Cal.App.4th 1802, 1817.

[70] Section 17516 also states: ""Executive order" does not include any order, plan, requirement, rule, or regulation issued by the State Water Resources Control Board or by any regional water quality control board pursuant to Division 7 (commencing with Section 13000) of the Water Code." The Second District Court of Appeal has held that this statutory language is unconstitutional. *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 150 Cal.App.4th 898, 904.

[71] Water Code section 13200 et seq.

and that increased costs due to downstream activities of an underlying discretionary activity are not reimbursable.

Similarly, the State Board, in its October 27, 2008 comments, states that the copermittees proposed the concepts that were incorporated into and form the basis of the permit provisions for which they now seek reimbursement.

In rebuttal comments submitted February 9, 2009, claimants dispute that the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD, or permit application) "represents a copermittee proposal for 2007 Permit content or that the adopted 2007 Permit is 'based on the ROWD." According to claimants, the 2007 permit provisions "were not taken directly from, nor are they generally consistent with the intent of, most of the specific ROWD content upon which the state contends they are based."

In determining whether the permit provisions at issue are a downstream activity resulting from the discretionary decision by the local agencies, the following rule stated by the Supreme Court in the *Kern High School Dist.* case applies:

> [A]ctivities undertaken at the option or discretion of a local government entity … do not trigger a state mandate and hence do not require reimbursement of funds—even if the local entity is obliged to incur costs as a result of its discretionary decision to participate in a particular program or practice.[72]

The Commission finds that the permit activities at issue were not undertaken at the option or discretion of the claimants. The claimants are required by law to submit the NPDES permit application in the form of a Report of Waste Discharge.[73] Submitting it is not discretionary, as shown in the following federal regulation:

> a) *Duty to apply.* (1) Any person[74] who discharges or proposes to discharge pollutants … and who does not have an effective permit … must submit a complete application to the Director in accordance with this section and part 124 of this chapter.[75]

Moreover, the ROWD (tantamount to an NPDES permit application) is required by California law, as follows: "Any person discharging pollutants or proposing to discharge pollutants to the navigable water of the United States within the jurisdiction of this state … shall file a report of the discharge in compliance with the procedures set forth in Section 13260 …"[76] Thus, submitting the ROWD is not discretionary because the claimants are required to do so by both federal and California law.

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[72] *Kern High School Dist., supra,* 30 Cal.4th 727, 742.

[73] The Report of Waste Discharge is attachment 36 of the State Water Resources Control Board comments submitted October 2008.

[74] *Person* means an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal agency, or an agent or employee thereof (40 CFR § 122.2).

[75] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.21 (a). The section applies to U.S. EPA-issued permits, but is incorporated into section 123.25 (the state program provision) by reference.

[76] Water Code section 13376.

In addition to federal and state law, the 2001 permit required submission of the ROWD. The 2007 permit, under Part A "Basis for the Order," states: "On August 25, 2005, in accordance with Order No. 2001-01 [the 2001 Permit], the County of San Diego, as the Principal Permittee, submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) for renewal of their MS4 Permit."[77]

And although the ROWD provides a basis for some (but not all) of the 2007 permit provisions at issue in this test claim, there is a substantial difference between what was included in the claimants' ROWD and the specific requirements the Regional Board adopted (e.g., copermittee collaboration, parts F.2., F.3 & L, Regional Residential Education Program Development, part F.1., Low Impact Development, part D.1.d(7)-(8), long-term effectiveness assessment, part I.5, program effectiveness assessment, parts I.1 & I.2, educational surveys and tests, part D.5, and the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program, parts E.2.f & E.2.g). Other permit activities were not proposed in the ROWD (e.g., hydromodification, part D.1.g., street sweeping, parts D.2.a(5) & J.3.a(3)(c)x-xv, conveyance system cleaning, part D.3.a(3) & J.3.a(3)(c)iv-viii).

Because the claimants do not voluntarily participate in the NPDES program, the Commission finds that the *Kern High School Dist.* case does not apply to the permit, the contents of which are not the result of the claimants' discretion.

C. Does the permit constitute a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution?

As to whether the permit provisions in the test claim constitute a "program," courts have defined a "program" for purposes of article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution, as one that carries out the governmental function of providing public services, or a law that imposes unique requirements on local agencies or school districts to implement a state policy, but does not apply generally to all residents and entities in the state.[78]

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, argues that the NPDES program is not a program because the NPDES permit program, and the stormwater requirements specifically, are not peculiar to local government in that industrial and construction facilities must also obtain NPDES stormwater permits.

The State Board reiterates this argument in its January 2010 comments, asserting that the draft analysis "fails to consider that private entities, as well as certain state … and … federal agencies also receive NPDES permits for storm water discharges." The State Board and Finance also cite *City of Richmond v. Commission on State Mandates* (1998) 64 Cal.App.4th 1190, for the proposition that "where municipalities have separate but not more stringent requirements than private entities, there is no program subject to reimbursement." Finance, in its February 2010 comments, asserts that "the requirements within the test claim permit apply generally to state and private dischargers."

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[77] The 2001 Permit is attached to the State Water Resources Control Board, comments submitted October 2008, Attachment 25.

[78] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 874, (reaffirming the test set out in *County of Los Angeles v. State of California, supra,* 43 Cal.3d 46, 56; *Lucia Mar, supra,* 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.)

Claimants, in their February 2009 rebuttal comments, disagree with the State Board and assert that an MS4 permit is unique to government and subject to unique regulations. Claimants cite the definition of an MS4 in 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(b)(8) as "a conveyance or system of conveyances ... owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body ...." Claimants argue that prohibiting "non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers"[79] is a uniquely government function that provides for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens in a community. Claimants also point out that the federal regulations for MS4 permits are in 40 C.F.R. §122.26(d), while the regulations pertaining to private industrial dischargers are in 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(c), different regulations that apply the Best Available Technology standard rather than the Maximum Extent Practicable standard imposed on MS4s.

The Commission finds that the permit activities constitute a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6. In *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates*, the State Board argued that an NPDES permit[80] issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board does not constitute a "program." The court dismissed this argument, stating: "[T]he applicability of permits to public and private dischargers does not inform us about whether a particular permit or an obligation thereunder imposed on local governments constitutes a state mandate necessitating subvention under article XIII B, section 6."[81] In other words, whether the law regarding NPDES permits generally constitute a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 is not relevant. The only issue before the Commission is whether the permit in this test claim constitutes a program.

The permit activities in this claim (order no. R9-2007-001, NPDES no. CAS0108758) are limited to the local governmental entities specified in the permit. The permit defines the "permittees" as the County of San Diego and 18 incorporated cities, along with the San Diego Unified Port District and San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. [82] No private entities are regulated under this permit, so it is not a law (or executive order) of general application. That fact distinguishes this claim from the *City of Richmond* case cited by Finance and the State Board, in which the workers' compensation law was found to be one of general application. The same cannot be said of the permit in this claim (order no. R9-2007-001, NPDES no. CAS0108758) because no private entities are regulated by it.

Moreover, the permit provides a service to the public by preventing or abating pollution in waterways and beaches in San Diego County. As stated in the permit: "This order specifies requirements necessary for the Copermittees to reduce the discharge of pollutants in urban runoff to the maximum extent practicable."

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[79] 33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3).

[80] Los Angeles Regional Quality Control Board Order No. 01-182, Permit CAS004001. The Commission issued a decision on parts 4C2a, 4C2b, 4E and 4Fc3 of this permit (test claims 03-TC-09, 03-TC-19, 03-TC-20, 03-TC-21) at its July 31, 2009 hearing.

[81] *County of Los Angeles v. Commission on State Mandates* (2007) 150 Cal.App.4th 898, 919.

[82] The cities are Carlsbad, Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Encinitas, Escondido, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Oceanside, Poway, San Diego, San Marcos, Santee, Solana Beach, and Vista.

Thus, the permit carries out the governmental function of providing public services, and also imposes unique requirements on local agencies in San Diego County to implement a state policy that does not apply generally to all residents and entities in the state. Therefore, the Commission finds that the permit is a program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.

D. Are the permit provisions in the test claim a federal mandate or a state-mandated new program or higher level of service?

The next issue is whether the parts of the permit alleged in the test claim are a state mandate, or federally mandated, as asserted by the State Board and the Department of Finance. If so, the permit would not constitute a state mandate. The California Supreme Court has stated that "article XIII B, section 6, and the implementing statutes ... by their terms, provide for reimbursement only of *state*-mandated costs, not *federally* mandated costs."[83]

Also discussed is whether the permit is a new program or higher level of service. To determine whether the permit is a new program or higher level of service, the permit is compared to the legal requirements in effect immediately before its adoption, in this case, the 2001 permit.[84]

When analyzing federal law in the context of a test claim under article XIII B, section 6, the court in *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates* held that "[w]hen the federal government imposes costs on local agencies those costs are not mandated by the state and thus would not require a state subvention. Instead, such costs are exempt from local agencies' taxing and spending limitations" under article XIII B.[85] When federal law imposes a mandate on the state, however, and the state "freely [chooses] to impose the costs upon the local agency as a means of implementing a federal program, then the costs are the result of a reimbursable state mandate regardless whether the costs were imposed upon the state by the federal government."[86]

Similarly, Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c), states that the Commission shall not find "costs mandated by the state" if "[t]he statute or executive order imposes a requirement that is mandated by a federal law or regulation and results in costs mandated by the federal government, unless the statute or executive order mandates costs that exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."

In *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[87] the court considered whether a state executive order involving school desegregation constituted a state mandate. The regulations required, for example, conducting mandatory biennial racial and ethnic surveys, developing a reasonably feasible plan every four years to alleviate and prevent segregation to include specifics

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[83] *San Diego Unified School Dist. v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 879-880, emphasis in original.

[84] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859, 878; *Lucia Mar, supra,* 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.

[85] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates* (1992) 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593, citing *City of Sacramento v. State of California, supra,* 50 Cal.3d 51, 76; see also, Government Code sections 17513 and 17556, subdivision (c).

[86] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1594.

[87] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

elements, and taking mandatory steps to involve the community including public hearings. The state argued that its Executive Order did not mandate a new program because school districts in California have a constitutional duty to make an effort to eliminate racial segregation in the public schools. The court held that the executive order did require school districts to provide a higher level of service than required by federal constitutional or case law because the state requirements went beyond federal requirements imposed on school districts.[88] The court stated:

> A review of the Executive Order and guidelines shows that a higher level of service is mandated because their requirements go beyond constitutional and case law requirements. ...[T]he executive Order and guidelines require specific actions ... [that were] required acts. These requirements constitute a higher level of service."[89]

In analyzing the permit under the federal Clean Water Act, we keep the following in mind. First, each state is free to enforce its own water quality laws so long as its effluent limitations are not "less stringent" than those set out in the Clean Water Act.[90] The federal Clean Water Act allows for more stringent state-imposed measures, as follows:

> Permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers [¶]...[¶] (iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharges of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the ... State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (33 U.S.C.A. 1342 (p)(3)(B)(iii).)

Second, the California Supreme Court has acknowledged that an NPDES permit may contain terms that are federally mandated and terms that exceed federal law.[91]

California in the NPDES program: Under the federal statutory scheme, a stormwater permit may be administered by the Administrator of U.S. EPA or by a state-designated agency, but states are not required to have an NPDES program. Subdivision (b) of section 1324 of the federal Clean Water Act, which describes the NPDES program (and subdivision (p), which describes the requirements for the municipal stormwater system permits) states in part:

> At any time after the promulgation of the guidelines required by subsection (i)(2) of section 1314 of this title, the Governor of each State desiring to administer its own permit program for discharges into navigable waters within its jurisdiction may submit to the Administrator [of U.S. EPA] a full and complete description of the program it proposes to establish and administer under State law or under an interstate compact. [Emphasis added.]

And the federal stormwater statute states that the permits:

> [S]hall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and

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[88] *Id.* at 173.

[89] *Ibid.*

[90] 33 U.S.C. section 1370.

[91] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 35 Cal.4th 613, 618, 628.

system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (33 USCA § 1342 (p)(3)(B)(iii). [Emphasis added].)

The federal statutory scheme indicates that California is not required to have its own NPDES program nor to issue stormwater permits. According to section 1342 (p) quoted above, the Administrator of U.S. EPA would do so if California had no program. The California Legislature, when adopting the NPDES program[92] to comply with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, stated the following findings and declaration in Water Code section 13370:

(a) The Federal Water Pollution Control Act [citation omitted] as amended, provides for permit systems to regulate the discharge of pollutants ... to the navigable waters of the United States and to regulate the use and disposal of sewage sludge.

(b) The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, provides that permits may be issued by states which are authorized to implement the provisions of that act.

(c) It is in the interest of the people of the state, in order to avoid direct regulation by the federal government, of persons already subject to regulation under state law pursuant to this division, to enact this chapter in order to authorize the state to implement the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto, and federal regulations and guidelines issued pursuant thereto, provided, that the state board shall request federal funding under the Federal Water Pollution Act for the purpose of carrying out its responsibilities under this program.

Based on this statute, in which California voluntarily adopts the permitting program, and on the federal statutes quoted above that authorize but do not expressly require states to have this program, the state has freely chosen[93] to effect the stormwater permit program. Further discussion in this analysis of federal "requirements" should be construed in the context of California's choice to participate in the federal regulatory NPDES program.

Finance, in its February 2010 comments on the draft staff analysis, states:

> The state's role as a permitting authority acting on behalf of the federal government negates the existence of a state mandate because the test claim permit is issued in compliance with federal law. ...[N]o state mandate exists if the state requirements, in the absence of state statute, would still be imposed upon local agencies by federal law.

Similarly, the State Board's January 2010 comments argue that the *Hayes* case is distinguishable from this test claim because NPDES permits do not impose a federal mandate on the state. Rather, federal law requires municipalities to comply with the permit. The State Board also states:

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[92] Water Code section 13374 states: "The term 'waste discharge requirements' as referred to in this division is the equivalent of the term 'permits' as used in the Federal water Pollution Control Act, as amended."

[93] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

> This [draft staff analysis'] approach fails to recognize that NPDES storm water permits, whether issued by U.S. EPA or California's Water Boards, are designed to translate the general federal mandate into specific programs and enforceable requirements. Whether issued by U.S. EPA or the California's Water Boards, the federal NPDES permit will identify specific requirements for municipalities to reduce pollutants in their storm water to the maximum extent practicable. The federally required pollutant reduction is a federal mandate. ... The fact that state agencies have responsibility for specifying the federal permit requirements for municipalities does not indicate that requirements extend beyond federal law, as in *Long Beach,* or convert the federal mandate into a state mandate.[94]

The Commission disagrees. As discussed above, the federal Clean Water Act[95] authorizes states to impose more stringent measures than required by federal law. The California Supreme Court has also recognized that permits may include state-imposed, in additional to federally required measures.[96] Those state measures that may constitute a state mandate if they "exceed the mandate in ... federal law."[97] Thus, although California opted into the NPDES program, further analysis is needed to determine whether the state requirements exceed the federal requirements imposed on local agencies.

The permit provisions are discussed below in context of the following federal law governing stormwater permits: Clean Water Act section 402 (p) (33 USCA 1342 (p)(3)(B)) and Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 122.26. The federal stormwater statute states:

> Permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers--
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> (i) may be issued on a system- or jurisdiction-wide basis;
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> (ii) shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers; and
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> (iii) shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator[98] or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. (33 USCA § 1342 (p)(3)(B)).

The issues are whether the parts of the permit in the test claim are federal mandates or state mandates, and whether they are a new program or higher level of service.

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[94] State Board comments submitted January 2010.

[95] 33 U.S.C. sections 1370 and 1342 (p)(3)(B)(iii).

[96] *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 35 Cal.4th 613, 618, 628.

[97] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (b). *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155, 173.

[98] Administrator means the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, or an authorized representative. (40 CFR § 122.2.)

I. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program and Reporting (Parts D & J)

Part D of the permit describes the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (JURMP) of which each copermittee "shall develop and implement" an updated version (p.15). Part J of the permit ("Reporting") requires the JURMP to be updated and revised to include specified information. The test claim includes parts D.1.g (hydromodification management plan), D.1.d.(7)-(8) (low-impact development or LID), D3a(5) (street sweeping) and J.3.a(3)x-xv (reporting on street sweeping), D.3.a.(3) (conveyance system cleaning) and J.3.a.(3)(c)(iv)-(viii) (reporting on conveyance system cleaning), and D.5 (educational surveys and tests).

Hydromodification (part D.1.g.): Part D.1 of the permit is entitled "Development Planning." Part D.1.g. requires developing and implementing, in collaboration with other copermittees, a hydromodification management plan (HMP) "to manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all Priority Development Projects."[99] Priority development projects can include both private projects, and municipal (city or county) projects. The purpose of the HMP is:

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[99] According to the permit, Priority Development Projects are: a) all new Development Projects that fall under the project categories or locations listed in section D.1.d.(2), and b) those redevelopment projects that create, add or replace at least 5,000 square feet of impervious surfaces on an already developed site that falls under the project categories or locations listed in section D.1.d.(2)..

[¶]...[¶] [Section D.1.d.(2):] (2) Priority Development Project Categories (a) Housing subdivisions of 10 or more dwelling units. This category includes single-family homes, multi-family homes, condominiums, and apartments. (b) Commercial developments greater than one acre. This category is defined as any development on private land that is not for heavy industrial or residential uses where the land area for development is greater than one acre. The category includes, but is not limited to: hospitals; laboratories and other medical facilities; educational institutions; recreational facilities; municipal facilities; commercial nurseries; multi-apartment buildings; car wash facilities; mini-malls and other business complexes; shopping malls; hotels; office buildings; public warehouses; automotive dealerships; airfields; and other light industrial facilities. (c) Developments of heavy industry greater than one acre. This category includes, but is not limited to, manufacturing plants, food processing plants, metal working facilities, printing plants, and fleet storage areas (bus, truck, etc.). (d) Automotive repair shops. This category is defined as a facility that is categorized in any one of the following Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534, or 7536-7539. (e) Restaurants. This category is defined as a facility that sells prepared foods and drinks for consumption, including stationary lunch counters and refreshment stands selling prepared foods and drinks for immediate consumption (SIC code 5812), where the land area for development is greater than 5,000 square feet. Restaurants where land development is less than 5,000 square feet shall meet all SUSMP requirements except for structural treatment BMP and numeric sizing criteria requirement D.1.d.(6)(c) and hydromodification requirement D.1.g. (f) All hillside development greater than 5,000 square feet. This category is defined as any development which creates 5,000 square feet of impervious surface which is located in an area with known erosive soil conditions, where the development will grade on any natural slope that is twenty-five percent or greater. (g) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs). All development located within or directly adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA (where discharges from the development or redevelopment

> [T]o manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all Priority Development Projects, where such rates and durations are likely to cause increased erosion of channel beds and banks, sediment pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force.

Hydromodification is defined in Attachment C of the permit as "The change in the natural watershed hydrologic processes and runoff characteristics (i.e., interception, infiltration, overland flow, interflow and groundwater flow) caused by urbanization or other land use changes that result in increased stream flows and sediment transport. In addition, alteration of stream and river channels, installation of dams and water impoundments, and excessive streambank and shoreline erosion are also considered hydromodification, due to their disruption of natural watershed hydrologic processes."[100]

As detailed in the permit and on pages 12-17 above, the HMP must have specified content, including "a description of how the copermittees will incorporate the HMP requirements into their local approval processes." Also required is collaborative reporting on the HMP and implementation 180 days after the HMP is approved by the Regional Water Board, with earlier implementation encouraged.

According to the State Board's comments submitted in October 2008 the requirement to develop and implement a HMP is necessary to meet the minimum federal MEP standard. The Board states that "broad federal legal authority is contained in CWA sections 402(p)(3)(B)(ii)-(iii), CWA section 402(a), and in 40 C.F.R. sections 122.26 (d)(2)(i)(B)-(C), (E), and (F), 131.12, and 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2), which states:

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will enter receiving waters within the ESA), which either creates 2,500 square feet of impervious surface on a proposed project site or increases the area of imperviousness of a proposed project site to 10% or more of its naturally occurring condition. "Directly adjacent" means situated within 200 feet of the ESA. "Discharging directly to" means outflow from a drainage conveyance system that is composed entirely of flows from the subject development or redevelopment site, and not commingled with flows from adjacent lands. (h) Parking lots 5,000 square feet or more or with 15 or more parking spaces and potentially exposed to urban runoff. Parking lot is defined as a land area or facility for the temporary parking or storage of motor vehicles used personally, for business, or for commerce. (i) Street, roads, highways, and freeways. This category includes any paved surface that is 5,000 square feet or greater used for the transportation of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other vehicles. (j) Retail Gasoline Outlets (RGOs). This category includes RGOs that meet the following criteria: (a) 5,000 square feet or more or (b) a projected Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 100 or more vehicles per day.

[100] It is also defined as "changes in the magnitude and frequency of stream flows as a result of urbanization, and the resulting impacts on the receiving channels in terms of erosion, sedimentation and degradation of in-stream habitat." Draft Hydromodification Management Plan for San Diego County, page 4. <http://www.projectcleanwater.org/pdf/susmp/sd_hmp_2009.pdf> as of May 28, 2009.

(d) Application requirements for large and medium municipal separate storm sewer discharges. The operator[101] of a discharge[102] from a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer or a municipal separate storm sewer that is designated by the Director under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section, may submit a jurisdiction-wide or system-wide permit application. ... Permit applications for discharges from large and medium municipal storm sewers or municipal storm sewers designated under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section shall include; [¶]...[¶]

(2) *Part 2.* Part 2 of the application shall consist of: [¶]...[¶]

(iv) *Proposed management program.* A proposed management program covers the duration of the permit. It shall include a comprehensive planning process which involves public participation and where necessary intergovernmental coordination, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate. The program shall also include a description of staff and equipment available to implement the program. Separate proposed programs may be submitted by each coapplicant. Proposed programs may impose controls on a systemwide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls. Proposed programs will be considered by the Director when developing permit conditions to reduce pollutants in discharges to the maximum extent practicable. Proposed management programs shall describe priorities for implementing controls. Such programs shall be based on:

(A) A description of structural and source control measures to reduce pollutants from runoff from commercial and residential areas that are discharged from the municipal storm sewer system that are to be implemented during the life of the permit, accompanied with an estimate of the expected reduction of pollutant loads and a proposed schedule for implementing such controls. At a minimum, the description shall include: [¶]...[¶]

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[101] "*Owner or operator* means the owner or operator of any "facility or activity" subject to regulation under the NPDES program." (40 CFR § 122.2)

[102] "*Discharge* when used without qualification means the "discharge of a pollutant. *Discharge of a pollutant* means: (a) Any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source," or (b) Any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation.

This definition includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works. This term does not include an addition of pollutants by any "indirect discharger." (40 CFR § 122.2.)

> (*2*) A description of planning procedures including a comprehensive master plan to develop, implement and enforce controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants from municipal separate storm sewers which receive discharges from areas of new development and significant redevelopment. Such plan shall address controls to reduce pollutants in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers after construction is completed. ...

The State Board also cited the U.S. Supreme Court decision, *P.U.D. No. 1 v. Washington Department of Ecology* (1994) 511 U.S. 700, for the state's authority to regulate flow under the federal Clean Water Act in order to protect water quality standards.

In response, the claimants' February 2009 comments state that the permit's Fact Sheet did not cite any federal authorities to justify the HMP portion of the permit, and that none exists. Claimants also assert that no other jurisdiction in the United States that was surveyed for the claim has a permit that requires a HMP. Claimants call the HMP requirement a flood control measure that is not a requirement in any other permit outside of California, and that the HMP exceeds the federal requirements and constitutes a state mandate. Claimants also point to the language in section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2) that they say is:

> [A]imed directly at controlling pollutant discharges from an MS4 that originate in areas of new development. [The regulation] does not mention the need to include controls to reduce the *volume* of storm water discharged from these areas. ... controls designed only to limit volume are not expressly required.

As to the *P.U.D. No. 1 v. Washington Department of Ecology* decision cited by the State Board, the claimants distinguish it as being decided under section 401 of the Clean Water Act, wherein the permit was issued under section 402. Claimants state that the *P.U.D.* case recognized state authority under the Clean Water Act rather than a federal mandate.

The Commission agrees with claimants about the applicability of the *P.U.D.* case, which determined whether the state of Washington's environmental agency properly conditioned a permit for a federal hydroelectric project on the maintenance of specific minimum stream flows to protect salmon and steelhead runs. The U.S. Supreme Court determined that Washington could do so, but the decision was based on section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which involves certifications and wetlands. Even if the decision could be applied to section 402 NPDES permits, it merely recognized state authority to regulate flows. The issue here is not whether the state has authority to regulate flows, but whether a federal mandate requires it. This was not addressed in the *P.U.D.* decision.

Overall, there is nothing in the federal regulations that requires a municipality to adopt or implement a hydromodification plan. Thus, the HMP requirement in the permit "exceed[s] the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[103] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[104] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[105] to

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[103] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[104] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[105] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that part D.1.g. of the permit is not a federal mandate.

All of part D.1.g. of the permit requires the HMP to have specified contents except part D.1.g.(2), which states that the HMP "*may* include implementation of planning measures ..." as specified. As the plain language of this part does not require the implementation of planning measures, the Commission finds that part D.1.g.(2) of the permit is not a state mandate.

The Commission also finds that HMP is not a state mandate for municipal (city or county) projects that are priority development projects, such as a hospital, laboratory or other medical facility, recreational facility, airfield, parking lot, street, road, highway, and freeway, a project over an acre, and a project located in an environmentally sensitive area.[106] Although these projects would be subject to the compliance with HMP requirements, there is no legal requirement to build municipal projects.[107] Thus, municipal projects are built by cities or counties voluntarily, and their decision triggers the requirements to comply with the HMP. In *Kern High School Dist.*,[108] the California Supreme Court decided whether the state must reimburse the costs of school site councils and advisory committees complying with the Brown (Open Meetings) Act for schools who participate in various school-related education programs. The court determined that participation in the underlying school site council program was not legally compelled and so mandate reimbursement was not required for the downstream compliance with the Brown Act. The court said:

> Activities undertaken at the option or discretion of a local government entity (that is, actions undertaken without any legal compulsion or threat of penalty for nonparticipation) do not trigger a state mandate and hence do not require reimbursement of funds-even if the local entity is obliged to incur costs as a result of its discretionary decision to participate in a particular program or practice.[109]

As with the voluntary programs in *Kern,* there is no requirement for municipalities to undertake any of the priority development projects described in the permit. Thus, the Commission finds that the costs of complying with the HMP in part D.1.g., is not a state mandate for priority development projects undertaken by a city or county.

Based on the mandatory language of the remainder of part D.1.g. of the permit (except part D.1.g.(2) and except for municipal projects), the Commission finds that it is a state mandate on the claimants to do the following:

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[106] The County of San Diego, in its January 2010 comments on the draft staff analysis, raises the issue of its fee authority for municipal projects. The League of California Cities, in its January 2010 comments on the draft staff analysis, also discusses municipal projects, citing examples "where a city or county constructs a Priority Development Project for which no third party is available to assess a fee against."

[107] California Constitution, article XI, section 7. "A county or city may make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary, and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws."

[108] *Kern High School Dist., supra,* 30 Cal.4th 727.

[109] *Kern High School Dist., supra,* 30 Cal.4th 727, 742.

Each Copermittee shall collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop and implement a Hydromodification Management Plan (HMP) to manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all Priority Development Projects, where such increased rates and durations are likely to cause increased erosion of channel beds and banks, sediment pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force. The HMP, once approved by the Regional Board, shall be incorporated into the local SUSMP [Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan] and implemented by each Copermittee so that post-project runoff discharge rates and durations shall not exceed estimated pre-project discharge rates and durations where the increased discharge rates and durations will result in increased potential for erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in the discharge rates and durations.

(1) The HMP shall:

(a) Identify a standard for channel segments which receive urban runoff discharges from Priority Development Projects. The channel standard shall maintain the pre-project erosion and deposition characteristics of channel segments receiving urban runoff discharges from Priority Development Projects as necessary to maintain or improve the channel segments' stability conditions.

(b) Utilize continuous simulation of the entire rainfall record to identify a range of runoff flows for which Priority Development Project post-project runoff flow rates and durations shall not exceed pre-project runoff flow rates and durations, where the increased flow rates and durations will result in increased potential for erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in the flow rates and durations. The lower boundary of the range of runoff flows identified shall correspond with the critical channel flow that produces the critical shear stress that initiates channel bed movement or that erodes the toe of channel banks. The identified range of runoff flows may be different for specific watersheds, channels, or channel reaches.

(c) Require Priority Development Projects to implement hydrologic control measures so that Priority Development Projects' post-project runoff flow rates and durations (1) do not exceed pre-project runoff flow rates and durations for the range of runoff flows identified under section D.1.g.(1)(b), where the increased flow rates and durations will result in increased potential for erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in the flow rates and durations, and (2) do not result in channel conditions which do not meet the channel standard developed under section D.1.g.(1)(a) for channel segments downstream of Priority Development Project discharge points.

(d) Include other performance criteria (numeric or otherwise) for Priority Development Projects as necessary to prevent urban runoff from the projects from increasing erosion of channel beds and banks, silt pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force.

(e) Include a review of pertinent literature.

(f) Include a protocol to evaluate potential hydrograph change impacts to downstream watercourses from Priority Development Projects.

(g) Include a description of how the Copermittees will incorporate the HMP requirements into their local approval processes.

(h) Include criteria on selection and design of management practices and measures (such as detention, retention, and infiltration) to control flow rates and durations and address potential hydromodification impacts.

(i) Include technical information supporting any standards and criteria proposed.

(j) Include a description of inspections and maintenance to be conducted for management practices and measures to control flow rates and durations and address potential hydromodification impacts.

(k) Include a description of pre- and post-project monitoring and other program evaluations to be conducted to assess the effectiveness of implementation of the HMP.

(l) Include mechanisms for addressing cumulative impacts within a watershed on channel morphology.

(m) Include information on evaluation of channel form and condition, including slope, discharge, vegetation, underlying geology, and other information, as appropriate.

[¶]...[¶]

(3) Section D.1.g.(1)(c) does not apply to Development Projects where the project discharges stormwater runoff into channels or storm drains where the preexisting channel or storm drain conditions result in minimal potential for erosion or other impacts to beneficial uses. Such situations may include discharges into channels that are concrete-lined or significantly hardened (e.g., with rip-rap, sackrete, etc.) downstream to their outfall in bays or the ocean; underground storm drains discharging to bays or the ocean; and construction of projects where the sub-watersheds below the projects' discharge points are highly impervious (e.g., >70%) and the potential for single-project and/or cumulative impacts is minimal. Specific criteria for identification of such situations shall be included as a part of the HMP. However, plans to restore a channel reach may reintroduce the applicability of HMP controls, and would need to be addressed in the HMP.

(4) HMP Reporting

The Copermittees shall collaborate to report on HMP development as required in section J.2.a of this Order.[110]

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[110] Section J.2.a of the permit requires collaborating with other copermittees to develop the HMP, and submitting it for approval by the Regional Board. Part J.2.a also includes timelines for HMP completion and approval.

(5) HMP Implementation

180 days after approval of the HMP by the Regional Board, each Copermittee shall incorporate into its local SUSMP and implement the HMP for all applicable Priority Development Projects. Prior to approval of the HMP by the Regional Board, the early implementation of measures likely to be included in the HMP shall be encouraged by the Copermittees.

(6) Interim Hydromodification Criteria for Projects Disturbing 50 Acres or More

Within 365 days of adoption of this Order, the Copermittees shall collectively identify an interim range of runoff flow rates for which Priority Development Project post-project runoff flow rates and durations shall not exceed pre-project runoff flow rates and durations (Interim Hydromodification Criteria), where the increased discharge flow rates and durations will result in increased potential for erosion or other significant adverse impacts to beneficial uses, attributable to changes in flow rates and durations. Development of the Interim Hydromodification Criteria shall include identification of methods to be used by Priority Development Projects to exhibit compliance with the criteria, including continuous simulation of the entire rainfall record. Starting 365 days after adoption of this Order and until the final Hydromodification Management Plan standard and criteria are implemented, each Copermittee shall require Priority Development Projects disturbing 50 acres or more to implement hydrologic controls to manage post-project runoff flow rates and durations as required by the Interim Hydromodification Criteria. Development Projects disturbing 50 acres or more are exempt from this requirement when:

(a) The project would discharge into channels that are concrete-lined or significantly hardened (e.g., with rip-rap, sackcrete, etc.) downstream to their outfall in bays or the ocean;

(b) The project would discharge into underground storm drains discharging directly to bays or the ocean; or

(c) The project would discharge to a channel where the watershed areas below the project's discharge points are highly impervious (e.g. >70%).

As to whether part D.1.g. of the permit (except for D.1.g.(2)) is a new program or higher level of service, the claimants, in their February 2009 comments, assert that it is.

> The 2001 Permit only included general statements regarding the need to control downstream erosion with post construction BMPs. The 2007 Permit increased these requirements by requiring the copermittees to, among other things, draft and implement interim and long-term hydromodification plans, and impose specific, strict post construction BMPs on new development projects within their jurisdiction.

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, argues that part D.1 "expands upon and makes more specific the hydromodification requirements in the 2001 Permit."

Finance argues, in its February 2010 comments on the draft staff analysis, that the entire permit is not a new program or higher level of service because additional activities, beyond those

required by the 2001 permit, are necessary for the claimants to continue to comply with the federal Clean Water Act and reduce pollutants to the Maximum Extent Practicable.

The Commission disagrees with Finance. This analysis measures the 2007 permit against the 2001 permit to determine which provisions are a new program or higher level of service. Under the standard urged by Finance, anything the state imposes under the permit would not be a new program or higher level of service. The Commission does not read the federal Clean Water Act so broadly. In *Building Industry Assoc. of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 866, the court held that the Clean Water Act's "maximum extent practicable" standard did not prevent the water boards from including provisions in the permit that required municipalities to comply with state water quality standards.[111]

The Regional Board prepared a Fact Sheet/Technical Report[112] for the permit that lists the federal authority and reasons the permit provisions were adopted. Regarding part D.1.g. of the permit, the Fact Sheet/Technical Report does not expressly mention the 2001 permit, but states:

> This section of the Order expands the requirements for control of hydromodification caused by changes in runoff resulting from development and urbanization. Expansion of these requirements is needed due to the current lack of a clear standard for controlling hydromodification resulting from modification. While the Model SUSMP[113] [adopted in 2002] developed by the Copermittees requires project proponents to control hydromodification, it provides no standard or performance criteria for how this is to be achieved.

The Commission finds that part D.1.g. of the permit (except for D.1.g.(2)) with respect to private priority development projects is a new program or higher level of service. The Fact Sheet/Technical Report describes the section as an "expansion" of hydromodification control requirements. The 2001 permit (in part F.1.b.(2)(j)) included only the following on hydromodification:

> Downstream Erosion – As part of the model SUSMP [Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan] and the local SUSMPs, the Copermittees shall develop criteria to ensure that discharges from new development and significant redevelopment maintain or reduce pre-development downstream erosion and protect stream habitat. At a minimum, criteria shall be developed to control peak storm water discharge rates and velocities in order to maintain or reduce pre-development downstream erosion and protect stream habitat. Storm water discharge volumes and durations should also be considered.

The requirements in the 2007 permit, however, are much more expansive and detailed, requiring development and implementation of a hydromodification management plan (HMP) to be approved by the Regional Board. And while the 2001 permit contained a broad description of

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[111] *Building Industry Assoc. of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Board, supra,* 124 Cal.App.4th 866, 870.

[112] The Fact Sheet/Technical Report was attached to the test claim.

[113] According to the Fact Sheet/Technical Report, the Model SUSMP was completed and adopted in 2002.

the criteria required, part D.1.g. of the 2007 permit contains a detailed description of the contents of the HMP, including identifying standards for channel segments, using continuous simulation of the entire rainfall record to identify runoff flows, requiring priority development projects to implement hydrologic control measures, including other performance criteria for priority development projects to prevent urban runoff from the projects, and 9 other components to include in the HMP. Therefore, the Commission finds that part D.1.g. of the permit (except for D.1.g.(2)) is a new program or higher level of service over the 2001 permit.

In sum, the Commission finds that part D.1.(g) of the permit (except for D.1.g.(2)) is a state-mandated new program or higher level of service for private priority development projects. Reimbursement is not required for complying with the HMP for municipal priority development projects.

B. Low Impact Development (LID) and Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (part D.1.d.): Also under part D.1 "Development Planning" is part D.1.d, which requires the copermittees to review and update their SUSMPs (Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans)[114]and (in paragraphs 7 and 8) add low impact development (LID) and source control BMP requirements for each priority development project, and to implement the updated SUSMP, as specified on pages 17-19 above. The purpose of LID is to "collectively minimize directly connected impervious areas and promote infiltration at Priority Development Projects." LID best management practices include draining a portion of impervious areas into pervious areas prior to discharge into the storm drain, and constructing portions of priority development projects with permeable surfaces (*Id.*)

According to the State Board's comments submitted in October 2008, the requirement in part D.1.d. is necessary to meet the minimum federal MEP standard, and is supported by 40 C.F.R. section 122.26 (d)(2)(iv)(A)-(D), part of which is quoted in the discussion of hydromodification above. Part (d)(2)(iv)(A)(2) of the regulation requires part of the permit application to include:

> (2) A description of planning procedures including a comprehensive master plan to develop, implement and enforce controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants from municipal separate storm sewers which receive discharges from areas of new development and significant redevelopment. Such plan shall address controls to reduce pollutants in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers after construction is completed.

The State Board asserts that these regulations "require municipalities to implement controls to reduce pollutants in urban runoff from new development and significant redevelopment, construction, and commercial, residential, industrial and municipal land uses or activities." The Board cites a decision of the Washington Pollution Control Hearings Board that found that permit provisions to promote but not require low impact development "failed to satisfy the federal MEP standard and Washington state law because it ... did not require LID at the parcel and subdivision level."

In their February 2009 rebuttal comments, the claimants assert: "while federal regulations require the large MS4 permits to include programs to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the

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[114] The Permit defines the Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan as "A plan developed to mitigate the impacts of urban runoff from Priority Development Projects."

MS4 that originate in areas of new development, federal regulations do not require or even mention LID or LID principles." And "while requiring post-construction controls that limit pollutant discharges originating in areas of new development is clearly within the requirements of Section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A), the 2007 Permit's specific LID requirements are not." Claimants also address the Washington State Pollution Control Board decision by noting that the Board's decision "explicitly recognized that LID requirements are not federally mandated." The claimants also point out EPA-issued NPDES permits in Washington, D.C. and Albuquerque, New Mexico that make no reference to LID.

The Commission finds nothing in the federal regulation (40 C.F.R. § 122.26) that requires local agencies to collectively review and update the BMP requirements listed in their SUSMPs, or to develop, submit and implement "an updated Model SUSMP" that defines minimum LID and other BMP requirements for incorporation into the SUSMPs. Thus, the LID requirements in the permit "exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[115] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[116] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[117] to impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that part D.1.d. of the permit is not a federal mandate.

The Commission further finds that the LID requirements are not a state-mandated program for municipal projects for the same reason as discussed in the HMP discussion above: there is no requirement for cities or counties to build priority development projects, which would trigger the downstream requirement to comply with parts D.1.d.(7) and D.1.d.(8) of the permit, the LID portions of the permit.

As to non-municipal projects, however, because of the mandatory language on the face of the permit, the Commission finds that part D.1.d. of the permit is a state mandate for the claimants to do all of the following:

> (7) Update of SUSMP BMP Requirements
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> The Copermittees shall collectively review and update the BMP requirements that are listed in their local SUSMPs. At a minimum, the update shall include removal of obsolete or ineffective BMPs, addition of LID and source control BMP requirements that meet or exceed the requirements of sections D.1.d.(4) and D.1.d.(5), and addition of LID BMPs that can be used for treatment, such as bioretention cells, bioretention swales, etc. The update shall also add appropriate LID BMPs to any tables or discussions in the local SUSMPs addressing pollutant removal efficiencies of treatment control BMPs. In addition, the update shall include review, and revision where necessary, of treatment control BMP pollutant removal efficiencies.

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[115] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[116] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[117] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

(8) Update of SUSMPs to Incorporate LID and Other BMP Requirements

(a) In addition to the implementation of the BMP requirements of sections D.1.d.(4-7) within one year of adoption of this Order, the Copermittees shall also develop and submit an updated Model SUSMP that defines minimum LID and other BMP requirements to be incorporated into the Copermittees' local SUSMPs for application to Priority Development Projects. The purpose of the updated Model SUSMP shall be to establish minimum standards to maximize the use of LID practices and principles in local Copermittee programs as a means of reducing stormwater runoff. It shall meet the following minimum requirements:

i. Establishment of LID BMP requirements that meet or exceed the minimum requirements listed in section D.1.d.(4) above.[118]

ii. Establishment of source control BMP requirements that meet or exceed the minimum requirements listed in section D.1.d.(5) above.[119]

iii. Establishment of treatment control BMP requirements that meet or exceed the minimum requirements listed in section D.1.d.(6) above.[120]

iv. Establishment of siting, design, and maintenance criteria for each LID and treatment control BMP listed in the Model SUSMP, so that implemented LID and treatment control BMPs are constructed correctly and are effective at pollutant removal and/or runoff control. LID techniques, such as soil amendments, shall be incorporated into the criteria for appropriate treatment control BMPs.

v. Establishment of criteria to aid in determining Priority Development Project conditions where implementation of each LID BMP listed in section D.1.d.(4)(b) is applicable and feasible.

vi. Establishment of a requirement for Priority Development Projects with low traffic areas and appropriate or amendable soil conditions to construct a portion of walkways, trails, overflow parking lots, alleys, or other low-traffic areas with permeable surfaces, such a pervious concrete, porous asphalt, unit pavers, and granular materials.

vii. Establishment of restrictions on infiltration of runoff from Priority Development Project categories or Priority Development Project areas that generate high levels of pollutants, if necessary.

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[118] Part D.1.d.(4) of the permit includes LID BMP requirements: "Each Copermittee shall require each Priority Development Project to implement LID BMPs which will collectively minimize directly connected impervious areas and promote infiltration at Priority Development Projects:" The Permit lists various LID site design BMPs that must be implemented at all Priority Development Projects, and other LID BMPs that must be implemented at all Priority Development Projects "where applicable and feasible."

[119] Part D.1.d.(5) of the permit lists source control BMP requirements.

[120] Part D.1.d.(6) of the permit lists treatment control BMP requirements.

(b) The updated Model SUSMP shall be submitted within 18 months of adoption of this Order. If, within 60 days of submittal of the updated Model SUSMP, the Copermittees have not received in writing from the Regional Board either (1) a finding of adequacy of the updated Model SUSMP or (2) a modified schedule for its review and revision, the updated Model SUSMP shall be deemed adequate, and the Copermittees shall implement its provisions in accordance with section D.1.d.(8)(c) below.

(c) Within 365 days of Regional Board acceptance of the updated Model SUSMP, each Copermittee shall update its local SUSMP to implement the requirements established pursuant to section D.1.d.(8)(a). In addition to the requirements of section D.1.d.(8)(a), each Copermittee's updated local SUSMP shall include the following:

i. A requirement that each Priority Development Project use the criteria established pursuant to section D.1.d.(8)(a)v to demonstrate applicability and feasibility, or lack thereof, of implementation of the LID BMPs listed in section D.1.d.(4)(b).

ii. A review process which verifies that all BMPs to be implemented will meet the designated siting, design, and maintenance criteria, and that each Priority Development Project is in compliance with all applicable SUSMP requirements.

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments on the test claim, argues that the requirements in part D.1.d.(7) of the permit are not a new program or higher level of service because they "merely add definition to the scope of the local SUSMP already required in the 2001 Permit (see Section F.1.b.(2))." As to part D.1.d.(8), the State Board asserts that it:

> [P]rovides a framework for the Copermittees to develop criteria to be used in the application of LID requirements to Priority Development Projects. The Copermittees must develop their LID programs through an update to the Model SUSMP, the document that guides (and guided the 2001 Permit cycle) post-construction BMP implementation at Priority Development Projects.

According to the State Board, these parts of the permit are not a new program or higher level of service because they merely add additional detail in implementing the same minimum federal MEP standard and add specificity to already existing BMPs.

The claimants, in their February 2009 comments, assert that by adding requirements and increasing the specificity of existing requirements, the 2007 LID permit requirements are a new program or higher level of service.

The Commission finds that part D.1.d.(7) is a new program or higher level of service because it calls for a collective review and update of BMP requirements listed in the claimants' SUSMPs (presumably those drafted under the 2001 permit) that was not required under the 2001 permit.

The Commission also finds that part D.1.d.(8) is a new program or higher level of service because it requires developing, submitting, and implementing "an updated Model SUSMP" that defines minimum LID and other BMP requirements for incorporation into the copermittees SUSMPs. Although the 2001 permit required adopting a Model SUSMP and local SUSMP, it

did not require developing and submitting an updated Model SUSMP with the specified LID BMP requirements.

In sum, the Commission finds that parts D.1.d.(7) and D.1.d.(8) of the 2007 permit constitute a state-mandated new program or higher level of service for private priority development projects. Reimbursement is not required for complying with the LID requirements for municipal priority development projects.

C. Street sweeping and reporting (parts D.3.a.(5) & J.3.a(3)x-xv): Part D.3 is entitled "Existing Development." Part D.3.a.(5) requires regular street sweeping based on the amount of trash generated on the road, street, highway, or parking facility. Those identified as generating the highest volumes of trash are to be swept at least two times per month, those generating moderate volumes of trash are to be swept at least monthly, and those generating low volumes of trash are to be swept as necessary, but not less than once per year. The copermittees determine what constitutes high, moderate, and low trash generation.

In addition, section J.3.a.(3)(c) x-xv requires the copermittees, as part of their annual reporting, to identify the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads in each priority category, the total distance of curb-miles swept, the number of municipal parking lots and the number swept, the frequency of sweeping, and the tons of material collected from street and parking lot sweeping.

The State Board, in its comments submitted in October 2008, states that requiring minimum sweeping frequencies for streets determined by the copermittees to have high volumes of trash or debris is necessary to meet the minimum federal MEP standard. The State Board cites C.F.R. section 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B)-(C), (E) and (F) and 40 C.F.R. section 122.26(d)(2)(iv), and more specifically, section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(1), which states that the proposed management program include "[a] description of maintenance activities and a maintenance schedule for structural controls to reduce pollutants (including floatables) in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers." Also, section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6) provides that the proposed management program include:

> [a] description of a program to reduce to the maximum extent practicable, pollutants in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers associated with the application of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizer which will include, as appropriate, controls such as educational activities, permits, certifications, and other measures for commercial applicators and distributors, and controls for application in public right-of-ways and at municipal facilities.

The State Board also cites section 122.44(d)(1)(i), which states as follows regarding NPDES permits: "limitations must control all pollutants or pollutant parameters (either conventional, nonconventional, or toxic pollutants) which the Director determines are or may be discharged at a level which will cause, have reasonable potential to cause, or contribute to an excursion above any State Water quality standard, including narrative criteria for water quality." And section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3) states that the proposed management program include "A description for operating and maintaining public streets, roads and highways and procedures for reducing the impact on receiving waters of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems, including pollutants discharged as a result of deicing activities."

In their February 2009 rebuttal comments, the claimants point out that street sweeping as a BMP to control "floatables" is not required by federal law in that none of the federal regulations

specifically require street sweeping. The claimants quote the following from *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates*:[121] "if the state freely chose to impose the costs upon the local agency as a means of implementing a federal program then the costs are the result of a reimbursable state mandate."

The Commission agrees with claimants. The permit requires activities that fall within the federal regulations to include: "[a] description of maintenance activities and a maintenance schedule for structural controls to reduce pollutants (including floatables) in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers."[122] And they also require: "A description for operating and maintaining public streets, roads and highways and procedures for reducing the impact on receiving waters of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems…"[123]

Yet the more specific requirements in the permit include variable street sweeping schedules for areas impacted by different amounts of trash. They also require reporting on the amount of trash collected, which is not required by the federal regulations. These activities "exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[124] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[125] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[126] to impose these requirements. Therefore, the Commission finds that parts D.3.a.(5) and J.3.a.(3)(c)x-xv of the permit are not a federal mandate.

Because of the mandatory language on the face of the permit, the Commission also finds part D.3.a(5) of the permit is a state mandate for the claimants to do all of the following:

> (5) Sweeping of Municipal Areas
>
> Each Copermittee shall implement a program to sweep improved (possessing a curb and gutter) municipal roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities. The program shall include the following measures:
>
> (a) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept at least two times per month.
>
> (b) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept at least monthly.
>
> (c) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as generating low volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept as necessary, but no less than once per year.

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[121] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal.App.4th 1564.

[122] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(1).

[123] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3).

[124] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[125] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[126] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

And as stated in part J.3.a(3)(c)x-xv (on p. 68) of the permit, the claimants report annually on:

> x. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
>
> xi. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
>
> xii. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating low volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
>
> xiii. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles swept.
>
> xiv. Identification of the number of municipal parking lots, the number of municipal parking lots swept, and the frequency of sweeping.
>
> xv. Amount of material (tons) collected from street and parking lot sweeping.

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, argues that requiring minimum street sweeping frequencies does not result in a new program or higher level of service. According to the State Board:

> The 2001 Permit required Copermittees to perform street sweeping, but did not specify minimum frequencies. While the minimum frequencies may exceed some Copermittees' existing programs, the Claimants acknowledge than many Copermittees meet or exceed the mandatory requirements on a voluntary basis. To the extent the frequencies are already being met and the Permit imposes the same MEP standard as its predecessor … the 2007 Permit does not impose a higher level of service.

In their February 2009 rebuttal comments, the claimants cite Government Code section 17565 to argue that whether or not they were sweeping streets at frequencies equal or more than the permit requires is not relevant. Government Code section 17565 states: "If a local agency … at its option, has been incurring costs which are subsequently mandated by the state, the state shall reimburse the local agency … for those costs incurred after the operative date of the mandate." The claimants also state that the 2001 permit did not in fact require street sweeping, "[a]t best it only included general statements regarding the need to control pollutants in streets and other impervious areas and, in any event, minimum frequencies were not required."

The Regional Board's Fact Sheet/Technical Report on part D.3.a.(5) of the 2007 permit states that street sweeping "has been added to ensure that the Copermittees are implementing this effective BMP at all appropriate areas."

The Commission finds that the street sweeping provision (part D.3.a.(5)) in the permit is a new program or higher level of service. The Commission agrees that Government Code section 17565 makes it irrelevant (for purposes of mandate reimbursement) whether or not claimants

were performing the activity prior to the permit, since voluntary activities do not affect reimbursement of an activity that is subsequently mandated by the state.

The 2001 permit, in part F.3.a.(3) and (4) stated:

> (a) To establish priorities for oversight of municipal areas and activities required under this Order, each Copermittee shall prioritize each watershed inventory in F.3.a.2. above by threat to water quality and update annually. Each municipal area and activity shall be classified as high, medium, or low threat to water quality. In evaluating threat to water quality, each Copermittee shall consider (1) type of municipal area or activity; (2) materials used (3) wastes generated; (4) pollutant discharge potential; (5) non-storm water discharges; (6) size of facility or area; (7) proximity to receiving water bodies; (8) sensitivity of receiving water bodies; and (9) any other relevant factors.
>
> (b) At a minimum, the high priority municipal areas and activities shall include the following:
>
> (i) Roads, Streets, Highways, and Parking Facilities. [¶]...[¶]
>
> F.3.a.(4) BMP Implementation (Municipal)
>
> (a) Each Copermittee shall designate a set of minimum BMPs for high, medium, and low threat to water quality municipal areas and activities (as determined under section F.3.a.(3)).The designated minimum BMPs for high threat to water quality municipal areas and activities shall be area or activity specific as appropriate.

Street sweeping is not expressly required in this 2001 permit provision, nor does it specify any frequencies or required reporting. Thus, the Commission finds that part D.3.a.(5) of the 2007 permit that requires street sweeping, as specified, is a new program or higher level of service, as well as part J.3.a(3)x-xv that requires reporting on street-sweeping activities.

D. Conveyance system cleaning and reporting (parts D.3.a.(3) & J.3.a.(3)(c)(iv)-(viii)): Also under part D.3 "Existing Development," part D.3.a.(3) requires conveyance system cleaning, including the following:

- Verifying proper operation of all municipal structural treatment controls designed to reduce pollutant discharges to or from the MS4s and related drainage structures.
- Cleaning any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of the design capacity in a timely manner.
- Cleaning any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning of any accumulated trash and debris immediately.
- Cleaning open channels of observed anthropogenic litter in a timely manner.

In J.3.a.(3)(c)(iv)-(viii), as part of the annual reporting requirements, copermittees shall provide a detailed accounting of the numbers of MS4 facilities in inventory, and the numbers of facilities inspected, exceeding cleaning criteria, and cleaned. In addition, copermittees must report by category tons of waste and litter removed from the facilities.

The State Board, in its comments submitted in October 2008, disagrees that the requirements exceed federal law, saying that "the same broad authorities applicable to the street sweeping requirement also apply to the conveyance system cleaning requirements." According to the State Board, specificity in inspection and cleaning requirements is consistent with and supported by U.S. EPA guidance. Also, to the extent that permit requirements are more specific than the federal regulations, the State Board asserts that the requirements are an appropriate exercise of the San Diego Water Board's discretion to define the MEP standard.

The claimants, in their February 2009 comments, state that "the requirements to inspect and perform maintenance to insure compliance with these standards is not limited by the 'regular schedule of maintenance' obligation but rather must be done as frequently as is necessary to comply with these specific standards." Also, claimants note that the content and detail in the reporting is more than required by the 2001 permit. As to the MEP standard required by the federal regulations, claimants assert that the U.S. EPA documents cited by the State Board provide guidance, not mandates, and the permit Fact Sheet does not specifically set forth mandatory annual inspection and maintenance requirements. According to the claimants, the only mandatory requirement is that a maintenance program exist, and that the applicant provide an inspection schedule if maintenance depends on the results of inspections or occurs infrequently. Yet the 2007 permit includes "very specific requirements that go beyond the U.S. EPA guidance and are not included within the federal regulations." Finally, claimants note that the State Board has acknowledged that the 2007 permit requirements are more specific than federal regulations, and cites the *Long Beach Unified School District* case to conclude that the specificity makes the requirements state mandates.

The Commission agrees with claimants. Like street sweeping, the permit requires conveyance system cleaning activities that fall within the federal regulations to include: "[a] description of maintenance activities and a maintenance schedule for structural controls to reduce pollutants (including floatables) in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers."[127] And they also require: "A description for operating and maintaining public streets, roads and highways and procedures for reducing the impact on receiving waters of discharges from municipal storm sewer systems…"[128]

Yet the permit requirements are more specific. Part D.3.a.(3) requires verifying proper operation of all municipal structural treatment controls, cleaning any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of the design capacity in a timely manner, cleaning any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning of any accumulated trash and debris immediately, and cleaning open channels of observed anthropogenic litter in a timely manner. In addition, the reporting in part J requires a detailed accounting of the numbers of MS4 facilities in inventory, and the numbers of facilities inspected, exceeding cleaning criteria, and cleaned, and reporting by category tons of waste and litter removed from the facilities. These activities, "exceed[s] the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[129] As in *Long Beach*

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[127] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(1).

[128] 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(3).

[129] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

Unified School Dist. v. State of California,[130] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[131] to impose these requirements. Therefore, the Commission finds that parts D.3.a.(3) and J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii of the permit are not a federal mandate.

Rather, the Commission finds that part D.3.a.(3) of the 2007 permit is a state mandate on the claimants to do the following:

> (a) Implement a schedule of inspection and maintenance activities to verify proper operation of all municipal structural treatment controls designed to reduce pollutant discharges to or from its MS4s and related drainage structures.
>
> (b) Implement a schedule of maintenance activities for the MS4 and MS4 facilities (catch basins, storm drain inlets, open channels, etc). The maintenance activities shall, at a minimum, include:
>
> i. Inspection at least once a year between May 1 and September 30 of each year for all MS4 facilities that receive or collect high volumes of trash and debris. All other MS4 facilities shall be inspected at least annually throughout the year.
>
> ii. Following two years of inspections, any MS4 facility that requires inspection and cleaning less than annually may be inspected as needed, but not less than every other year.
>
> iii. Any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of design capacity shall be cleaned in a timely manner. Any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning shall be cleaned of any accumulated trash and debris immediately. Open channels shall be cleaned of observed anthropogenic litter in a timely manner.
>
> iv. Record keeping of the maintenance and cleaning activities including the overall quantity of waste removed.
>
> v. Proper disposal of waste removed pursuant to applicable laws.
>
> vi. Measures to eliminate waste discharges during MS4 maintenance and cleaning activities.

The Commission also finds that part J.3.a.(3)(c) iv-viii is a state mandate to report the following information in the JURMP annual report:

> iv. Identification of the total number of catch basins and inlets, the number of catch basins and inlets inspected, the number of catch basins and inlets found with accumulated waste exceeding cleaning criteria, and the number of catch basins and inlets cleaned.
>
> v. Identification of the total distance (miles) of the MS4, the distance of the MS4 inspected, the distance of the MS4 found with accumulated waste exceeding cleaning criteria, and the distance of the MS4 cleaned.

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[130] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[131] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

vi. Identification of the total distance (miles) of open channels, the distance of the open channels inspected, the distance of the open channels found with anthropogenic litter, and the distance of open channels cleaned.

vii. Amount of waste and litter (tons) removed from catch basins, inlets, the MS4, and open channels, by category.

viii. Identification of any MS4 facility found to require inspection less than annually following two years of inspection, including justification for the finding.

As to whether these provisions are a new program or higher level of service, the State Board, in its October 2008 comments, states that the 2001 permit contained "*more* frequent inspection and removal requirements than required in the 2007 Permit. It also contained record keeping requirements to document the facilities cleaned and the quantities of waste removed." [Emphasis in original.]

Claimants, in their February 2009 comments, argue that the 2001 permit, in part F.3.a.(5) required each copermittee to 'implement a schedule of maintenance activities at all structural controls designed to reduce pollutant discharges. By contrast, the 2007 permit requires each copermittee to 'implement a schedule of **inspection and** maintenance' and to '**verify proper operation of all municipal** structural controls...." [Emphasis in original.] Claimants also point out that the 2007 permit requires copermittees to:

- Clean any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of the design capacity in a timely manner.
- Clean any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning of any accumulated trash and debris immediately.
- Clean open channels of observed anthropogenic litter in a timely manner.

According to claimants, these requirements were not included in the 2001 permit. Claimants also state that the requirement to inspect and perform maintenance "is not limited by the 'regular schedule of maintenance' obligation but rather must be done as frequently as is necessary to comply with these specific standards."

As to reporting, claimants state that the language in part D.3.a.(3)(b)(iv),(v) and (vi) of the 2007 permit and part F.3.a.(5)(c)(iii), (iv) and (v) of the 2001 permit track each other, but part J.3.a.(3)(c) iv through viii detail the information that the reports must now contain that was not in the 2001 permit, such as identifying the number of catch basins and inlets, the number inspected, the number found with accumulated waste exceeding the cleaning criteria, the distance of the MS4 cleaned, and other detail.

In analyzing whether parts D.3.a.(3) and J.3.a.(3)(c)(iv) – (viii) are a new program or higher level of service, we compare those provisions to the prior permit and look at the Regional Board's Fact Sheet/Technical Report, which states why Part D.3.a.(3) was added:

> **Section D.3.a.(3)** ... requires the Copermittees to inspect and remove waste from their MS4s prior to the rainy season. Additional wording has been added to clarify the intent of the requirements. The Copermittees will be required to inspect all storm drain inlets and catch basins. This change will assist the Copermittees in determining which basins/inlets need to be cleaned and at what

priority. Removal of trash has been identified by the copermittees as a priority issue in their long-term effectiveness assessment. To address this issue, wording has been added to require the Copermittees, at a minimum, inspect [sic] and remove trash from all their open channels at least once a year.

The 2001 permit contained the following in part F.3.a.(5)(b) and (c):

> (b) Each Copermittee shall implement a schedule of maintenance activities for the municipal separate storm sewer system.
> (c) The maintenance activities must, at a minimum, include:
> i. Inspection and removal of accumulated waste (e.g., sediment, trash, debris and other pollutants) between May 1 and September 30 of each year;
> ii. Additional cleaning as necessary between October 1 and April 30 of each year;
> iii. Record keeping of cleaning and the overall quantity of waste removed;
> iv. Proper disposal of waste removed pursuant to applicable laws;
> v. Measures to eliminate waste discharges during MS4 maintenance and cleaning activities.

The Commission finds that some provisions in the 2007 permit are the same as in the 2001 permit. Specifically, part D.3.a(3)(a) is not a new program or higher level of service because the 2001 permit also required maintenance and inspection in part F.3.a.(5)(b) and (c). The Commission also finds that part D.3.a.(3)(b)(i),(iv)- (vi) of the 2007 permit is the same as part F.3.a.(5)(c)(i)(iii) - (v) in the 2001 permit, both of which require:

- Annual inspection of MS4 facilities (D.3.a(3)(b)(i));
- Record keeping of the maintenance and cleaning activities including the overall quantity of waste removed (D.3.a(3)(b)(iv));
- Proper disposal of waste removed pursuant to applicable laws (D.3.a(3)(b)(v)); and
- Measures to eliminate waste discharges during MS4 maintenance and cleaning activities (D.3.a(3)(b)(vi)).

Therefore, the Commission finds that these provisions are not a new program or higher level of service.

The Commission also finds that part D.3.a.(3)(b)(ii) is not a new program or higher level of service. It gives the claimants the flexibility, after two years of inspections, to inspect MS4 facilities that require inspection and cleaning less than annually, but not less than every other year. Part F.3.a.(5)(c)(i) of the 2001 permit stated: "The maintenance activities must, at a minimum, include: i. inspection and removal of accumulated waste (e.g., sediment, trash, debris and other pollutants) between May 1 and September 30 of each year." Potentially less frequent inspections under the 2007 permit is not a new program or higher level of service.

The Commission finds that part D.3.a.(3)(b)(iii) of the 2007 permit is a new program or higher level of service on claimants to clean in a timely manner "Any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of design capacity.... Any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning shall be cleaned of any accumulated trash and debris immediately. Open channels shall be cleaned of observed anthropogenic litter in a timely

manner." This part contains specificity, e.g., a standard of accumulation greater than 33% of design capacity, which was not in the 2001 permit.

Further, the Commission finds that the reporting in part J.3.a.(3)(c) (iv) – (viii) is a new program or higher level of service. The 2001 permit did not require this information in the content of the annual reports.

E. Educational component (part D.5): Part D.5 requires the copermittees to perform the activities on pages 25-28 above, which can be summarized as:

- Implement an educational program so that copermittees' planning and development review staffs (and planning board/elected officials, if applicable) understand certain laws and regulations related to water quality.
- Implement an educational program that includes annual training before the rainy season so that the copermittees' construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and others will understand certain specified topics.
- At least annually, train staff responsible for conducting stormwater compliance inspections and enforcement of industrial and commercial facilities on specified topics.
- Implement an education program so that municipal personnel and contractors performing activities that generate pollutants understand the activity specific BMPs for each activity to be performed.
- Implement a program to educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, community planning groups, and others relating to specified topics.

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments on the test claim, states that federal regulations authorize the inclusion of an education component, in that the proposed management program must "include a description of appropriate educational and training measures for construction site operations" (40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(4)) and a "description of a program to reduce to the maximum extent practicable, pollutants in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers associated with the application of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizer which will include, as appropriate, controls such as educational activities, permits, certifications, and other measures for commercial applicators and distributors…(40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6)). The federal regulations also require a "description of a program to promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or water quality impacts associated with discharges from municipal separate storm sewers" (40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(5)) and a "description of educational activities, public information activities, and other appropriate activities to facilitate the proper management and disposal of used oil and toxic materials." (40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(6)). The State Board also says that according to the U.S. EPA's Phase II stormwater regulations, the MEP standard requires the copermittees to implement public education programs. According to the State Board, the regulations apply to copermittees with less developed storm water programs, and require the programs to include a public education and outreach program (40 C.F.R. § 122.34(b)(1)) and a public involvement/participation program (40 C.F.R. § 122.26(b)(2)). To the extent the permit requirements are more specific than federal law, the State Board calls them an appropriate use of the Regional Board's discretion "to require more specificity in establishing the MEP standard."

Claimants, in their February 2009 comments, characterize the federal regulations as only requiring them "to describe educational, public information, and other appropriate activities associated with their jurisdictional, watershed or stormwater management programs." By contrast, under the permit claimants argue that they are required to "implement specific educational and training programs that achieve measurable increases in specific target community knowledge and to ensure a measurable change in the behavior of such target communities rather than simply report on the ... educational programs on an annual basis." Claimants state that they are required to perform testing and surveys and "new program elements to secure the measureable changes in knowledge and behavior."

The Commission agrees with claimants. As quoted in the State Board's comments, the federal regulations require nonspecific descriptions of educational programs, for example, requiring the permit application to "include appropriate educational and training measures for construction site operations" and "controls such as educational activities." The permit, on the other hand, requires implementation of an educational program with target communities and specified topics. These requirements "exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[132] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[133] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[134] to impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that part D.5 of the permit is not federally mandated.

Based on the mandatory language on the face of the permit, the Commission finds that part D.5 of the permit constitutes a state mandate on the copermittees to do all of the following:

> Each Copermittee shall implement an education program using all media as appropriate to (1) measurably increase the knowledge of the target communities regarding MS4s, impacts of urban runoff on receiving waters, and potential BMP solutions for the target audience; and (2) to measurably change the behavior of target communities and thereby reduce pollutant releases to MS4s and the environment. At a minimum, the education program shall meet the requirements of this section and address the following target communities:
>
> · Municipal Departments and Personnel
> · Construction Site Owners and Developers
> · Industrial Owners and Operators
> · Commercial Owners and Operators
> · Residential Community, General Public, and School Children
>
> a. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
>
> (1) Each Copermittee shall educate each target community on the following topics where appropriate:

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[132] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[133] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[134] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

Table 3. Education

Laws, Regulations, Permits, & Requirements	**Best Management Practices**
• Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations • Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities (Except Construction). • Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities • Regional Board's General NPDES Permit for Ground Water Dewatering • Regional Board's 401 Water Quality Certification Program • Statewide General NPDES Utility Vault Permit • Requirements of local municipal permits and ordinances (e.g., storm water and grading ordinances and permits)	• Pollution prevention and safe alternatives • Good housekeeping (e.g., sweeping impervious surfaces instead of hosing) • Proper waste disposal (e.g., garbage, pet/animal waste, green waste, household hazardous materials, appliances, tires, furniture, vehicles, boat/recreational vehicle waste, catch basin/ MS4 cleanout waste) • Non-storm water disposal alternatives (e.g., all wash waters) • Methods to minimized the impact of land development and construction • Erosion prevention • Methods to reduce the impact of residential and charity car-washing • Preventive Maintenance • Equipment/vehicle maintenance and repair • Spill response, containment, and recovery • Recycling • BMP maintenance
General Urban Runoff Concepts	**Other Topics**
• Impacts of urban runoff on receiving waters • Distinction between MS4s and sanitary sewers • BMP types: facility or activity specific, LID, source control, and treatment control • Short-and long-term water quality impacts associated with urbanization (e.g., land-use decisions, development, construction) • Non-storm water discharge prohibitions • How to conduct a storm water inspections	• Public reporting mechanisms • Water quality awareness for Emergency/ First Responders • Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination observations and follow-up during daily work activities • Potable water discharges to the MS4 • Dechlorination techniques • Hydrostatic testing • Integrated pest management • Benefits of native vegetation • Water conservation •Alternative materials and designs to maintain peak runoff values •Traffic reduction, alternative fuel use

(2) Copermittee educational programs shall emphasize underserved target audiences, high-risk behaviors, and "allowable" behaviors and discharges, including various ethnic and socioeconomic groups and mobile sources.

b. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

(1) Municipal Departments and Personnel Education

(a) Municipal Development Planning – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that its planning and development review staffs (and Planning Boards and Elected Officials, if applicable) have an understanding of:

i. Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to Development Projects;
ii. The connection between land use decisions and short and long-term water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land development and urbanization);
iii. How to integrate LID BMP requirements into the local regulatory program(s) and requirements; and
iv. Methods of minimizing impacts to receiving water quality resulting from development, including:
[1] Storm water management plan development and review;
[2] Methods to control downstream erosion impacts;
[3] Identification of pollutants of concern;
[4] LID BMP techniques;
[5] Source control BMPs; and
[6] Selection of the most effective treatment control BMPs for the pollutants of concern.

(b) Municipal Construction Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program that includes annual training prior to the rainy season so that its construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and other responsible construction staff have, at a minimum, an understanding of the following topics, as appropriate for the target audience:

i. Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to construction and grading[135] activities.
ii. The connection between construction activities and water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land development and urbanization and impacts from construction material such as sediment).
iii. Proper implementation of erosion and sediment control and other BMPs to minimize the impacts to receiving water quality resulting from construction activities.
iv. The Copermittee's inspection, plan review, and enforcement policies and procedures to verify consistent application.
v. Current advancements in BMP technologies.
vi. SUSMP Requirements including treatment options, LID BMPs, source control, and applicable tracking mechanisms.

[135] Attachment C of the permit defines grading as "the cutting and/or filling of the land surface to a desired slope or elevation."

(c) Municipal Industrial/Commercial Activities - Each Copermittee shall train staff responsible for conducting storm water compliance inspections and enforcement of industrial and commercial facilities at least once a year. Training shall cover inspection and enforcement procedures, BMP implementation, and reviewing monitoring data.

(d) Municipal Other Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that municipal personnel and contractors performing activities which generate pollutants have an understanding of the activity specific BMPs for each activity to be performed.

(2) New Development and Construction Education

As early in the planning and development process as possible and all through the permitting and construction process, each Copermittee shall implement a program to educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, community planning groups, and other responsible parties. The education program shall provide an understanding of the topics listed in Sections D.5.b.(1)(a) and D.5.b.(1)(b) above, as appropriate for the audience being educated. The education program shall also educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, and other responsible parties on the importance of educating all construction workers in the field about stormwater issues and BMPs through formal or informal training.

(3) Residential, General Public, and School Children Education

Each Copermittee shall collaboratively conduct or participate in development and implementation of a plan to educate residential, general public, and school children target communities. The plan shall evaluate use of mass media, mailers, door hangers, booths at public events, classroom education, field trips, hands-on experiences, or other educational methods.

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, states that the education requirement in part D.5. does not amount to a new program or higher level of service because the 2007 permit "includes education topics from the 2001 permit with minor wording and formatting changes. Additionally, the requirements were adopted to implement the same federal MEP standard as established in the CWA and in the 2001 Permit."

In their February 2009 comments, the claimants state that the 2001 permit did not require:

- Implementation of an education program so that the copermittee's planning and development review staff (and Planning Boards and Elected Officials, if applicable) understand certain specified laws and regulations related to water quality. (D.5.b.(1)(a).)
- Implementation of an education program that includes annual training prior to the rainy season so that the copermittee's construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and other responsible construction staff have, at a minimum, an understanding of certain specified topics. (D.5.b.(1)(b).)
- Training of staff responsible for conducting storm water compliance inspections and enforcement of industrial and commercial facilities at least once a year relating to certain specified topics (D.5.b.(1)(c).)

- Implementation of an education program so that municipal personnel and contractors performing activities which generate pollutants have an understanding of the activity specific BMPs for each activity to be performed. (D.5.b.(1)(d).)
- Implementation of a program to educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, community planning groups, and other responsible parties relating to certain specified topics. (D.5.b.(2).)

This analysis of whether the permit is a new program or higher level of service is in the order presented in the permit. The Commission finds that nearly all of the educational topics in part D.5.a. are the same as those in the 2001 permit (part F.4). Both the 2001 and 2007 permits require the claimants to "educate" each specified target community on the following topics (Table 3 in the 2007 permit):

> **Laws, Regulations, Permits, & Requirements:** Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations; Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities (Except Construction); Statewide General NPDES Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities; Regional Board's General NPDES Permit for Ground Water Dewatering; Regional Board's 401 Water Quality Certification Program; Statewide General NPDES Utility Vault Permit; Requirements of local municipal permits and ordinances (e.g., storm water and grading ordinances and permits).
>
> **Best Management Practices:** Pollution prevention and safe alternatives; Good housekeeping (e.g., sweeping impervious surfaces instead of hosing); Proper waste disposal (e.g., garbage, pet/animal waste, green waste, household hazardous materials, appliances, tires, furniture, vehicles, boat/recreational vehicle waste, catch basin/ MS4 cleanout waste); Non-storm water disposal alternatives (e.g., all wash waters); Methods to minimized the impact of land development and construction; Methods to reduce the impact of residential and charity car-washing; Preventive Maintenance; Equipment/vehicle maintenance and repair; Spill response, containment, and recovery; Recycling; BMP maintenance.
>
> **General Urban Runoff Concepts:** Impacts of urban runoff on receiving waters; Distinction between MS4s and sanitary sewers; Short-and long-term water , quality impacts associated with urbanization (e.g., land-use decisions, development, construction); How to conduct a storm water inspection.
>
> **Other Topics:** Public reporting mechanisms; Water quality awareness for Emergency/ First Responders; Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination observations and follow-up during daily work activities; Potable water discharges to the MS4; Dechlorination techniques; Hydrostatic testing; Integrated pest management; Benefits of native vegetation; Water conservation; Alternative materials and designs to maintain peak runoff values; Traffic reduction, alternative fuel use.

Because the requirement to educate the target communities on these topics was in the 2001 permit, as well as the 2007 permit, the Commission finds that doing so, as required by part D.5.a(1), table 3, is not a new program or higher level of service.

Under the 2007 permit, the copermittees are required to "educate each target community" on the following educational topics that were not in the 2001 permit: (1) Erosion prevention, (2) Non storm water discharge prohibitions, and (3) BMP types: facility or activity specific, LID [low-impact development], source control, and treatment control. Thus, the Commission finds that the part D.5.a.(1) is a new program or higher level of service to educate each target community on only the following topics: (1) Erosion prevention, (2) Non storm water discharge prohibitions, and (3) BMP types: facility or activity specific, LID, source control, and treatment control.

Part D.5.a.(2) states: "(2) Copermittee educational programs shall emphasize underserved target audiences, high-risk behaviors, and 'allowable' behaviors and discharges, including various ethnic and socioeconomic groups and mobile sources." This provision was not in the 2001 permit, so the Commission finds that part D.5.a.(2) is a new program or higher level of service.

In part D.5.b.(1)(a) (Municipal Development Planning) the permit requires implementing an education program for "municipal planning and development review staffs (and Planning Board and Elected Officials, if applicable)" on specified topics. The 2001 permit required implementing an educational program for "Municipal Departments and Personnel" that would include planning and development review staffs, but not planning boards and elected officials. So the Commission finds that part D.5.b.(1)(a)(i) and (ii) is a new program or higher level of service for planning boards and elected officials.

Certain topics in part D.5.b.(1)(a) are a new program or higher level of service for both planning and development review staffs as well as planning boards and elected officials. Under both part F.4.a. of the 2001 permit, and D.5.b.(1)(a) of the 2007 permit, the copermittees are required to implement an educational program on the following topics:

> i. Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to Development Projects; [The 2001 permit, in F.4.a. (p. 35) says: "Federal, state and local water quality regulations that affect development projects."]
>
> ii. The connection between land use decisions and short and long-term water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land development and urbanization); [The 2001 permit, in F.4.a (p. 35) calls this "Waters Quality Impacts associated with land development."]

Thus the Commission finds that implementing an educational program on these topics is not a new program or higher level of service for municipal departments, but is for planning boards and elected officials.

The following topics were not listed in the 2001 permit, so the Commission finds that part D.5.b.(1)(a) is a new program or higher level of service to implement these in an educational program for all target communities:

> (iii) How to integrate LID BMP requirements into the local regulatory program(s) and requirements;
>
> (iv) Methods of minimizing impacts to receiving water quality resulting from development, including: [1] Storm water management plan development and review; [2] Methods to control downstream erosion impacts; [3] Identification of pollutants of concern; [4] LID BMP techniques; [5] Source control BMPs; and

[6] Selection of the most effective treatment control BMPs for the pollutants of concern.

Part D.5.b.(1)(b) (Municipal Construction Activities) of the permit requires implementing an educational program for municipal "construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs." Again, this is not a new program or higher level of service for those topics in which the 2001 permit also required an education program for "Municipal Departments and Personnel," such as:

> i. Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to construction and grading activities. [The 2001 permit, in F.4.a. (p. 35) says: "Federal, state and local water quality regulations that affect development projects."]
>
> ii. The connection between construction activities and water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land development and urbanization and impacts from construction material such as sediment. [The 2001 permit, in F.4.a (p. 35) calls this "Water Quality Impacts associated with land development."]

The timing of the educational program specified in D.5.b.(1)(b) requires it to be implemented "prior to the rainy season." There is no evidence in the record, however, that this timing requirement is a new program or higher level of service compared with the 2001 permit. Thus the Commission finds that part D.5.b.(1)(b)(i) and (ii) are not a new program or higher level of service.

Municipal construction activity education topics were added to the 2007 permit, however, that were not in the 2001 permit, in paragraphs (iii) to (vi) as follows:

> (b) Municipal Construction Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program that includes annual training prior to the rainy season so that its construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and other responsible construction staff have, at a minimum, an understanding of the following topics, as appropriate for the target audience: [¶]...[¶] iii. Proper implementation of erosion and sediment control and other BMPs to minimize the impacts to receiving water quality resulting from construction activities.
> iv. The Copermittee's inspection, plan review, and enforcement policies and procedures to verify consistent application.
> v. Current advancements in BMP technologies.
> vi. SUSMP Requirements including treatment options, LID BMPs, source control, and applicable tracking mechanisms.

Thus, the Commission finds that part D.5.b.(1)(b)(iii) - (vi) of the 2007 permit is a new program or higher level of service.

Part D.5.b.(1)(c) of the 2007 permit (Municipal Industrial/Commercial Activities) requires the following:

> (c) Each Copermittee shall train staff responsible for conducting storm water compliance inspections and enforcement of industrial and commercial facilities at

least once a year. Training shall cover inspection and enforcement procedures, BMP implementation, and reviewing monitoring data.

The 2001 permit included (in F.4.b.) the topic "How to conduct a stormwater inspection" but did not specify that the training was to be annual, and did not require the training to cover inspection and enforcement procedures, BMP Implementation, or reviewing monitoring data. Thus, the Commission finds that part D.5.(b)(1)(c) is a new program or higher level of service.

Part D.5.b.(1)(d) of the 2007 permit requires the following:

> (d) Municipal Other Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that municipal personnel and contractors performing activities which generate pollutants have an understanding of the activity specific BMPs for each activity to be performed.

Regarding part D.5.b.(1)(d), the 2007 Fact Sheet/Technical Report states:

> A new requirement has also been added for education of activity specific BMPs for municipal personnel and contractors performing activities that generate pollutants. Education is required at all levels of municipal staff and contractors. Education is especially important for the staff in the field performing activities which might result in discharges of pollutants if proper BMPs are not used.

Because part D.5.b.(1)(d) was not in the 2001 permit, and because the Regional Board called it a "new requirement" the Commission finds that part D.5.(b)(1)(d) of the 2007 permit is a new program or higher level of service.

Part D.5.(b)(2) of the 2007 permit requires an education program for "project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, community planning groups, and other responsible parties." Parts F.4.a and F4.b. of the 2001 permit required a similar education program for "construction site owners and developers." The Fact Sheet/Technical Report for the 2007 permit states:

> Different levels of training will be needed for planning groups, owners, developers, contractors, and construction workers, but everyone should get a general education of stormwater requirements. Education of all construction workers can prevent unintentional discharges, such as discharges by workers who are not aware that they are not allowed to wash things down the storm drains. Training for BMP installation workers is imperative because the BMPs will not fail if not properly installed and maintained. Training for field level workers can be formal or informal tail-gate format.

Thus, the Commission finds that part D.5.(b)(2) of the 2007 permit is a new program or higher level of service for project applicants, contractors, or community planning groups who are not developers or construction site owners.

The final part of the education programs in the 2007 permit is D.5.(b)(3) regarding "Residential, General Public, and School Children."

> Each Copermittee shall collaboratively conduct or participate in development and implementation of a plan to educate residential, general public, and school children target communities. The plan shall evaluate use of mass media, mailers,

door hangers, booths at public events, classroom education, field trips, hands-on experiences, or other educational methods.

The 2001 permit (part F.4.c.) stated the following:

> In addition to the topics listed in F.4.a. above, the Residential, General Public, and School Children communities shall be educated on the following topics where applicable:
>
> - Public reporting information resources
> - Residential and charity car-washing
> - Community activities (e.g., "Adopt a Storm Drain, Watershed, or Highway" Programs, citizen monitoring, creek/beach cleanups, environmental protection organization activities, etc..

The 2001 permit did not require claimants to "collaboratively conduct or participate in development ... of a plan to educate residential, general public, and school children target communities." The 2001 permit also did not require the plan to "evaluate use of mass media, mailers, door hangers, booths at public events, classroom education, field trips, hands-on experiences, or other educational methods." Thus, the Commission finds that part D.5.(b)(3) of the 2007 permit is a new program or higher level of service.

In sum, as to part D.5 of the 2007 permit that requires implementing educational programs, the Commission finds that the following subparts are new programs or higher levels of service:

- D.5.a.(1): Each copermittee shall educate each target community, as specified, on the following topics: erosion prevention, nonstorm waters discharge prohibitions, and BMP types: facility or activity specific, LID, source control, and treatment control.
- D.5.a.(2): Copermittee educational programs shall emphasize underserved target audiences, high-risk behaviors, and "allowable" behaviors and discharges, including various ethnic and socioeconomic groups and mobile sources.
- D.5.b.(1)(a): Implement an education program so that planning boards and elected officials, if applicable, have an understanding of: (i) Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to Development Projects; (ii) The connection between land use decisions and short and long-term water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land developments and urbanization).
- D.5.b.(1)(a): Implement an education program so that planning and development review staffs as well as planning boards and elected officials have an understanding of: (iii) How to integrate LID BMP requirements into the local regulatory program(s) and requirements; (iv) Methods of minimizing impacts to receiving water quality resulting from development, including: [1] Storm water management plan development and review; [2] Methods to control downstream erosion impacts; [3] Identification of pollutants of concern; [4] LID BMP techniques; [5] Source control BMPs; and [6] Selection of the most effective treatment control BMPs for the pollutants of concern."
- D.5.b.(1)(b)(iii) - (vi): Implement an education program that includes annual training prior to the rainy season for its construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and other responsible construction staff have, at a minimum, an

understanding of the topics in parts D.5.b.(1)(b)(iii), (iv), (v), and (vi) of the permit, as follows:

> iii. Proper implementation of erosion and sediment control and other BMPs to minimize the impacts to receiving water quality resulting from construction activities.
>
> iv. The Copermittee's inspection, plan review, and enforcement policies and procedures to verify consistent application.
>
> v. Current advancements in BMP technologies.
>
> vi. SUSMP Requirements including treatment options, LID BMPs, source control, and applicable tracking mechanisms.

- D.5.(b)(1)(c) and (d) as follows:

  > Each Copermittee shall train staff responsible for conducting storm water compliance inspections and enforcement of industrial and commercial facilities at least once a year. Training shall cover inspection and enforcement procedures, BMP implementation, and reviewing monitoring data.

- Municipal Other Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that municipal personnel and contractors performing activities which generate pollutants have an understanding of the activity specific BMPs for each activity to be performed.

- D.5.(b)(2), As early in the planning and development process as possible and all through the permitting and construction process, to implement a program to educate project applicants, contractors, property owners, community planning groups, and other responsible parties. The education program shall provide an understanding of the topics listed in Sections D.5.b.(1)(a) [Municipal Development Planning] and D.5.b.(1)(b) [Municipal construction Activities] above, as appropriate for the audience being educated. The education program shall also educate project applicants, contractors, property owners, and other responsible parties on the importance of educating all construction workers in the field about stormwater issues and BMPs through formal or informal training.

- D.5.(b)(3), Each Copermittee shall collaboratively conduct or participate in development and implementation of a plan to educate residential, general public, and school children target communities. The plan shall evaluate use of mass media, mailers, door hangers, booths at public events, classroom education, field trips, hands-on experiences, or other educational methods.

II. Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program (Part E)

Part E of the permit is the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program (WURMP). The permit (Table 4) divides the copermittees into nine watershed management areas (WMAs) by "major receiving water bodies." The 2001 permit also had a WURMP component (in part J).

A. Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program copermittee collaboration (parts E.2.f & E.2.g): These provisions require the copermittees to do the activities on pages 28-29 above, including the following:

- Collaborating with other copermittees within their watershed management areas (WMAs) to develop and implement an updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program for each watershed that prevents urban runoff discharges from the MS4 from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards which at a minimum includes:
    - Identifying and implementing watershed activities that address the high priority water quality problems in the watershed management areas that include both watershed water quality activities[136] and watershed education activities.[137]
    - Creating a watershed activities list that includes certain specified information to be submitted with each updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan (WURMP) and updated annually thereafter.
    - Implementing identified watershed activities within established schedules.
    - Collaborating to develop and implement the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program, including frequent regularly scheduled meetings.[138]

In its October 2008 comments, the State Board asserts that the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program activities are necessary to meet the minimum federal MEP standard. The State Board quotes the following federal regulations: "The Director may … issue distinct permits for appropriate categories of discharges … including, but not limited to … all discharges within a system that discharge to the same watershed…" (40 C.F.R. 122.26(a)(3)(ii).) The State Board also quotes more specific federal regulations:

> Permits for all or a portion of all discharges from large or medium municipal separate storm sewer systems that are issued on a system-wide, jurisdiction-wide, watershed, or other basis may specify different conditions relating to different discharges covered by the permit, including different management programs for different drainage areas [watersheds] which contribute storm water to the system. (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (a)(3)(v).)
>
> The Director may issue permits for municipal separate storm sewers that are designated under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section on a system-wide basis, a

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[136] Watershed Water Quality Activities are activities other than education that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA. A Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented on a jurisdictional basis must be organized and implemented to target a watershed's high priority water quality problems or must exceed the baseline jurisdictional requirements of section D of the permit (Part E.2.f).

[137] Watershed Education Activities are outreach and training activities that address high priority water quality problems in the WMA (Part E.2.f).

[138] In their February 2009 comments, the claimants also list the following activities: (1) Annual review of WURMPs to identify needed modifications and improvements (part E.2.i); (2) Develop and periodically update watershed maps (part E.2.b); (3) Develop and implement a program for encouraging collaborative watershed-based land-use planning (part E.2.d); (4) Develop and implement a collective watershed strategy (part E.2.e). These parts of the permit, however, were not pled in the test claim so the Commission makes no findings on them.

> jurisdiction-wide basis, watershed basis, or other appropriate basis;" (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (a)(5).)
>
> Proposed programs may impose controls on a systemwide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls. (40 C.F.R. § 122.26 (d)(2)(iv).)

The State Board argues that the regional board "determined that the inclusion of the requirement to formalize the Watershed Water Qualities Activities List was appropriate to further the goal of the WURMPS in achieving compliance with federal law." Based on some reports it received, the Regional Board determined that "many of the watershed water quality activities had no clear connection to the high priority water quality problems in the area of implementation." The Board determined it was therefore necessary and appropriate to require development of an implementation strategy to maximize WURMP effectiveness.

Claimants, in their February 2009 comments, point out that while cooperative agreements may be required by 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(d)(2)(i)(D), "each copermittee is only responsible for their own systems." Claimants quote another federal regulation: "Copermittees need only comply with permit conditions relating to discharges from the municipal separate storm sewers for which they operate." (40 C.F.R. § 122.26(a)(3)(vi).) Claimants argue that the 2007 permit:

> [R]equires the copermittees to engage in specific programmatic activities that are duplicative of the activities that were not required under the 2001 Permit and that are already required of them on a jurisdictional basis within the boundaries of the same watershed. These new requirements include no less than two watershed water quality activities and two watershed education activities per year.

Claimants also state that the permit "mandates that watershed quality activities implemented on a jurisdictional basis must exceed the baseline jurisdictional requirements under Section D of the Order." (part E.2.f.(1)(a).) According to what the claimants call these "dual baseline standards, jurisdictional and watershed, the copermittees are required to perform more and duplicative work."

The Commission finds that the permit requirements in sections E.2.f and E.2.g. are not federal mandates. As with the other requirements in the permit, the federal regulations authorize but do not require the specificity regarding whether collaboration occurs on a jurisdictional, watershed or other basis. These requirements "exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[139] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[140] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[141] to impose these requirements.

Based on the mandatory language in the permit, the Commission finds that the following in part E are a state mandate on the copermittees:

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[139] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[140] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[141] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

2. Each Copermittee shall collaborate with other Copermittees within its WMA(s) as in Table 4 [of the permit] to develop and implement an updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program for each watershed. Each updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program shall meet the requirements of section E of this Order, reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP, and prevent urban runoff discharges from the MS4 from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards. At a minimum, each Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program shall include the elements described below:
[¶]...[¶]

f. Watershed Activities[142]

(1) The Watershed Copermittees shall identify and implement Watershed Activities that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA. Watershed Activities shall include both Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities. These activities may be implemented individually or collectively, and may be implemented at the regional, watershed, or jurisdictional level.

(a) Watershed Water Quality Activities are activities other than education that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA. A Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented on a jurisdictional basis must be organized and implemented to target a watershed's high priority water quality problems or must exceed the baseline jurisdictional requirements of section D of this Order.

(b) Watershed Education Activities are outreach and training activities that address high priority water quality problems in the WMA.

(2) A Watershed Activities List shall be submitted with each updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan (WURMP) and updated annually thereafter. The Watershed Activities List shall include both Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities, along with a description of how each activity was selected, and how all of the activities on the list will collectively abate sources and reduce pollutant discharges causing the identified high priority water quality problems in the WMA.

(3) Each activity on the Watershed Activities List shall include the following information:

(a) A description of the activity;
(b) A time schedule for implementation of the activity, including key milestones;
(c) An identification of the specific responsibilities of Watershed Copermittees in completing the activity;
(d) A description of how the activity will address the identified high priority water quality problem(s) of the watershed;

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[142] In their rebuttal comments submitted in February 2009, claimants mention part E.(3) of the permit that requires a detailed description of each activity on the Watershed Activities List. Part E.(3), however, was not in the test claim so staff makes no findings on it.

(e) A description of how the activity is consistent with the collective watershed strategy;
(f) A description of the expected benefits of implementing the activity; and
(g) A description of how implementation effectiveness will be measured.

(4) Each Watershed Copermittee shall implement identified Watershed Activities pursuant to established schedules. For each Permit year, no less than two Watershed Water Quality Activities and two Watershed Education Activities shall be in an active implementation phase. A Watershed Water Quality Activity is in an active implementation phase when significant pollutant load reductions, source abatement, or other quantifiable benefits to discharge or receiving water quality can reasonably be established in relation to the watershed's high priority water quality problem(s). Watershed Water Quality Activities that are capital projects are in active implementation for the first year of implementation only. A Watershed Education Activity is in an active implementation phase when changes in attitudes, knowledge, awareness, or behavior can reasonably be established in target audiences.

g. Copermittee Collaboration

Watershed Copermittees shall collaborate to develop and implement the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs. Watershed Copermittee collaboration shall include frequent regularly scheduled meetings.

As to the issue of new program or higher level of service, the State Board, in its October 2008 comments, states:

> Although Section E.2.f. requires development and implementation of a list of Watershed Water Qualities Activities for potential implementation that was not specifically required in the 2001 Permit, the Copermittees were previously required to identify priority water quality issues and identify recommended activities to address the priority water quality problems (See 2001 Permit, section J.1 and J.2.d.)

The State Board asserts that Copermittees were already required to collaborate with other Copermittees, and that "Section E.2.g. merely adds effectiveness strategies to the collaboration requirements." ... Other requirements challenged by the Claimants exist in the 2001 Permit, but with minor wording changes (e.g., the requirement to update watershed maps, which exists in both permits).

Claimants, in their February 2009 comments, assert that parts E.2.f. and E.2.g do impose a new program or higher level of service. According to the claimants:

> Under the 2001 Permit the watershed requirements were essentially limited to mapping, assessment and identification of short and long term issues. Collaboration included mapping (J.2.a.), assessment of receiving waters (J.2.b); identification and prioritization of water quality problems (J.2.c); implementation of time schedules (J.2.d) and identification of copermittee responsibilities for each recommended activity including a time schedule.
>
> [¶]...[¶]

> The 2007 Permit imposes standards far beyond those listed in ... the 2001 Permit .... The 2007 Permit now requires the copermittees to engage in specific programmatic activities that are duplicative of the activities that were not required under the 2001 Permit and that are already required of them on a jurisdictional basis within the boundaries of the same watershed. These new requirements include no less than two watershed water quality activities and two watershed education activities per year. The two-activity watershed requirement is a condition of all copermittees regardless of whether the activity is within their jurisdictional authority or not.
>
> In addition, while the 2007 Permit states that activities can be implemented at a regional, watershed or jurisdictional level, it mandates that watershed quality activities implemented on a jurisdictional basis must exceed the baseline jurisdictional requirements under Section D of the Order. By reason of the dual baseline standards, jurisdictional and watershed, the copermittees are required to perform more and duplicative work.

The Commission finds that E.2.f. and E.2.g of the permit are a new program or higher level of service.

As to watershed education in part E.2.f, the 2001 permit (in part J.2.g.) stated that the WURMP shall contain "A watershed based education program." The 2007 permit states that the WURMP shall include "watershed education activities" defined as "outreach and training activities that address high priority water quality problems in the WMA [Watershed Management Area(s)]." Moreover, in part E.f.(4), the 2007 permit states: "A Watershed Education Activity is in an active implementation phase when changes in attitudes, knowledge, awareness, or behavior can reasonably be established in target audiences." Because of this increased requirement for implementation of watershed education, the Commission finds that watershed education activities, as defined in part E.2.f, is a new program or higher level of service.

Additionally, the Commission finds that the rest of part E.2.f. is a new program or higher level of service because it includes elements not in the 2001 permit, such as:

- A definition of watershed water quality activities (part E.2.f.(1)(a)).
- Submission of a watershed activities list, with specified contents (part E.2.f.(2)).
- A detailed description of each activity on the watershed activities list, with seven specific components (part E.2.f.(3)).
- Implementation of watershed activities pursuant to established schedules, including definitions of when activities are in an active implementation phase (part E.2.f.(4)).

As to part E.2.g., although the 2001 (in parts J.1. & J.2.) and 2007 permits both require copermittee collaboration in developing and implementing the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan, copermittee collaboration is a new program or higher level of service because the WURMP is greatly expanded over the 2001 permit in part E.2.f as discussed above. This means that new collaboration is required to develop and implement the watershed activities in part E.2.f.

The 2007 permit (in part E.2.g) also states that "Watershed Copermittee collaboration shall include frequent regularly scheduled meetings." This requirement for meetings was not in the 2001 permit. The Fact Sheet/Technical Report states:

> The requirement for regularly scheduled meetings has been added based on Regional Board findings that watershed groups which hold regularly scheduled meetings (such as for San Diego Bay) typically produced better programs and work products than watershed groups that went for extended periods of time without scheduled meetings.[143]

Therefore, the Commission finds that part E.2.g. of the 2007 permit is a new program or higher level of service.

Regarding watershed water quality activities in part E.2.f, the Fact Sheet/Technical Report the Regional Board stated:

> This requirement developed over time while working with the Copermittees on their WURMP implementation under Order No. 2001-01. In October 2004 letters, the Regional Board recommended the Copermittees develop a list of Watershed Water Quality Activities for potential implementation. Following receipt of the Regional Board letters, the Copermittees created the Watershed Water Quality Activity lists. Although the Copermittees' lists needed improvement, the Regional Board found the lists to be useful planning tools that can be evaluated to identify effective and efficient Watershed Water Quality Activities. Because the lists are useful and have become a part of the WURMP implementation process, a requirement for their development has been written into the Order.

Thus, the Commission finds that part E.2.f. of the permit is a new program or higher level of service, in that it requires the following not required in the 2001 permit:

- Identification and implementation of watershed activities that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA (Watershed Management Area), as specified (part E.2.f.(1)).
- Submission of a watershed activities list with each updated WURMP and updated annually thereafter, as specified (part E.2.f.(2)-(3)).
- Implementation of watershed activities pursuant to established schedules: no less than two watershed water quality activities and two watershed education activities in active implementation phase, as defined, per permit year (part E.2.f.(4)).

III. Regional Urban Runoff Management Program (Part F)

Part F of the permit describes the Regional Urban Runoff Management Program (RURMP). It was included because "some aspects of urban runoff management can be effectively addressed at a regional level. … However, significant flexibility has been provided to the Copermittees for new regional requirements."[144]

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[143] For an inexplicable reason, the Fact Sheet/Technical Report lists this collaboration activity under Section E.2.m of the permit rather than E.2.g.. The permit at issue has no section E.2.m.

[144] San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, "Fact Sheet/Technical Report for Order No. R9-2007-0001."

A. Copermittee collaboration – Regional Residential Education Program Development and Implementation (part F.1): Part F.1 requires the copermittees to develop and implement a Regional Residential Education Program, with specified contents (see p. 12 above). In the test claim the claimants discuss hiring a consultant to develop the educational program that "will generally educate residents on: 1) the difference between stormwater conveyance systems and sanitary sewer systems; 2) the connection of storm drains to local waterways; and 3) common residential sources of urban run-off." Claimants allege activities to comply with section F.1 of the permit that include, but are not limited to: "development of materials/branding, a regional website, regional outreach events, regional advertising and mass media, partnership development, and the development of marketing and research tools, including regional surveys to be conducted in FY 2008-09 and again in FY 2011-12."

In comments submitted in October 2008, the State Board asserts that the permit condition in section F.1. is necessary to meet the minimum federal MEP standard and that the requirement is supported by the Clean Water Act statutes and regulations. The State Board cites the following federal regulations:

> (v) Permits for all or a portion of all discharges from large or medium municipal separate storm sewer systems that are issued on a system-wide, jurisdiction-wide, watershed or other basis may specify different conditions relating to different discharges covered by the permit, including different management programs for different drainage areas which contribute storm water to the system.[145] [¶]...[¶]
>
> (5) The Director may issue permits for municipal separate storm sewers that are designated under paragraph (a)(1)(v) of this section on a system-wide basis, jurisdiction-wide basis, watershed basis or other appropriate basis, or may issue permits for individual discharges.[146] [¶]...[¶]
>
> (2) *Part 2.* Part 2 of the application shall consist of:
>
> (i) *Adequate legal authority.* A demonstration that the applicant can operate pursuant to legal authority established by statute, ordinance or series of contracts which authorizes or enables the applicant at a minimum to: [¶]...[¶]
>
> (D) Control through interagency agreements among coapplicants the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the municipal system to another portion of the municipal system;[147]
>
> (iv) Proposed programs may impose controls on a systemwide basis, a watershed basis, a jurisdiction basis, or on individual outfalls. ...[148]

In response, the claimants' February 2009 comments state that the Regional Residential Education Program is not necessary to meet the minimum federal MEP standard. The regional nature of the education program, according to the claimants, is duplicative because it imposes the

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[145] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (a)(3(v).

[146] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (a)(5).

[147] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (d)(2)(i)(D).

[148] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (d)(iv).

education requirements at the regional and jurisdictional levels concurrently, and it exceeds federal law.

The Commission finds that the requirements in part F.1 of the permit do not constitute a federal mandate. There is no federal requirement to provide a regional educational program, so the education program, "exceed[s] the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[149] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*, the permit "requires specific actions ... [that are] required acts."[150] In adopting part F.1, the state has freely chosen[151] to impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that part F.1. of the permit does not constitute a federal mandate.

Based on the mandatory language on the face of the permit, the Commission finds that the permit constitutes a state mandate on the claimants to do all the following in part F.1 of the permit:

> The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program shall, at a minimum:
>
> 1. Develop and implement a Regional Residential Education Program. The program shall include:
>
> a. Pollutant specific education which focuses educational efforts on bacteria, nutrients, sediment, pesticides, and trash. If a different pollutant is determined to be more critical for the education program, the pollutant can be substituted for one of these pollutants.
> b. Education efforts focused on the specific residential sources of the pollutants listed in section F.1.a (p. 50.)

As to whether this is a new program or higher level of service, the State Board, in its October 2008 comments, states that it is not because the claimants were already implementing a residential education program at a regional level before the permit was adopted.

In claimants' February 2009 rebuttal comments, they assert that it is irrelevant whether or not the copermittees voluntarily met or exceeded the now mandatory requirements imposed by the 2007 permit because Government Code section 17565 states: "If a local agency ... at its option, has been incurring costs which are subsequently mandated by the state, the state shall reimburse the local agency ... for those costs incurred after the operative date of the mandate."

The Commission finds that part F.1 of the permit is a new program or higher level of service. The 2001 permit required an educational component as part of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (part F.4) that contained a residential component, but not a Regional Residential Education Program, so the activities in this program are new. Also, the Commission agrees that whether or not claimants were engaged in an educational program is not relevant due to Government Code section 17565. The Regional Board, in requiring the regional educational program, leaves the local agencies with no choice but to comply.

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[149] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[150] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155, 173.

[151] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

B. Copermittee collaboration (parts F.2 & F.3): Parts F.2 and F.3 (quoted on p. 11 above) require the copermittees to collaborate to develop, implement, and update as necessary a Regional Urban Runoff Management Program, to include developing the standardized fiscal analysis method required in permit part G (part F.2) and facilitating the assessment of the effectiveness of jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs (part F.3).

In comments submitted in October 2008, the State Board asserts that the permit conditions in sections F.2 and F.3 are necessary to meet the minimum MEP standard, quoting the following federal regulation regarding municipal stormwater permits:

> (2) *Part 2.* Part 2 of the application shall consist of:
>
> (i) *Adequate legal authority.* A demonstration that the applicant can operate pursuant to legal authority established by statute, ordinance or series of contracts which authorizes or enables the applicant at a minimum to: [¶]...[¶]
>
> (D) Control through interagency agreements among coapplicants the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the municipal system to another portion of the municipal system;[152]

The State Board also quotes section 122.26 (a)(3)(v) of the federal regulations as follows:

> (v) Permits for all or a portion of all discharges from large[153] or medium[154] municipal separate storm sewer systems that are issued on a system-wide, jurisdiction-wide, watershed or other basis may specify different conditions relating to different discharges covered by the permit, including different

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[152] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (d)(2)(i)(D).

[153] "(4) Large municipal separate storm sewer system means all municipal separate storm sewers that are either: (i) Located in an incorporated place with a population of 250,000 or more as determined by the 1990 Decennial Census by the Bureau of the Census (Appendix F of this part); or (ii) Located in the counties listed in appendix H, except municipal separate storm sewers that are located in the incorporated places, townships or towns within such counties; or (iii) Owned or operated by a municipality other than those described in paragraph (b)(4)(i) or (ii) of this section and that are designated by the Director as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system due to the interrelationship between the discharges of the designated storm sewer and the discharges from municipal separate storm sewers described under paragraph (b)(4)(i) or (ii) of this section. ..." [40 CFR § 122.26 (b)(4).]

[154] "(7) Medium municipal separate storm sewer system means all municipal separate storm sewers that are either: (i) Located in an incorporated place with a population of 100,000 or more but less than 250,000, as determined by the 1990 Decennial Census by the Bureau of the Census (Appendix G of this part); or (ii) Located in the counties listed in appendix I, except municipal separate storm sewers that are located in the incorporated places, townships or towns within such counties; or (iii) Owned or operated by a municipality other than those described in paragraph (b)(7)(i) or (ii) of this section and that are designated by the Director as part of the large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system due to the interrelationship between the discharges of the designated storm sewer and the discharges from municipal separate storm sewers described under paragraph (b)(7)(i) or (ii) of this section. ..." [40 CFR § 122.26 (b)(7).]

management programs for different drainage areas which contribute storm water to the system.

The State Board also asserts:

> To the extent the Clean Water Act and federal regulations do not identify all of the specificity required in Sections F.2, F.3 ..., the San Diego Water Board properly exercised its discretion under federal law to include specificity so that the federal MEP standard can be achieved. The San Diego Water Board exercised this duty under federal law and therefore the provisions of the 2007 Permit were adopted as federal requirements.

In the claimants' rebuttal comments submitted in February 2009, they state that "all of the authorities cited by the State merely acknowledge the State's authority to go beyond the federal regulations."

The Commission finds that the requirements in parts F.2 and F.3. of the permit do not constitute a federal mandate. There is no federal requirement to collaborate on, develop, or implement a Regional Urban Runoff Management Program (RURMP). The Commission finds that these RURMP activities "exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[155] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[156] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[157] to impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that parts F.2 and F.3 of the permit do not constitute federal mandates.

Based on the mandatory language on the face of the permit, the Commission finds that parts F.2 and F.3 of the permit constitutes a state mandate on the claimants to do all the following:

> Collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop, implement, and update as necessary a Regional Urban Runoff Management Program that meets the requirements of section F of the permit, reduces the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP, and prevents urban runoff discharges from the MS4 from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards. The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program shall, at a minimum: [¶]...[¶]
>
> (2) Develop the standardized fiscal analysis method required in section G of the permit, and,
>
> (3) Facilitate the assessment of the effectiveness of jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs.

As to whether these activities are a new program or higher level of service, the claimants state in the test claim:

> "[W]hile the 2001 Permit required the copermittees to collaborate to address common issues and promote consistency among JURMPs and WURMPs and to

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[155] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[156] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[157] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

establish a management structure for this purpose, it lacked the detail, specificity and level of effort now mandated by the 2007 Permit."

In their February 2009 rebuttal comments, claimants assert that the 2001 and 2007 permits contain major substantive differences in their requirements for fiscal analyses of their jurisdictional programs.

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, states that the 2001 permit required that "the Copermittees enter into a formal agreement to provide, at a minimum, a management structure for designating joint responsibilities, decision making, watershed management, information management of data and reports" and other collaborative arrangements to comply with the permit.

According to the State Board, parts F.2 and F.3 are not a new program or higher level of service because the copermittees "were already conducting multiple efforts on a regional level under the 2001 permit. The inclusion of the RURMP is designed to organize these efforts into one framework to improve Copermittee and Regional Board tracking of regional efforts." The State Board also asserts that the requirements were intended to reduce redundant reporting and improve efficiency and streamline regional program implementation. The State Board describes the 2007 permit as merely elaborating on and refining the 2001 requirements.

The permit itself states: "This Order contains new or modified requirements that are necessary to improve Copermittees' efforts to reduce the discharge of pollutants in urban runoff to the MEP and achieve water quality standards." [Emphasis added.] The permit also describes the Regional Urban Runoff Management Plan as new.

While the 2001 permit contained requirements for a fiscal analysis (part F.8) and an assessment of effectiveness (part F.7), it did so only as components of a Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program. The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program, required in part F.2 of the 2007 permit, is new. The fiscal analysis in part G is incorporated by reference into part F.2, and the effectiveness assessment is incorporated into part F.3. Thus, the Commission finds that the requirements in parts F.2 and F.3 are a new program or higher level of service.

IV. Program Effectiveness Assessment (Part I)

Part I of the permit is called "Program Effectiveness Assessment" and includes subparts for Jurisdictional (I.1), Watershed (I.2) and Regional (I.3) assessment, in addition to a Long Term Effectiveness Assessment (I.5). Of these, claimants pled subparts I.1, I.2 and I.5.

A. Jurisdictional and Watershed Program effectiveness assessment (parts I.1 & I.2): As more specifically stated on pages 22-24 above, the permit requires the copermittees to do the following:

- Annually assess the effectiveness of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (JURMP) that includes specifically assessing the effectiveness of specified components of the JURMP and the effectiveness of the JURMP as a whole.
- Identify measureable targeted outcomes, assessment measures, and assessment methods for each jurisdictional activity/BMP implemented, each major JURMP component, and the JURMP as a whole.

- Development and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements.
- Annually report on the effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the specified requirements.
- As a watershed group of copermittees, annually assess the effectiveness of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program (WURMP) implementation, including each water quality activity and watershed education activity, and the program as a whole.
- Determine source load reductions resulting from WURMP implementation and utilize water quality monitoring results and data to determine whether implementation is resulting in changes to water quality.
- As with the JURMP, annually review WURMP jurisdictional activities or BMPs to identify modifications and improvements needed to maximize the program's effectiveness, develop and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements to the programs, and annually report on the program's effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the requirements.

Regarding parts I.1.a. and I.2.a. of the permit, the Fact Sheet/Technical Report states: "The section requires both specific activities and broader programs to be assessed since the effectiveness of jurisdictional [or watershed] efforts may be evident only when considered at different scales."[158]

The State Board, in its comments submitted in October 2008, cites section 402(p)(3(B)(ii)-(iii) of the Clean Water Act, as well as 40 C.F.R. sections 122.26(d)(2)(i)(B)-(C), (E) and (F) and subdivision (d)(2)(iv) of the same section to show the "broad federal authorities relied upon by the San Diego Water Board to support Section I ... [that] ... support inclusion of the JURMP and WURMP effectiveness assessments under federal law." The State Board also quotes section 122.26(d)(2)(v) that the copermittees must include in part 2 of their application for a permit:

> *Assessment of controls.* Estimated reductions in loadings of pollutants from discharges of municipal storm sewer constituents from municipal storm sewer systems expected as the result of the municipal storm water quality management program. The assessment shall also identify known impacts of storm water controls on ground water.

The State Board also says that "under 40 C.F.R. section 122.42(c), applicants must provide annual reports on the progress of their storm water management programs. The federal law behind the JURMP and WURMP effectiveness assessment requirements were discussed at great length in the 2001 Permit Fact Sheet."[159] The State Board quotes a lengthy portion of the 2001

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[158] Fact Sheet/Technical Report for Order No. R9-2007-0001, Parts I.1.a. and I.2.a.. Two identical paragraphs describe the JURMP on page 319 and the WURMP on page 320.

[159] 40 C.F.R. section 122.42(c) states:

> *Municipal separate storm sewer systems.* The operator of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system or a municipal separate storm sewer that has been designated by the Director under §122.26(a)(1)(v) of this part must

Fact Sheet, which states that the U.S. EPA requires applicants to submit estimated reductions in pollutant loads expected to result from implemented controls and describe known impacts of storm water controls on groundwater. The 2001 Fact Sheet also includes "Throughout the permit term, the municipality must submit refinements to its assessment or additional direct measurements of program effectiveness in its annual report." It also lists a number of U.S. EPA suggestions, recommendations, and encouraged actions.

The State Board also quotes at length from the 2007 Permit Fact Sheet/Technical Report regarding why the effectiveness assessments are required under the permit, including the need for them and the benefits of including them. According to the State Board, the federal authorities support including the effectiveness assessments, and the Regional Board appropriately exercised discretion under federal law to include them, finding them necessary to implement the MEP standard. Thus, the State Board asserts that sections I.1 and I.2 do not exceed federal law.

The claimants, in their February 2009 comments, state that neither the broad nor the specific legal authority cited in the permit Fact Sheet "contains the above-referenced mandates required under the 2007 Permit." Claimants characterize the federal regulations as only requiring "program descriptions, estimated reductions, known impacts, and an annual report on progress. Federal law does not mandate the specific activities mandated by the 2007 Permit." Claimants also argue that the permit requirements are not necessary to meet the federal MEP standard, and point out that the 2001 Permit Fact Sheet cited by the State Board describes actions recommended or encouraged by the U.S. EPA, but not required. As claimant says: "they simply authorize applicants to go beyond minimum federal requirements." Claimants also quote the State Board's comment on "the need for and benefits of assessment requirements," noting that needs and benefits "constitute an insufficient basis for the imposition of a mandated requirement without subvention."

Although the federal regulations require assessment of controls and annual reports, they do not require the detailed assessment in the 2007 permit. The regulations do not require, for example, assessments of the effectiveness of each significant jurisdictional activity/BMP or watershed

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submit an annual report by the anniversary of the date of the issuance of the permit for such system. The report shall include:

(1) The status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions;
(2) Proposed changes to the storm water management programs that are established as permit condition. Such proposed changes shall be consistent with §122.26(d)(2)(iii) of this part; and
(3) Revisions, if necessary, to the assessment of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under §122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (d)(2)(v) of this part;
(4) A summary of data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year;
(5) Annual expenditures and budget for year following each annual report;
(6) A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs;
(7) Identification of water quality improvements or degradation.

quality activity, or of the implementation of each major component of the JURMP or WURMP, or identification of modifications and improvements to maximize the JURMP or WURMP effectiveness. These requirements, "exceed the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[160] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[161] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[162] to impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that parts I.1 and I.2 of the permit are not federal mandates.

Based on the mandatory language on the face of the permit, the Commission finds that parts I.1 and I.2 of the permit are a state mandate on the copermittees to do all of the following:

> 1. Jurisdictional
>
> a. As part of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program, each Copermittee shall annually assess the effectiveness of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program implementation. At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall:
>
> (1) Specifically assess the effectiveness of each of the following:
>
> (a) Each significant jurisdictional activity/BMP or type of jurisdictional activity/BMP implemented;
> (b) Implementation of each major component of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (Development Planning, Construction, Municipal, Industrial/Commercial, Residential, Illicit Discharge[163] Detection and Elimination, and Education); and
> (c) Implementation of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole.
>
> (2) Identify and utilize measurable targeted outcomes, assessment measures, and assessment methods for each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above.
>
> (3) Utilize outcome levels 1-6[164] to assess the effectiveness of each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.
>
> (4) Utilize monitoring data and analysis from the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program to assess the effectiveness each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.
>
> (5) Utilize Implementation Assessment,[165] Water Quality Assessment,[166] and Integrated Assessment,[167] where applicable and feasible.

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[160] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[161] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[162] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

[163] Illicit discharge, as defined in Attachment C of the permit, is "any discharge to the MS4 that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit and discharges resulting from firefighting activities [40 C.F.R. 122.26 (b)(2)]."

[164] See footnote 50, page 21.

b. Based on the results of the effectiveness assessment, each Copermittee shall annually review its jurisdictional activities or BMPs to identify modifications and improvements needed to maximize Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness, as necessary to achieve compliance with section A of this Order. The Copermittees shall develop and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements. Jurisdictional activities/BMPs that are ineffective or less effective than other comparable jurisdictional activities/BMPs shall be replaced or improved upon by implementation of more effective jurisdictional activities/BMPs. Where monitoring data exhibits persistent water quality problems that are caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges, jurisdictional activities or BMPs applicable to the water quality problems shall be modified and improved to correct the water quality problems.

c. As part of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Reports, each Copermittee shall report on its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the requirements of sections I.1.a and I.1.b above.

2. Watershed

a. As part of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program, each watershed group of Copermittees (as identified in Table 4)[168] shall annually assess the effectiveness of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program implementation. At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall:

(1) Specifically assess the effectiveness of each of the following:

(a) Each Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented;
(b) Each Watershed Education Activity implemented; and
(c) Implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole.

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[165] Implementation Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment conducted to determine the effectiveness of copermittee programs and activities in achieving measureable targeted outcomes, and in determining whether priority sources of water quality problems are being effectively addressed."

[166] Water Quality Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment conducted to evaluate the condition of non-storm water discharges, and the water bodies which receive these discharges."

[167] Integrated Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment to be conducted to evaluate whether program implementation is properly targeted to and resulting in the protection and improvement of water quality."

[168] Table 4 of the permit divides the copermittees into nine watershed management areas. For example, the San Luis Rey River watershed management area lists the city of Oceanside, Vista and the County of San Diego as the responsible watershed copermittees. Table 4 also lists where the hydrologic units are and major receiving water bodies.

(2) Identify and utilize measurable targeted outcomes, assessment measures, and assessment methods for each of the items listed in section I.2.a.(1) above.

(3) Utilize outcome levels 1-6 to assess the effectiveness of each of the items listed in sections I.2.a.(1)(a) and I.2.a.(1)(b) above, where applicable and feasible.

(4) Utilize outcome levels 1-4 to assess the effectiveness of implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole, where applicable and feasible.

(5) Utilize outcome levels 5 and 6 to qualitatively assess the effectiveness of implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole, focusing on the high priority water quality problem(s) of the watershed. These assessments shall attempt to exhibit the impact of Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program implementation on the high priority water quality problem(s) within the watershed.

(6) Utilize monitoring data and analysis from the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program to assess the effectiveness each of the items listed in section I.2.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.

(7) Utilize Implementation Assessment, Water Quality Assessment, and Integrated Assessment, where applicable and feasible.

b. Based on the results of the effectiveness assessment, the watershed Copermittees shall annually review their Watershed Water Quality Activities, Watershed Education Activities, and other aspects of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program to identify modifications and improvements needed to maximize Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness, as necessary to achieve compliance with section A of this Order.[169] The Copermittees shall develop and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements. Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities that are ineffective or less effective than other comparable Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities shall be replaced or improved upon by implementation of more effective Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities. Where monitoring data exhibits persistent water quality problems that are caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges, Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities applicable to the water quality problems shall be modified and improved to correct the water quality problems.

c. As part of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Reports, each watershed group of Copermittees (as identified in Table 4) shall report on its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the requirements of section I.2.a and I.2.b above.

[169] Section A is "Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations."

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, states that the program effectiveness assessment is not a new program or higher level of service because the 2001 permit included a JURMP (in part F.7) and WURMP (in part J) effectiveness assessment requirements.

The claimants, in their February 2009 comments, state as follows:

> The 2001 Permit only required the copermittees to develop a long term strategy for assessing the effectiveness of their individual JURMP using specific and indirect measurements to track the long term progress of their individual JURMPs towards achieving water quality. [part F.7.a. of the 2001 permit.] The 2001 Permit also only mandated that the long term strategy developed by the copermittees include an assessment of the effectiveness of their JURMP in an annual report using the direct and indirect assessment measurements and methods developed in the long-term strategy. [part F.7. of the 2001 permit.]

Part F.7 of the 2001 permit required developing the following on the topic of "Assessment of Jurisdictional URMP Effectiveness Component."

> a. As part of its individual Jurisdictional URMP, each Copermittee shall develop a long-term strategy for assessing the effectiveness of its individual Jurisdictional URMP. The long-term assessment strategy shall identify specific direct and indirect measurements that each Copermittee will use to track the long-term progress of its individual Jurisdictional URMP towards achieving improvements in receiving water quality. Methods used for assessing effectiveness shall include the following or their equivalent: surveys, pollutant loading estimations, and receiving water quality monitoring. The long-term strategy shall also discuss the role of monitoring data in substantiating or refining the assessment.
>
> b. As part of its individual Jurisdictional URMP Annual Report, each Copermittee shall include an assessment of the effectiveness of its Jurisdictional URMP using the direct and indirect assessment measurements and methods developed in its long-term assessment strategy.

The 2007 permit requires more detail in its assessments than the 2001 permit. The 2007 permit requires annual assessments and using outcome levels, among other things, to assess the effectiveness of (a) each significant jurisdictional activity/BMP, (b) implementation of each major component of the JURMP, and (c) implementation of the JURMP as a whole. The 2001 permit did not require assessments at these three levels. And for example, outcome level 4 in the 2007 permit is required for measuring load reductions.[170] This is a higher level of service than "pollutant loading estimations" to be used as an effectiveness strategy in the 2001 permit.[171] Therefore, the Commission finds that section I.1 of the permit (Jurisdictional URMP effectiveness assessment) is a new program or higher level of service.

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[170] There are six Effectiveness Assessments incorporated into part I.1.a.(3) of the permit and are defined in Attachment C. One of them is "Effectiveness Assessment Level 4 – Load Reductions – Level 4 outcomes measure load reductions which quantify changes in the amounts of pollutants associated with specific sources before and after a BMP or other control measure is employed."

[171] See Fact Sheet/Technical Report for Order No. R9-2007-0001.

The assessment provisions of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program are in part J.2 of the 2001 permit, which requires each copermittee to develop and implement a Watershed URMP that contains, among other things:

> b. An assessment of the water quality of all receiving waters in the watershed based upon (1) existing water quality data; and (2) annual watershed water quality monitoring that satisfies the watershed monitoring requirements of Attachment B.
>
> [¶]...[¶]
>
> i. Long-term strategy for assessing the effectiveness of the Watershed URMP. The long-term assessment strategy shall identify specific direct and indirect measurements that will track the long-term progress of the Watershed URMP towards achieving improvements in receiving water quality. Methods used for assessing effectiveness shall include the following or their equivalent: surveys, pollutant loading estimations, and receiving water quality monitoring. The long-term strategy shall also discuss the role of monitoring data in substantiating or refining the assessment.

As with the JURMP, the 2001 permit required a "long-term strategy for assessing the effectiveness of the Watershed URMP" whereas the 2007 permit requires the annual assessment of more specific criteria: (a) each Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented; (b) Each Watershed Education Activity implemented; and (c) Implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management program as a whole. And the 2007 permit requires assessing these activities using the same six effectiveness outcome levels as for the JURMP (defined in Attachment C), that were not in the 2001 permit.[172]

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[172] Effectiveness assessment outcome levels are defined in Attachment C of the permit as follows: Effectiveness assessment outcome level 1 – Compliance with Activity-based Permit Requirements – Level 1 outcomes are those directly related to the implementation of specific activities prescribed by this Order or established pursuant to it. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 2 – Changes in Attitudes, Knowledge, and Awareness – Level 2 outcomes are measured as increases in knowledge and awareness among target audiences such as residents, business, and municipal employees. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 3 – Behavioral Changes and BMP Implementation – Level 3 outcomes measure the effectiveness of activities in affecting behavioral change and BMP implementation. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 4 – Load Reductions – Level 4 outcomes measure load reductions which quantify changes in the amounts of pollutants associated with specific sources before and after a BMP or other control measure is employed. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 5 – Changes in Urban Runoff and Discharge Quality – Level 5 outcomes are measured as changes in one or more specific constituents or stressors in discharges into or from MS4s. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 6 – Changes in Receiving Water Quality – Level 6 outcomes measure changes to receiving water quality resulting from discharges into and from MS4s, and may be expressed through a variety of means such as compliance with water quality objectives or other regulatory benchmarks, protection of biological integrity [i.e., ecosystem health], or beneficial use attainment.

Therefore, the Commission finds that section I.2. of the permit (the Watershed URMP effectiveness assessment) is a new program or higher level of service.

B. Long Term Effectiveness Assessment (part I.5): As stated on pages 19-20 above, part I.5 requires the copermittees to collaborate to develop a Long Term Effectiveness Assessment (LTEA) that evaluates the copermittee programs on a jurisdictional, watershed, and regional level, and that emphasizes watershed assessment. The LTEA must build on the results of the August 2005 Baseline LTEA, and must be submitted to the Regional Board no later than 210 days before the permit expires. The LTEA must address the Regional objectives listed in part I.3 of the permit, as well as assess the effectiveness of the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program, and address outcome levels 1-6 as specified in attachment C of the permit.

In its October 2008 comments on the test claim, the State Board says that the LTEA requirement was imposed "so that the San Diego Water Board could properly evaluate the Copermittees' storm water program during the reapplication process." The State Board asserts that the LTEA provision is a federal mandate, citing 40 C.F.R. section 122.26, subdivisions (d)(2)(iv) and (v), in which (v) states that a permit application must include:

> *Assessment of controls.* Estimated reductions in loadings of pollutants from discharges of municipal storm sewer constituents from municipal storm sewer systems expected as the result of the municipal storm water quality management program. The assessment shall also identify known impacts of storm water controls on ground water.

According to the State Board, "Even if the requirements to develop an LTEA are not specifically required by the federal regulations, the general discussion of the federal MEP standard is applicable here and supports the San Diego Water Board's determination that the region-wide LTEAs are necessary to meet the federal MEP standard."

In their February 2009 rebuttal comments, the claimants state:

> The program effectiveness component of the 2007 Permit mandates Jurisdictional (I.1), Watershed (I.2), Regional (I.3), Total Maximum Daily Loads ("TMDL") and BMP Implementation (I.4) and Long-term Effectiveness Assessment (I.5) requirements. This Section mandates multiple layers of program assessment, review and reporting. Such duplicative and collaborative efforts were not required under the 2001 Permit and are not required by federal law.

Claimants assert that there is no federal authority that states that the regional, jurisdictional and watershed program effectiveness training requirements are required to meet the minimum federal MEP standards. Claimants also state that permits in other jurisdictions do not have LTEA requirements. According to the claimants, "while portions of the federal regulations cited by the State permit region-wide or watershed-wide cooperation, there is no mandatory requirement for multiple layers of program effectiveness assessment."

Although the federal regulations require assessment of controls, they do not require the detailed assessment in the 2007 permit. They do not require, for example, collaboration with other copermittees, addressing specified objectives or outcome levels, or addressing jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs. These requirements "exceed the mandate in that federal law

or regulation."[173] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[174] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[175] to impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that part I.5 of the permit is not a federal mandate.

Because of the mandatory language on the face of the permit, the Commission finds that part I.5 of the permit is a state mandate for the claimants to do all of the following:

> 5. Long-term Effectiveness Assessment
>
> a. Each Copermittee shall collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop a Longterm Effectiveness Assessment (LTEA), which shall build on the results of the Copermittees' August 2005 Baseline LTEA. The LTEA shall be submitted by the Principal Permittee to the Regional Board no later than 210 days in advance of the expiration of this Order.
>
> b. The LTEA shall be designed to address each of the objectives listed in section I.3.a.(6)[176] of this Order, and to serve as a basis for the Copermittees' Report of Waste Discharge for the next permit cycle.
>
> c. The LTEA shall address outcome levels 1-6, and shall specifically include an evaluation of program implementation to changes in water quality (outcome levels 5 and 6).
>
> d. The LTEA shall assess the effectiveness of the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program in meeting its objectives and its ability to answer the five core management questions. This shall include assessment of the frequency of monitoring conducted through the use of power analysis and other pertinent statistical methods. The power analysis shall identify the frequency and intensity of sampling needed to identify a 10% reduction in the concentration of

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[173] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[174] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[175] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

[176] Part I.3.a.(6) of the permit states: At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall: (6) Include evaluation of whether the Copermittees' jurisdictional, watershed, and regional effectiveness assessments are meeting the following objectives: (a) Assessment of watershed health and identification of water quality issues and concerns. (b) Evaluation of the degree to which existing source management priorities are properly targeted to, and effective in addressing, water quality issues and concerns. (c) Evaluation of the need to address additional pollutant sources not already included in Copermittee programs. (d) Assessment of progress in implementing Copermittee programs and activities. (e) Assessment of the effectiveness of Copermittee activities in addressing priority constituents and sources. (f) Assessment of changes in discharge and receiving water quality. (g) Assessment of the relationship of program implementation to changes in pollutant loading, discharge quality, and receiving water quality. (h) Identification of changes necessary to improve Copermittee programs, activities, and effectiveness assessment methods and strategies.

constituents causing the high priority water quality problems within each watershed over the next permit term with 80% confidence.

e. The LTEA shall address the jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs, with an emphasis on watershed assessment.

The next issue is whether the LTEA (part I.5) is a new program or higher level of service. The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, state as follows:

> The LTEA does not impose a new program or higher level of service. Rather, it requires the Copermittees to conduct a long term effectiveness assessment prior to submitting an application for reissuance of the Order in the next permit term and is necessary to support proposed changes to the Copermittees' programs."

The claimants, in their February 2009 comments, argue that the LTEA requirement in part I.5 does impose a new program or higher level of service. According to the claimants:

> Section F.7 of the 2001 Permit only required individual copermittees to develop long term effectiveness assessments for their Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan ("JURMP"). ... The 2001 Permit did not require the copermittees to collaborate to develop an overarching LTEA for regional, jurisdictional and watershed programs, and did not require the submission of a LTEA by a date certain in advance of the Permit expiration.

The Commission finds that the LTEA is a new program or higher level of service. The 2001 permit required JURMP assessment (in part F.7) and WURMP (in part J.2) as quoted above in the discussion on parts I.1 and I.2., but not an LTEA. The Fact Sheet/Technical Report for the 2007 permit states:

> Section I.5 (Long-Term Effectiveness Assessment) requires the Copermittees to conduct a Long-Term Effectiveness Assessment prior to their submittal of an application for reissuance of the Order. The Long-Term Effectiveness Assessment is necessary to provide support for the Copermittees' proposed changes to their programs in their ROWD. It can also serve as the basis for changes to the Order's requirements.

The Commission finds that the LTEA (part I.5) is a new program or higher level of service for three reasons. First, the scope of the assessment in the 2001 permit addresses only the JURMP and WURMP rather than "jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs, with an emphasis on watershed assessment" as in the 2007 permit (see the analysis of I.1 and I.2 above). Second, the 2001 permit did not require collaborating with all other copermittees on assessment. Third, the 2001 permit contains much less detail on what to include in the assessment, such as, for example, the eight regional objectives listed in I.3.a.(6), incorporated by reference in part I.5. Also, the LTEA must assess the "effectiveness of the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program ... [and] shall include assessment of the frequency of monitoring conducted through the use of power analysis and other pertinent statistical methods." These methods were not required under the 2001 permit.

V. All Copermittee Collaboration (Part L)

Part L, labeled "All Permittee Collaboration," requires the copermittees to collaborate to address common issues and plan and coordinate activities, including developing a Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU), as specified. The Copermittees entered into an MOU effective in January 2008, which is attached to the test claim. The Copermittees allege activities involved with working body support and working body participation.

In comments submitted in October 2008, the State Board asserts that the permit condition in part L is necessary to meet the minimum MEP standard, quoting the following federal regulation regarding municipal stormwater permits:

> (2) *Part 2.* Part 2 of the application shall consist of:
>
> (i) *Adequate legal authority.* A demonstration that the applicant can operate pursuant to legal authority established by statute, ordinance or series of contracts which authorizes or enables the applicant at a minimum to: [¶]...[¶]
>
> (D) Control through interagency agreements among coapplicants the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the municipal system to another portion of the municipal system;[177]

The Commission finds that there is no federal mandate to develop a management structure (memorandum of understanding, or MOU) as required in part L of the 2007 permit. The federal regulation most on point requires an applicant (claimant) to demonstrate adequate legal authority "which authorizes or enables the applicant at a minimum to: [¶]...[¶] (D) Control through interagency agreements among coapplicants the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the municipal system to another portion of the municipal system;"[178] All the federal regulations address is authority to establish an interagency agreement or memorandum of understanding, but do not require it to be implemented or specify its contents beyond "controlling ... the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the municipal system to another portion of the municipal system."

By contrast, part L of the permit requires the copermittees to collaborate, promote consistency among JURMP and WURMP and plan and coordinate activities required under the permit. It also requires joint execution and submission to the Regional Board an MOU with a minimum of seven specified requirements.

Thus, this permit activity "exceed[s] the mandate in that federal law or regulation."[179] As in *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California*,[180] the permit requires specific actions, i.e., required acts that go beyond the requirements of federal law. In adopting these permit provisions, the state has freely chosen[181] to impose these requirements. Thus, the Commission finds that part L of the permit does not impose a federal mandate.

Based on the mandatory language in the permit, the Commission finds that part L of the permit is a state mandate on the claimants to do the following:

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[177] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (d)(2)(i)(D).

[178] 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 122.26 (d)(2)(i)(D).

[179] Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

[180] *Long Beach Unified School Dist. v. State of California, supra,* 225 Cal.App.3d 155.

[181] *Hayes v. Commission on State Mandates, supra,* 11 Cal. App. 4th 1564, 1593-1594.

1. Collaborate with all other Copermittees regulated under this Order to address common issues, promote consistency among Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Programs and Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs, and to plan and coordinate activities required under this Order.

(a) Jointly execute and submit to the Regional Board no later than 180 days after adoption of the permit, a Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Powers Authority, or other instrument of formal agreement that at a minimum:

(1) Identifies and defines the responsibilities of the Principal Permittee[182] and Lead Watershed Permittees;[183]

(2) Identifies Copermittees and defines their individual and joint responsibilities, including watershed responsibilities;

(3) Establishes a management structure to promote consistency and develop and implement regional activities;

(4) Establishes standards for conducting meetings, decisions-making, and cost-sharing;

(5) Provides guidelines for committee and workgroup structure and responsibilities;

(6) Lays out a process for addressing Copermittee non-compliance with the formal agreement;

(7) Includes any and all other collaborative arrangements for compliance with this order.

The State Board, in its October 2008 comments, asserts that the management structure framework in part L of the 2007 permit is not a new program or higher level of service because:

> The 2001 permit required significant collaboration to address common issues and promote consistency across management programs [and] development of a management structure through execution of a formal agreement, meeting minimum specifications. It also required standardized reporting, including fiscal analysis.

The State Board also argues there is "minimal substantive difference" between the 2001 and 2007 permits in their requirements to establish "a formal cooperative arrangement and to implement regional urban runoff management activities. The 2007 Permit merely elaborates on and refines the 2001 requirements."

In its February 2009 rebuttal comments, the claimants assert that the 2001 and 2007 permits contain major substantive differences in their requirements for fiscal analyses of their jurisdictional programs.

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[182] The Principal Permittee is the County of San Diego.

[183] According to the permit: "Watershed Copermittees shall identify the Lead Watershed Permittee for their WMA [Watershed Management Area]."

Part L.1 of the 2007 permit, the first paragraph in L requiring collaboration, is identical to part N of the 2001 permit. The Commission finds, however, that the collaboration is a new program or higher level of service because it now applies to all the activities that are found to be a new program or higher level of service in the analysis above (i.e, not in the 2001 permit) including the Regional Urban Runoff Management Program.

Part L.1.a, regarding the MOU or formal agreement, is similar but not identical to part N of the 2001 permit. Both permits require adoption of a "Memorandum of Understanding [MOU], Joint Powers Authority, or other instrument of formal agreement." The 2001 permit, in part N.1.a, required the MOU to provide a management structure with the following contents: "designation of joint responsibilities, decision making, watershed activities, information management of data and reports, including the requirements under this Order; and any and all other collaborative arrangements for compliance with this Order."

By contrast, the 2007 permit, requires the MOU to be submitted to the Regional Board within 180 days after adoption of the permit and requires that the MOU, at a minimum:

(1) Identifies and defines the responsibilities of the principal Permittee and Lead Watershed Permittees;

(2) Identifies Copermittees and defines their individual and joint responsibilities;

(3) Establishes a management structure to promote consistency and develop and implement regional activities;

(4) Establishes standards for conducting meetings, decision-making, and cost-sharing;

(5) Provides guidelines for committee and workgroup structure and responsibilities;

(6) Lays out a process for addressing Copermittee non-compliance with the formal agreement; and

(7) Includes any and all other collaborative arrangements for compliance with this order.

The contents of the MOU specified in the 2001 permit, although stated with less specificity, are the same as those in the 2007 permit for numbers (1)-(2) and (7) above. Both permits require the MOU to contain "designation of joint responsibilities" and "collaborative arrangements for compliance with this order." Thus, the Commission finds that jointly executing and submitting those parts of the MOU to the Regional Board is not a new program or higher level of service.

The Commission finds that part L.1.a of the permit is a new program or higher level of service for all copermittees to do the following:

- Collaborate with all other Copermittees to address common issues, promote consistency among Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Programs and Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs, and to plan and coordinate activities required under the permit.
- Jointly execute and submit to the Regional Board, no later than 180 days after adoption of the permit, a Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Powers Authority, or other instrument of formal agreement which at a minimum: (3) Establishes a management structure to promote consistency and develop and implement regional activities; (4) Establishes standards for conducting meetings, decision-making, and cost-sharing; (5) Provides guidelines for

committee and workgroup structure and responsibilities; and (6) Lays out a process for addressing copermittee non-compliance with the formal agreement.

Summary of Issue 1: The Commission finds that the following parts of the 2007 permit are a state-mandated, new program or higher level of service.

I. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program and Reporting (Parts D & J)

- Collaborate with other copermittees to develop and implement a hydromodification management plan, as specified (D.1.g.), for private priority development projects. Reimbursement is not required for this activity for municipal priority development projects.
- Develop and submit an updated Model SUSMP that defines minimum Low-impact Development and other BMPs as specified (D.1.d.(7)-(8)), for private priority development projects. Reimbursement is not required for this activity for municipal priority development projects.
- Street sweeping (D.3.a.(5)) and reporting on street sweeping (J.3.a(3)x-xv);
- Conveyance system cleaning (D.3.a.(3)(b)(iii)) and reporting on conveyance system cleaning (J.3.a.(3)(c)(iv)-(viii));
- Educational component (D.5).
    - Educate each specified target community on the following topics: (1) Erosion prevention, (2) Non storm water discharge prohibitions, and (3) BMP types: facility or activity specific, LID, source control, and treatment control (D.5.a.(1));
    - Educational programs shall emphasize underserved target audiences, high-risk behaviors, and 'allowable' behaviors and discharges, including various ethnic and socioeconomic groups and mobile sources (D.5.a.(2));
    - Implement an education program that includes annual training only for planning boards and elected officials, if applicable, to have an understanding of the topics in (i) and (ii) (D.5.b.(1)(a)(i) & (ii));
    - Implement an education program so that its planning and development review staffs (and Planning Boards and Election Officials, if applicable) have an understanding of the topics in (iii) and (iv) as specified (D.5.b.(1)(a)(iii) & (iv));
    - Implement an education program that includes annual training prior to the rainy season so that [the Copermittee's] construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and other responsible construction staff have, at a minimum, an understanding of the following topics, as appropriate for the target audience: the topics in (iii) to (vi), as specified (D.5.b.(1)(b)(iii) & (iv));
        - Municipal Industrial/Commercial Activities (D.5.b.(1)(c));
        - Municipal Other Activities (D.5.b.(1)(d));
        - New Development and Construction Education (D.5.(b)(2));
        - Residential, General Public, and School Children Education (D.5.(b)(3)).

II. Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program (Parts E.2.f & E.2.g.)

- Identify and implement the Watershed activities as specified (E.2.f.).
- Collaborate to develop and implement the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs. Watershed Copermittee collaboration shall include frequent regularly scheduled meetings. (E.2.g.)

III. Regional Urban Runoff Management Program (Parts F.1, F.2 & F.3)

- Include developing and implementing a Regional Residential Education Program development and implementation in the RURMP, as specified (F.1.).
- Include developing the standardized fiscal analysis method required in permit part G in the RURMP (F.2.).
- Facilitate the assessment of the effectiveness of jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs in the RURMP (F.3.).

IV. Program Effectiveness Assessment (Parts I.1, I.2 & I.5)

- Annually assess the effectiveness of each copermittee's JURMP, as specified (I.1.).
- Annually assess the effectiveness of each watershed group's WURMP (I.2.).
- Collaborate with the other copermittees to develop a Long-term Effectiveness Assessment, as specified, and submit it to the Regional Board as specified (I.5.).

V. All Permittee Collaboration (Part L)

- Collaborate with all other copermittees to address common issues, promote consistency among the JURMP and WURMP, and to plan and coordinate activities required under the permit.
- Jointly execute and submit to the Regional Board, no later than 180 days after adoption of the permit, a Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Powers Authority, or other instrument of formal agreement as specified (L.1.a. (3)-(5)).

Any further reference to the test claim activities is limited to these parts of the permit found to be a new program or higher level of service.

Issue 2: Do the test claim activities impose costs mandated by the state within the meaning of Government Code sections 17514 and 17556?

The final issue is whether the permit provisions impose costs mandated by the state,[184] and whether any statutory exceptions listed in Government Code section 17556 apply to the test claim. Government Code section 17514 defines "cost mandated by the state" as follows:

> [A]ny increased costs which a local agency or school district is required to incur after July 1, 1980, as a result of any statute enacted on or after January 1, 1975, or any executive order implementing any statute enacted on or after January 1, 1975, which mandates a new program or higher level of service of an existing program within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

[184] *Lucia Mar, supra*, 44 Cal.3d 830, 835; Government Code section 17514.

Government Code section 17564 requires reimbursement claims to exceed $1000 to be eligible for reimbursement. In the test claim, the County of San Diego itemized the costs of complying with the permit conditions as follows:

Activity	Cost FY 2007-08
Regional Urban Runoff Management Program -Copermittee collaboration (F.2, F.3, L)	$260,031.09
Copermittee collaboration, Regional Residential Education, Program Development and Implementation (F.1)	$131,250.00
Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (JURMP) -hydromodification (D.1.g)	$630,000.00
JURMP Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans -low impact development (D.1.d)	$52,200.00
Long Term Effectiveness Assessment (I.5)	$210,000.00
Street Sweeping (D.3.a.(5) Equipment, Staffing, Contract	$3,477,190.00
Conveyance System Cleaning (D.3.a.(3)) and Reporting (J.2.a.(3)(c) iv – vii.	$3,456,087.00
Program Effectiveness Assessment (I.1 & I.2)	$392,363.00
Educational Surveys and Tests (D.5)	$62,617.00
Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program -Copermittee collaboration (E.2.f., E.2.g)	$1,632,893.00
Total	$10,304,631.09

Claimants submitted documentation in February 2010 that show the 2008-2009 cost for the permit activities is $18,014,213. These figures, along with those in the test-claim narrative and declarations submitted by the San Diego County and 18 cities,[185] illustrate that the costs to comply with the permit activities exceed $1,000. The Commission, however, cannot find "costs mandated by the state" within the meaning of Government Code section 17514 if any exceptions in Government Code section 17556 apply, which is discussed below.

A. Claimants did not request the test claim activities within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (a).

The first issue is whether the claimants requested or proposed the activities in the permit. The Department of Finance and the State Board both assert that claimants did so in their Report of

[185] The County and city declarations are attached to the test claim.

Waste Discharge. As discussed above, the claimants were required to submit a ROWD and Stormwater Quality Management Plan before the permit was issued.[186]

Government Code section 17556, subdivision (a), provides that the Commission shall not find costs mandated by the state if:

> (a) The claim is submitted by a local agency ... that requested legislative authority for that local agency ... to implement the program specified in the statute, and that statute imposes costs upon that local agency or school district requesting the legislative authority. A resolution from the governing body or a letter from a delegated representative of the governing body of a local agency ... that requests authorization for that local agency ... to implement a given program shall constitute a request within the meaning of this subdivision.

Based on the language of the statute, section 17556, subdivision (a), does not apply because the permit is not a statute, the claimants did not request "legislative authority" to implement the permit, and the record lacks any resolutions adopted by the claimants. Therefore, the Commission finds that the claimants did not request the activities in the permit within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (a).

B. Claimants have fee authority under Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), for the test claim activities that do not require voter approval under Proposition 218

Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), states:

> The commission shall not find costs mandated by the state, as defined in Section 17514, in any claim submitted by a local agency ... if, after a hearing, the commission finds any one of the following: [¶]...[¶] (d) The local agency ... has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service.

The California Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), in *County of Fresno v. State of California.*[187] The court, in holding that the term "costs" in article XIII B, section 6, excludes expenses recoverable from sources other than taxes, stated:

> Section 6 was included in article XIII B in recognition that article XIII A of the Constitution severely restricted the taxing powers of local governments. (See *County of Los Angeles, supra,* 43 Cal.3d at p. 61.) The provision was intended to preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions onto local entities that were ill equipped to handle the task. (*Ibid.*; see *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist. v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 830, 836, fn. 6 [244 Cal.Rptr. 677, 750 P.2d 318].) Specifically, it was designed to protect the tax revenues of local governments from state mandates that would require expenditure of such revenues. Thus, although its language broadly

[186] Water Code section 13376; 40 Code of Federal Regulations, section 122.21 (a). The Federal regulation applies to U.S. EPA-issued permits, but is incorporated into section 123.25 (the state-program provision) by reference. Also see the 2007 permit, page 2, part A.

[187] *County of Fresno v. State of California, supra,* 53 Cal.3d 482.

> declares that the "state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse ... local government for the costs [of a state-mandated new] program or higher level of service," read in its textual and historical context section 6 of article XIII B requires subvention only when the costs in question can be recovered *solely from tax revenues.*
>
> In view of the foregoing analysis, the question of the facial constitutionality of section 17556(d) under article XIII B, section 6, can be readily resolved. As noted, the statute provides that "The commission shall not find costs mandated by the state ... if, after a hearing, the commission finds that" the local government "has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service." Considered within its context, the section effectively construes the term "costs" in the constitutional provision as excluding expenses that are recoverable from sources other than taxes. Such a construction is altogether sound. As the discussion makes clear, the Constitution requires reimbursement only for those expenses that are recoverable solely from taxes. It follows that section 17556(d) is facially constitutional under article XIII B, section 6.[188]

In another case about subdivision (d) of section 17556, *Connell v. Superior Court,*[189] the dispute was whether local agencies had sufficient fee authority for a mandate involving increased purity of reclaimed wastewater used for certain types of irrigation. The court cited statutory fee authority for the reclaimed wastewater, and noted that the water districts did not dispute their fee authority. Rather, the water districts argued that they lacked "sufficient" fee authority in that it was not economically feasible to levy fees sufficient to pay the mandated costs. In finding the fee authority issue is a question of law, the court stated that Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), is clear and unambiguous, in that its plain language precludes reimbursement where the local agency has the authority, i.e., the right or the power, to levy fees sufficient to cover the costs of the state-mandated program." The court rejected the districts' argument that "authority" as used in the statute should be construed as a "practical ability in light of surrounding economic circumstances" because that construction cannot be reconciled with the plain language of section 17556, and would create a vague standard not capable of reasonable adjudication. The court also said that nothing in the fee authority statute (Wat. Code, § 35470) limited the authority of the districts to levy fees "sufficient" to cover their costs. Thus, the court concluded that the plain language of section 17556 made the fee authority issue solely a question of law, and that the water districts could not be reimbursed due to that fee authority.[190]

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[188] *County of Fresno v. State of California, supra,* 53 Cal.3d 482, 487. Emphasis in original.

[189] *Connell v. Superior Court* (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th 382.

[190] *Connell v. Superior Court, supra,* 59 Cal.App.4th 382, 398-402.

1. **Claimants' have regulatory fee authority (within the meaning of Gov. Code, § 17556, subd. (d)) under the police power sufficient to pay for the mandated activities that do not require voter approval under Proposition 218: the hydromodification plan and low-impact development.**

In its October 2008 comments, the State Board asserted that the claimants have fee authority to pay for the permit activities. Although the Board recognizes "limitations on assessing fees and surcharges under California law ... [concerning] the percentage of voters who must approve the assessment" the Board points to examples of local agencies (Cities of Los Angeles, San Clemente, and Palo Alto) that have successfully adopted an assessment. The State Board also argues that the cities' trash collection responsibilities may also include street sweeping and conveyance system cleaning for which the city could charge fees, and that developer fees could be charged for hydromodification and low impact development.

Claimants, in comments submitted in February 2009, state that they cannot unilaterally impose a fee to recover the cost to comply with the 2007 permit on water or sewer bills sent to residents because of *Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Assoc. v. City of Salinas,*[191] in which the court invalidated a stormwater management utility fee imposed by the city on all owners of developed parcels in the city. The court held that article XIII D (Proposition 218) of the California Constitution "required the city to subject the proposed storm drainage fee to a vote of the property owners or the voting residents of the affected area."[192] As to the argument that claimants can put the fee to a vote in their jurisdictions, claimants state as follows:

> Articles XIII C and XIII D, which were added to the Constitution by Proposition 218, regulate the imposition of general and special taxes as well as the imposition of special assessments and property related fees. In each of these cases the question of whether to impose a tax, special assessment or a property related fee must be submitted to and approved by the voters. And, in the case of a special tax, and in certain instances the imposition of a fee or charge, the tax or fee must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the resident voters. The State fails to cite any authority that requires the copermittees to first submit the question of whether to impose a tax or fee to the voters and have them reject the proposition. Such a requirement would render all mandate claims moot, without first submitting the question of whether to impose a tax or assessment to a vote of the electorate.

The issue of local fee authority for municipal stormwater permit activities in this permit cannot be answered without discussing regulatory fee authority under the police power and the limitations on that authority via the voter-approval requirement in article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218).

Case law has recognized three general categories of local agency fees or assessments: (1) special assessments, based on the value of benefits conferred on property; (2) development fees, exacted in return for permits or other government privileges; and (3) regulatory fees, imposed under the police power.[193] The regulatory and development fees are discussed below in the context of

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[191] *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assoc. v. City of Salinas* (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1351, 1358-1359.

[192] *Id.* at page 1358-1359.

[193] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 866, 874.

XIII D (Proposition 218) that would allow the claimants to impose fees for the activities in the test claim related to development.

Regulatory fee authority under the police power: The law on local government fee authority begins with article XI, section 7, of the California Constitution, which states: "A county or city may make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary, and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws." Article XI, section 7, includes the authority to impose fees, and courts have held that "the power to impose valid regulatory fees does not depend on legislatively authorized taxing power but exists pursuant to the direct grant of police power under article XI, section 7, of the California Constitution."[194]

Water pollution prevention is also a valid exercise of government police power.[195]

In *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization*,[196] the California Supreme Court upheld a fee on manufacturers of paint that funded a child lead-poisoning program that provided evaluation, screening, and medically necessary follow-up services for children who were deemed potential victims of lead poisoning. The program was entirely supported by fees assessed on manufacturers or other persons contributing to environmental lead contamination. In upholding the fee, the court ruled that it was a regulatory fee imposed under the police power and not a special tax requiring a two-thirds vote under article XIII A, section 4, of the California Constitution. The court stated:

> From the viewpoint of general police power authority, we see no reason why statutes or ordinances calling on polluters or producers of contaminating products to help in mitigation or cleanup efforts should be deemed less "regulatory" in nature than the initial permit or licensing programs that allowed them to operate.
>
> Viewed as a mitigating effects measure, [the fee] is comparable in character to several police power measures imposing fees to defray the actual or anticipated adverse effects of various business operations.[197] [Emphasis added.]

Regulatory fees also help to prevent or mitigate pollution, as the Court said: "imposition of 'mitigating effects' fees in a substantial amount ... also 'regulates' future conduct by deterring further manufacture, distribution, or sale of dangerous products, and by stimulating research and development efforts to produce safer or alternative products."[198] The court also recognized that regulatory fees do not depend on government-conferred benefits or privileges.[199]

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[194] *Mills v. County of Trinity* (1980) 108 Cal.App.3d 656, 662, in which a taxpayer challenged a county ordinance that imposed new and increased fees for county services in processing subdivision, zoning, and other land-use applications that had been adopted without a two-thirds affirmative vote of the county electors.

[195] *Freeman v. Contra Costa County Water Dist.* (1971) 18 Cal.App.3d 404, 408.

[196] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 866.

[197] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 866, 877.

[198] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 866, 875-877.

[199] *Id.* at page 875.

Although the holding in *Sinclair Paint* applied to a state-wide fee, the court's language (treating "ordinances" the same as "statutes") recognizes that local agencies also have police power to impose regulatory fees, and it relied on local government police power cases in its analysis.[200]

Other cases have defined a regulatory fee as an imposition that funds a regulatory program[201] or that distributes the collective cost of a regulation"[202] and is "enacted for purposes broader than the privilege to use a service or to obtain a permit. ...the regulatory program is for the protection of the health and safety of the public."[203] Courts will uphold regulatory fees if they do not exceed the reasonable cost of providing services necessary to the activity on which the fee is based and are not levied for an unrelated revenue purpose.

In upholding regulatory fees for environmental review by the California Department of Fish and Game, the court of appeal summarized the following rules on regulatory fees:

> A regulatory fee may be imposed under the police power when the fee constitutes an amount necessary to carry out the purposes and provisions of the regulation. [Citations omitted.] Such costs ... include all those incident to the issuance of the license or permit, investigation, inspection, administration, maintenance of a system of supervision and enforcement. [Citations omitted.] Regulatory fees are valid despite the absence of any perceived "benefit" accruing to the fee payers. [Citations omitted.] Legislators "need only apply sound judgment and consider 'probabilities according to the best honest viewpoint of informed officials' in determining the amount of the regulatory fee.[204] [Emphasis added.]

In *Tahoe Keys Property Owner's Assoc. v. State Water Resources Control Board,*[205] the court refused to issue a preliminary injunction against collecting a pollution mitigation fee of $4000 for each lot developed in the Tahoe Keys subdivision of Lake Tahoe. The fees were to be used for mitigation projects designed to achieve a net reduction in nutrients generated by the Tahoe Keys development. The court said: "on the face of the regulation, there appears to be a sufficient

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[200] *Sinclair Paint v. State Board of Equalization, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 866, 873. The Court stated: "Because of the close, 'interlocking' relationship between the various sections of article XIII A (Citation omitted) we believe these "special tax" cases [under article XIII A, § 3, state taxes] may be helpful, though not conclusive, in deciding the case before us. The reasons why particular fees are, or are not, "special taxes" under article XIII A, section 4, [local government taxes] may apply equally to section 3 cases."

[201] *California Assn. of Prof. Scientists v. Dept. of Fish and Game* (2000) 79 Cal.App.4th 935, 950.

[202] *Id.* at 952.

[203] *Ibid.*

[204] *California Assn. of Prof. Scientists v. Dept. of Fish and Game, supra,* 79 Cal.App.4th 935, 945.

[205] *Tahoe Keys Property Owner's Assn. v. State Water Resources Control Board* (1993) 23 Cal.App.4th 1459.

nexus between the effect of the regulation and the objectives it was supposed to advance to support the regulatory scheme [mitigation of pollution in Lake Tahoe]."[206]

A variety of local agency regulatory fees have been upheld for various programs, including: processing subdivision, zoning, and other land-use applications,[207] art in public places,[208] remedying substandard housing,[209] recycling,[210] administrative hearings under a rent-control ordinance,[211] signage,[212] air pollution mitigation,[213] and replacing converted residential hotel units.[214] Fees on developers for environmental mitigation under the California Environmental Quality Act have also been upheld.[215]

Given the variety of examples where regulatory fees have been upheld, and the broad range of costs to which they may be applied (including those for 'administration'), the claimants have fee authority under the police power to impose fees for the permit activities that are a state-mandated new program or higher level of service. But a determination as to whether the claimants' fee authority is sufficient, within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), to pay for the mandated activities and deny the test claim, cannot be made without analysis of the limitations on the fee authority imposed by Proposition 218.

Regulatory fee authority is limited by voter approval under Proposition 218: With some exceptions, local government fees or assessments that are incident to property ownership are subject to voter approval under article XIII D of the California Constitution, as added by Proposition 218 in 1996. Article XIII D defines a fee as "any levy other than an ad valorem tax, a special tax, or an assessment, imposed by an agency on a parcel or a person as an incident of property ownership, including a user fee or charge for a property-related service." It defines an assessment as "any levy or charge upon real property by an agency for a special benefit conferred upon the real property [and] includes, but is not limited to, "special assessment,' 'benefit assessment,' 'maintenance assessment,' and 'special assessment tax.'"

Among other procedures, new or increased property-related fees require a majority-vote of the affected property owners, or two-thirds registered voter approval, or weighted ballot approval by the affected property owners (art. XIII D, § 6, subd. (c)). Assessments must also be approved by owners of the affected parcels (art. XIII D, § 4, subd.(d)). Expressly exempt from voter

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[206] *Id.* at page 1480.

[207] *Mills v. County of Trinity, supra,* 108 Cal.App.3d 656, 662.

[208] *Ehrlich v. City of Culver City* (1996) 12 Cal.4th 854, 886.

[209] *Apartment Assoc. of Los Angeles County v. City of Los Angeles* (2001) 24 Cal.4th 830.

[210] *City of Dublin v. County of Alameda* (1993) 14 Cal.App.4th 264.

[211] *Pennell v. City of San Jose* (1986) 42 Cal.3d 365.

[212] *United Business Communications v. City of San Diego* (1979) 91 Cal.App.3d 156.

[213] *California Building Industry Ass'n v. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control Dist.* (2009) 178 Cal.App.4th 120.

[214] *Terminal Plaza Corp. v. City and County of San Francisco* (1986) 177 Cal.App.3d 892.

[215] *Environmental Council of Sacramento v. City of Sacramento* (2006) 142 Cal.App.4th 1018.

approval, however, are property-related fees for sewer, water, or refuse collection services (art. XIII D, § 6, subd. (c)).

In 2002, an appellate court in *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association v. City of Salinas, supra,* 98 Cal.App.4th 1351, found that a city's charges on developed parcels to fund stormwater management were property-related fees, and were not covered by Proposition 218's exemption for "sewer" or "water" services. This means that an election would be required to charge stormwater fees if they are imposed "as an incident of property ownership."

The issue of whether a local agency has sufficient fee authority for the mandated activities under Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), in light of the voter approval requirement for fees under article XIII D (Proposition 218) is one of first impression for the Commission.

The Commission finds that a local agency does not have sufficient fee authority within the meaning of Government Code section 17556 if the fee or assessment is contingent on the outcome of an election by voters or property owners. The plain language of subdivision (d) of this section prohibits the Commission from finding that the permit imposes "costs mandated by the state" if "The local agency ... has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service." [Emphasis added.] Under Proposition 218, the local agency has no authority to impose the fee without the consent of the voters or property owners.

Additionally, it is possible that the local agency's voters or property owners may never adopt the proposed fee or assessment, but the local agency would still be required to comply with the state mandate. Denying reimbursement under these circumstances would violate the purpose of article XIII B, section 6, which is to "to preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions to local agencies, which are 'ill equipped' to assume increased financial responsibilities because of the taxing and spending limitations that articles XIII A and XIII B impose."[216]

In its January 2010 comments on the draft staff analysis, the State Board disagrees that "the requirement to subject new or increased fees to these voting or protest requirements strips the claimants of 'fee authority' within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d)." The State Board cites *Connell v. Superior Court,*[217] in which the water districts argued that they lacked "sufficient" fee authority because it was not economically feasible for them to levy fees that were sufficient to pay the mandated costs. The *Connell* court determined that "the plain language of the statute [Gov. Code, § 17556, subd. (d)] precludes reimbursement where the local agency has the authority, i.e., the right or the power, to levy fees sufficient to cover the costs of the state-mandated program."[218] The State Board equates the Proposition 218 voting requirement with the economic impracticability faced by the water districts in *Connell.*

The claimants disagree, citing a lack of authority that requires them to first submit the question of whether to impose a tax or fee to the voters and have them reject the proposition. According

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[216] *County of San Diego, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 68, 81.

[217] *Connell v. Superior Court, supra,* 59 Cal.App.4th 382.

[218] *Id.* at page 401.

to the claimants, such a requirement would render all mandate claims moot, without first submitting the question of whether to impose a tax or assessment to a vote of the electorate.

The Commission disagrees with the State Board. The Proposition 218 election requirement is not like the economic hurdle to fees in *Connell*. Absent compliance with the Proposition 218 election and other procedures, there is no legal authority to impose or raise fees within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d). The voting requirement of Proposition 218 does not impose a mere practical or economic hurdle, as in *Connell*, but a legal and constitutional one. Without voter or property owner approval, the local agency lacks the "authority, i.e., the right or power, to levy fees sufficient to cover the costs of the state-mandated program."[219]

In fact, the fee at issue in the *Connell* case (Wat. Code, § 35470) was amended by the Legislature in 2007 to conform to Proposition 218. Specifically, the Water Code statute now requires compliance with "the "notice, protest, and hearing procedures in Section 53753 of the Government Code."[220] This Government Code statute implements Proposition 218.

For these reasons, the Commission finds that local agencies do not have fee authority that is sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d) to deny the test claim for those activities that would condition the fee or assessment on voter or property-owner approval under Proposition 218 (article XIII D). The Commission finds that Proposition 218 applies to all the activities in this test claim (except for the hydromodification and LID activities that are related to priority development projects discussed below) so that they impose "costs mandated by the state" (within the meaning of Gov. Code, § 17556, subd. (d)). To the extent that property-owner or voter-approved fees or assessments are imposed to pay for any of the permit activities found above to be a state-mandated new program or higher level of service, the fee or assessment would be identified as offsetting revenue in the parameters and guidelines to offset the claimant's costs in performing those activities.

Fees imposed for two of the test-claim activities, however, i.e., for the hydromodification management plan and low-impact development, would not be subject to voter approval under Proposition 218, as discussed below.

Fees as a condition of property development are not subject to Proposition 218: Proposition 218 does not apply to development fees, including those imposed on activities in part D of the permit. Article XIII D expressly states that it shall not be construed to "affect existing laws relating to the imposition of fees or charges as a condition of property development."[221]

Moreover, the California Supreme Court has ruled that fees imposed "as an incident to property ownership" are subject to Proposition 218, but fees that result from the owner's voluntary

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[219] *Connell v. Superior Court, supra,* 59 Cal.App.4th 382, 401.

[220] Water Code section 35470, as amended by Statutes 2007, chapter 27. Section 53753 of the Government Code requires compliance with "the procedures and approval process set forth in Section 4 of Article XIII D of the California Constitution" for assessments.

[221] California Constitution, article XIII D, section 1, subdivision (b).

decision to seek a government benefit are not.[222] Thus, fees imposed as a result of the owner's voluntary decision to undertake a development project are not subject to Proposition 218, because they are not merely incident to property ownership.[223]

The final issue, therefore, is whether claimants may impose fees that are sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), to pay for the activities in the permit related to development: the hydromodification management plan (part D.1.g), and low-impact development (part D.1.d.(7)&(8)). The Commission finds claimants have fee authority that is sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), and that these activities do not impose costs mandated by the state and are not reimbursable.

Hydromodification management plan: Part D.1 of the permit describes the development planning component of the JURMP. Part D.1.g. requires each copermittee to collaborate with other copermittees to develop and implement and report on developing a hydromodification management plan (HMP) to manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all priority development projects, as specified. As discussed above, the HMP is a state-mandated new program or higher level of service for only private priority development projects. The purpose of the HMP is:

> [T]o manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all Priority Development Projects, where such rates and durations are likely to cause increased erosion of channel beds and banks, sediment pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force.

According to the permit, priority development projects are:

> a) all new Development Projects that fall under the project categories or locations listed in section D.1.d.(2), and b) those redevelopment projects that create, add or replace at least 5,000 square feet of impervious surfaces on an already developed site that falls under the project categories or locations listed in section D.1.d.(2).

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[222] In *Richmond v. Shasta Community Services Dist.* (2004) 32 Cal.4th 409, the court held that water service fees were subject to Proposition 218, but that water connection fees were not. In *Apartment Assoc. of Los Angeles County v. City of Los Angeles, supra,* 24 Cal.4th 830, 839-840, the court held that apartment inspection fees were not subject to Proposition 218 because they were not imposed on property owners as such, but in their capacity as landlords.

[223] A recent report by the Office of the Legislative Analyst concurs with this conclusion: "Local governments finance stormwater clean–up services from revenues raised from a variety of fees and, less frequently, through taxes. Property owner fees for stormwater services typically require approval by two–thirds of the voters, or a majority of property owners. Developer fees and fees imposed on businesses that contribute to urban runoff, in contrast, are not restricted by Proposition 218 and may be approved by a vote of the governing body. Taxes for stormwater services require approval by two–thirds of the electorate." Office of the Legislative Analyst. *California's Water: An LAO Primer* (October 22, 2008) page 56. [Emphasis added.] See: <http://www.lao.ca.gov/2008/rsrc/water_primer/ water_primer_102208.pdf> as of October 22, 2008.

The priority development project categories listed in part D.1.d.(2) are:

(a) Housing subdivisions of 10 or more dwelling units. This category includes single-family homes, multi-family homes, condominiums, and apartments.

(b) Commercial developments greater than one acre. [as specified]

(c) Developments of heavy industry greater than one acre. This category includes, but is not limited to, manufacturing plants, food processing plants, metal working facilities, printing plants, and fleet storage areas (bus, truck, etc.).

(d) Automotive repair shops. This category is defined as a facility that is categorized in any one of the following Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534, or 7536-7539.

(e) Restaurants. This category is defined as a facility that sells prepared foods and drinks for consumption, including stationary lunch counters and refreshment stands selling prepared foods and drinks for immediate consumption (SIC code 5812), where the land area for development is greater than 5,000 square feet. Restaurants where land development is less than 5,000 square feet shall meet all SUSMP requirements except ... hydromodification requirement D.1.g.

(f) All hillside development greater than 5,000 square feet. This category is defined as any development which creates 5,000 square feet of impervious surface which is located in an area with known erosive soil conditions, where the development will grade on any natural slope that is twenty-five percent or greater.

(g) Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs). All development located within or directly adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA (where discharges from the development or redevelopment will enter receiving waters within the ESA), which either creates 2,500 square feet of impervious surface on a proposed project site or increases the area of imperviousness of a proposed project site to 10% or more of its naturally occurring condition. "Directly adjacent" means situated within 200 feet of the ESA. "Discharging directly to" means outflow from a drainage conveyance system that is composed entirely of flows from the subject development or redevelopment site, and not commingled with flows from adjacent lands.

(h) Parking lots 5,000 square feet or more or with 15 or more parking spaces and potentially exposed to urban runoff. Parking lot is defined as a land area or facility for the temporary parking or storage of motor vehicles used personally, for business, or for commerce.

(i) Street, roads, highways, and freeways. This category includes any paved surface that is 5,000 square feet or greater used for the transportation of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other vehicles.

(j) Retail Gasoline Outlets (RGOs). This category includes RGOs that meet the following criteria: (a) 5,000 square feet or more or (b) a projected Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 100 or more vehicles per day.

The Commission finds that claimants have authority to impose fees for complying with the HMP activities in permit part D.1.g. for priority development projects, and their authority is sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), in that the fee would not be subject to Proposition 218 voter approval. These activities involve collaborating with other copermittees to develop and implement a hydromodification management plan, and reporting on it. Because regulatory fees, pursuant to article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution, could be imposed on these priority development projects to pay for the costs of HMP, the Commission finds that permit part D.1.g. does not impose costs mandated by the state.

Low impact development: Low impact development is defined in Attachment C of the permit as a "storm water management and land development strategy that emphasizes conservation and the use of on-site natural features integrated with engineered, small-scale hydrologic controls to more closely reflect pre-development hydrologic functions." The purpose of LID is to "collectively minimize directly connected impervious areas and promote infiltration at Priority Development Projects." LID best management practices include draining a portion of impervious areas into pervious areas prior to discharge into the storm drain, and constructing portions of priority development projects with permeable surfaces.

Part D.1.d.(7) requires updating the Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans (SUSMP) to include low impact development requirements, as specified, including BMP requirements that meet or exceed the requirements of sections D.1.d.(4)[224] and D.1.d.(5).[225] Both D.1.d.(4) and D.1.d.(5) are the LID requirement implemented at priority development projects.

Part D.1.d.(8) requires permittees to develop and submit an updated model SUSMP that defines minimum low impact development and other BMP requirements to incorporate into the permittees local SUSMPs for application to priority development projects.

The Commission finds that claimants have authority to impose fees for complying with the LID activities in parts D.1.d.(7) and D.1.d.(8) of the permit, and their authority is sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), in that they are not subject to Proposition 218 voter approval. Because regulatory fees, pursuant to article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution, could be imposed on the priority development projects to pay for the costs associated with LID, the Commission finds that permit parts D.1.d.(7) and D.1.d.(8) do not impose costs mandated by the state.

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[224] Part D.1.d.(4) of the permit includes LID BMP requirements: "Each Copermittee shall require each Priority Development Project to implement LID BMPs which will collectively minimize directly connected impervious areas and promote infiltration at Priority Development Projects:" The Permit lists various LID site design BMPs that must be implemented at all Priority Development Projects, and other LID BMPs that must be implemented at all Priority Development Projects "where applicable and feasible."

[225] Part D.1.d.(5), regarding "Source control BMP Requirements" requires permittees to require each Priority Development Project to implement source control BMPs that must "Minimize storm water pollutants of concern in urban runoff" and include five other specific criteria.

2. Claimants also have fee authority regulated by the Mitigation Fee Act that is sufficient (within the meaning of Gov. Code, § 17556, subd. (d)) to pay for the hydromodification and low-impact development permit activities.

Development fees are also an exercise of the local police power under article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution.[226] A fee is considered a development fee if it is exacted in return for building permits or other governmental privileges so long as the amount of the fee bears a reasonable relation to the development's probable costs to the community and benefits to the developer.[227] Development fees are not restricted by Proposition 218 as discussed above.

Fees on developers as conditions of permit approval are governed by the Mitigation Fee Act (Gov. Code, §§ 66000-66025) which defines a "fee" as:

> [A] monetary exaction other than a tax or special assessment, whether established for a broad class of projects by legislation of general applicability or imposed on a specific project on an ad hoc basis, that is charged by a local agency to the applicant in connection with approval of a development project for the purpose of defraying all or a portion of the cost of public facilities related to the development project, but does not include ... fees for processing applications for governmental regulatory actions or approvals ...."[228] [Emphasis added.]

Public facilities are defined in the Act as "public improvements, public services, and community amenities."[229]

When a local agency imposes or increases a fee as a condition of development approval, it must do all of the following: (1) Identify the purpose of the fee; (2) Identify the use to which the fee is to be put. If the use is financing public facilities, the facilities shall be identified. (3) Determine how there is a reasonable relationship between the fee's use and the type of development project on which the fee is imposed; and, (4) Determine how there is a reasonable relationship between the need for the public facility and the type of development project upon which the fee is imposed. (Gov. Code, § 66001, subd. (a),)

The city or county must also determine whether there is a reasonable relationship between the specific amount of the fee and the costs of building, expanding, or upgrading public facilities. These determinations, known as nexus studies, are in writing and must be updated whenever new fees are imposed or existing fees are increased.[230] A fee imposed "as a condition of approval of

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[226] *California Building Industry Assoc. v. Governing Board* (1988) 206 Cal.App.3d 212, 234.

[227] *Sinclair Paint, supra,* 15 Cal.4th at page 875.

[228] Government Code section 66000, subdivision (b).

[229] Government Code section 66000, subdivision (d).

[230] Government Code section 66001, subdivision (b). The Act also requires cities to segregate fee revenues from other municipal funds and to refund them if they are not spent within five years. Any person may request an audit to determine whether any fee or charge levied by the city or county exceeds the amount reasonably necessary to cover the cost of the service provided (Gov. Code, §66006, subd. (d)). Under Government Code section 66014, fees charged for zoning changes, use permits, building permits, and similar processing fees are subject to the same nexus requirements as development fees. Lastly, under California Government Code

a proposed development or development project" is limited to the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service or facility.[231] This is in contrast to regulatory fees, which do not depend on government-conferred benefits or privileges.[232]

The Mitigation Fee Act defines a "development project" as "any project undertaken for the purpose of development ... includ[ing] a project involving the issuance of a permit for construction or reconstruction, but not a permit to operate." (Gov. Code, § 66000, subd. (a).)

A fee does not become a development fee simply because it is made in connection with a development project. Approval of the development must be conditioned on the payment of the fee. The Mitigation Fee Act is limited to situations where the fee or exaction is imposed as a condition of approval of a development project.[233]

Because local agencies may make development of priority development projects conditional on the payment of a fee, the Commission finds that the claimants have fee authority, governed by the Mitigation Fee Act, that is sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), to pay for the hydromodification management plan and low-impact development activities. As discussed below, HMP and LID are "public facilities," which the Mitigation Fee Act defines as "public improvements, public services, and community amenities."[234]

The County of San Diego, in its January 2010 comments on the draft staff analysis, disagrees that it can impose a fee for the hydromodification plan (HMP) activities in the permit, stating that development and implementation of the HMP does not constitute a "public facility."

The Commission disagrees. The purpose of the permit is to prevent or abate pollution in waterways and beaches in San Diego County. More specifically, the purpose of the HMP is:

> [T]o manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all Priority Development Projects, where such increased rates and durations are likely to cause increased erosion of channel beds and banks, sediment pollutant generation, or other impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force.

All these stated purposes of the HMP provide public services or improvements, or community amenities within the meaning of the Act.[235] Moreover, the California Supreme Court stated that the Act "concerns itself with development fees; that is, fees imposed on development projects in

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section 66020, agencies collecting fees must provide project applicants with a statement of the amounts and purposes of all fees at the time of fee imposition or project approval.

[231] Government Code section 66005, subdivision (a).

[232] *Sinclair Paint, supra,* 15 Cal.4th at page 875.

[233] *California Building Industry Ass'n v. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control Dist.* (2009) 178 Cal.App.4th, 130, 131.

[234] Government Code section 66000, subdivision (d).

[235] Government Code section 66000, subdivision (d).

order to finance public improvements or programs that bear a 'reasonable relationship' to the development at issue."[236] The HMP is such a program.

Similarly, the purposes of LID are to "collectively minimize directly connected impervious areas and promote infiltration at Priority Development Projects" and to reduce stormwater runoff from priority development projects. These activities are public services or improvements that fall within the Act's definition of public facility.

The County also argues that under the Mitigation Fee Act, the local agency must determine that there is "a reasonable relationship between the fee's use and the type of development project on which the fee is imposed." The County argues that there is no reasonable relationship between the costs incurred by claimants to develop and implement the HMP and a particular development project on which the fee might be imposed.

Again, the Commission disagrees. Every time a developer proposes a project that falls within one of the "priority development project" categories listed above, and the developer has "not yet begun grading or construction activities at the time any updated SUSMP or hydromodification requirement commences," the local agency may impose a fee subject to the Mitigation Fee Act. The fee would be for the costs of developing and implementing the HMP to "manage increases in runoff discharge rates and durations from all Priority Development Projects [that] cause ... impacts to beneficial uses and stream habitat due to increased erosive force." The local agency may also impose a fee on priority development projects to comply with LID, the purpose of which is to "collectively minimize directly connected impervious areas and promote infiltration at Priority Development Projects" and to reduce stormwater runoff.

Finally, the County argues that assessing fees on a private developer who submits a project for approval to recover the costs of reviewing and approving a particular project is "specifically excluded from the definition of 'fee' under the Act." The definition of fee in the Act states that it "does not include ... fees for processing applications for governmental regulatory actions or approvals ...." (Gov. Code, § 66000, subd. (b).)

The Commission disagrees that an HMP fee would be for "processing applications for governmental regulatory actions or approvals." Rather, it would be for permit approval of priority development projects, and used to implement the HMP and LID requirements. In *Barratt American Inc. v. City of Rancho Cucamonga* (2005) 37 Cal.4th 685, 698, the California Supreme Court distinguished between regulatory fees that implement state and local building safety standards under the Health and Safety Code and developer fees subject to the Mitigation Fee Act by stating: "These regulatory fees fund a program that supervises how, not whether, a developer may build." Thus, the Commission finds that the developer fees may be imposed for permit approval for priority development projects if the permit is conditional on payment of the fee, and the fee is used for HMP and LID compliance.

In sum, the Commission finds that the claimants have fee authority governed by the Mitigation Fee Act that is sufficient (within the meaning of Gov. Code, § 17556, subd. (d), to pay for the following parts of the permit that are related to development: the hydromodification management plan (part D.1.g) and updating the Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans to include Low Impact Development requirements (part D.1.d.(7)&(8)).

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[236] *Utility Cost Management v. Indian Wells Valley Water Dist.* (2001) 26 Cal.4th 1185, 1191.

3. Claimants' fee authority under Public Resources Code section 40059, or via benefit assessments, is not sufficient to pay for street sweeping, and Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), does not apply to reporting on street sweeping.

Street sweeping is one test claim activity that is typically funded by local agency fees or assessments. Fees and assessments are both governed by Proposition 218.

The permit (in part D.3.a.5) requires a program to sweep "improved (possessing a curb and gutter) municipal roads, streets, highways, and paring facilities" at intervals depending on whether they are identified as consistently generating the highest volumes, moderate volumes, or low volumes of trash and/or debris. Reporting on street sweeping, such as curb-miles swept and tons of material collected, is also required (part J.3.a.(3)(c)x-xv).

Some local agencies collect fees for street sweeping for their refuse fund, such as the City of Pasadena.[237] Other local agencies, e.g., the County of Fresno[238] and the City of La Quinta,[239] collect an assessment for street sweeping as a street maintenance activity. Both approaches are discussed below in light of the procedural requirements under Proposition 218.

Fees for street sweeping as refuse collection/solid waste handling: Article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution states: "A county or city may make and enforce within its limits all local, police, sanitary or other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws." Local agency fees for refuse collection are authorized by Public Resources Code section 40059, which states:

> (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each county, city, district, or other local governmental agency may determine all of the following:
>
> (1) Aspects of solid waste handling which are of local concern, including, but not limited to, frequency of collection, means of collection and transportation, level of services, charges and fees, and nature, location, and extent of providing solid waste handling services. [Emphasis added.]

"Solid waste" is defined in Public Resources Code section 40191 as:

> [A]ll putrescible and nonputrescible solid, semisolid, and liquid wastes, including garbage, trash, refuse, paper, rubbish, ashes, industrial wastes, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles and parts thereof, discarded home and industrial appliances, dewatered, treated, or chemically fixed sewage sludge

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[237] City of Pasadena, Agenda Report, Resolution Nos. 8942 and 8943, April 27, 2009, "Public Hearing: Amendment to the General Fee Schedule to Increase the Residential Refuse Collection Fees and Solid Waste Franchise Fees." One of the findings in the resolution is: "Whereas, street sweeping is a refuse collection service involving solely the collection, removal and disposal of solid waste from public rights of way, and is, therefore, properly allocated to the Refuse Fund."

[238] County of Fresno, Resolution Nos. 8942 and 8943, adopted January 15, 2008.

[239] City of La Quinta, Resolution No. 2009-035, adopted May 5, 2009.

which is not hazardous waste, manure, vegetable or animal solid and semisolid wastes and other discarded solid and semisolid wastes.[240]

"Solid waste handling" is defined in Public Resources Code section 40195 as "the collection, transportation, storage, transfer, or processing of solid wastes." Given the nature of material swept from city streets, street sweeping falls under the rubric of 'solid waste handling.'

Under Proposition 218, "refuse collection" is expressly exempted from the voter-approval requirement (article XIII D, § 6, subd. (c).). Although "refuse collection" has no definition in article XIII D, the plain meaning of refuse[241] collection is the same as solid waste handling, as the dictionary definition of "refuse" and the statutory definition of "solid waste" both refer to rubbish and trash as synonyms. Refuse is collected via solid waste handling.

To impose or increase refuse collection fees, the local agency must provide mailed written notice to each parcel owner on which the fee will be imposed, and conduct a public hearing not less than 45 days after mailing the notice. If written protests against the proposed fee are presented by a majority of the parcel owners, the local agency may not impose or increase the fee (article XIII D, § 6, subd. (a)(2)). In addition, revenues are: (1) not to exceed the funds required to provide the service, (2) shall not be used for any other purpose than to provide the property-related service, and the amount of the fee on a parcel shall not exceed the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel. And the service must be actually used by or immediately available to the property owner (article XIII D, § 6, subd. (b)).

Government Code, section 17556, subdivision (d), does not apply to street sweeping because the fee is contingent on the outcome of a written protest by a majority of the parcel owners. The plain language of subdivision (d) of this section prohibits the Commission from finding that the permit imposes "costs mandated by the state" if "The local agency ... has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service." [Emphasis added.] Under Proposition 218, the local agency has no authority to impose the fee if it is protested by a majority of parcel owners.

Additionally, it is possible that a majority of land owners in the local agency may never allow the proposed fee, but the local agency would still be required to comply with the state mandate. This would violate the purpose of article XIII B, section 6, which is to "to preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions to local agencies, which are 'ill equipped' to assume increased financial responsibilities because of the taxing and spending limitations that articles XIII A and XIII B impose."[242]

Thus, the Commission finds that fee authority under Public Resources Code section 40059 is not sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service in permit parts D.3.a.5 (street sweeping). Therefore, the Commission finds that street sweeping imposes costs mandated by the state and is reimbursable.

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[240] This definition also excludes hazardous waste, radioactive waste and medical waste, as defined.

[241] "Refuse" is defined as " Items or material discarded or rejected as useless or worthless; trash or rubbish." <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/refuse> as of November 23, 2009.

[242] *County of San Diego, supra,* 15 Cal.4th 68, 81.

Any proposed fees that are not blocked by a majority of parcel owners for street sweeping must be identified as offsetting revenue in the parameters and guidelines.

Fees for street sweeping reports: Proposition 218 does not contain an express exemption on voter approval for reporting on street sweeping, only for "refuse collection." Moreover, Proposition 218 (art. XIII D, § 6, subd. (b)(4)) states: "No fee or charge may be imposed for a service unless that service is actually used by, or immediately available to, the owner of the property in question." The permit does not require the street sweeping reports be available to property owners, only that the reports be submitted to the Regional Board. For these reasons, the Commission finds that Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), does not apply to reporting on street sweeping, so that part J.3.a.(3)(c)x-xv of the permit imposes costs mandated by the state and is reimbursable.

Assessments for street operation and maintenance: As mentioned above, some local agencies collect an assessment for street sweeping, e.g., the County of Fresno[243] and the City of La Quinta.[244] Assessments are defined as "any levy or charge upon real property by an agency for a special benefit conferred upon the real property. 'Assessment' includes, but is not limited to, 'special assessment,' 'benefit assessment,' 'maintenance assessment' and 'special assessment tax.'" (article XIII D, § 2, subd. (b).) The terms "maintenance and operation" of "streets" and "drainage systems," although used in article XIII D, are not defined in it. The plain meaning of maintenance of streets and drainage systems, however, would include street sweeping because "maintenance" means "the work of keeping something in proper condition; upkeep."[245] Clean streets are used not only for transportation, but for conveying storm water to storm drains.

The Supreme Court defined special assessments as follows:

> A special assessment is a "'compulsory charge placed by the state upon real property within a pre-determined district, made under express legislative authority for defraying in whole or in part the expense of a permanent public improvement therein....' " [Citation.]' [Citation.] In this regard, a special assessment is 'levied against real property particularly and directly benefited by a local improvement in order to pay the cost of that improvement.' [Citation.] 'The rationale of special assessment[s] is that the assessed property has received a special benefit over and above that received by the general public. The general public should not be required to pay for special benefits for the few, and the few specially benefited should not be subsidized by the general public.[246]

The Supreme Court summarized the constitutional procedures for creating an assessment district.

> Under Proposition 218's procedures, local agencies must give the record owners of all assessed parcels written notice of the proposed assessment, a voting ballot, and a statement disclosing that a majority protest will prevent the assessment's

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[243] County of Fresno, Resolution Nos. 8942 and 8943, adopted January 15, 2008.

[244] City of La Quinta, Resolution No. 2009-035, adopted May 5, 2009.

[245] <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/maintenance> as of December 7, 2009.

[246] *Silicon Valley Taxpayers Ass'n. v. Santa Clara Open Space Authority* (2008) 44 Cal.4th 431, 442.

> passage. (Art. XIII D, § 4, subds. (c), (d).) The proposed assessment must be "supported by a detailed engineer's report." (Art. XIII D, § 4, subd. (b).) At a noticed public hearing, the agencies must consider all protests, and they "shall not impose an assessment if there is a majority protest." (Art. XIII D, § 4, subd. (e).) Voting must be weighted "according to the proportional financial obligation of the affected property." (*Ibid.*)[247]

Proposition 218 dictated that as of July 1, 1997, existing assessments were to comply with its procedural requirements, but an exception was created for "any assessment imposed exclusively to finance the capital costs or maintenance and operation expenses for sidewalks, streets, sewers, water, flood control, drainage systems or vector control." (art. XIII D, § 5, subd. (a), emphasis added.) This means that the procedural requirements of Proposition 218 apply only to increases in assessments for street sweeping that were imposed after Proposition 218 was enacted.[248]

Absent any evidence in the record that assessments imposed before July 1, 1997 for street sweeping are sufficient to pay for the street sweeping specified in part D.3.a. of the permit, the Commission cannot find that assessments imposed before that date would pay for the costs mandated by the state for street sweeping within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d).

Should a local agency determine that its existing assessments are not sufficient to pay for the mandated street sweeping, it can raise assessments by following the article XIII D (Proposition 218) procedures detailed above. Those procedures, however, include an election and a protest, both of which were found above to extinguish local fee authority sufficient to pay for the mandate and to block the application of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d).

Thus, to the extent that the claimants impose or increase assessments to pay for the street sweeping, they would be identified as offsetting revenue in the parameters and guidelines.

4. Claimants' fee or assessment authority under Health and Safety Code section 5471 is not sufficient to pay for conveyance-system cleaning, and Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), does not apply to reporting on conveyance-system cleaning

Conveyance-system cleaning for operation and maintenance of the MS4 and MS4 facilities (catch basins, storm drain inlets, open channels, etc.) is required in the permit (part D.3.a.(3)). Specifically, claimants are required to clean in a timely manner "Any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of design capacity.... Any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning shall be cleaned of any accumulated trash and debris immediately. Open channels shall be cleaned of observed anthropogenic litter in a timely manner." Claimants are also required to report on the number of catch basins and inlets inspected and cleaned (J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii).

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[247] *Silicon Valley Taxpayers Ass'n v. Santa Clara Open Space Authority, supra,* 44 Cal.4th 431, 438.

[248] See also *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Ass'n. v. City of Riverside* (1999) 73 Cal.App.4th, 679, holding that a preexisting streetlighting assessment is 'exempt under Proposition 218.'

Local agencies have fee authority under Health and Safety Code section 5471 to charge fees for storm drainage maintenance and operation as follows:

> [A]ny entity[249] shall have power, by an ordinance approved by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body thereof, to prescribe, revise and collect, fees, tolls, rates, rentals, or other charges for services and facilities furnished by it, either within or without its territorial limits, in connection with its water, sanitation, storm drainage, or sewerage system. ... Revenues derived under the provisions in this section, shall be used only for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and operation of water systems and sanitation, storm drainage, or sewerage facilities .... [Emphasis added.]

This plain meaning of this statutory fee for storm drain operation and maintenance would include conveyance-system cleaning as required in the permit (part D.3.a.(3)(iii)), which the permit specifies as cleaning "catch basins or storm drain inlets." This cleaning is within the operation and maintenance of the storm drains.

The statutory fee, adopted in 1953, is now subject to the procedural requirements of Proposition 218. As it states in subdivision (d) of Health and Safety Code section 5471:

> If the procedures set forth in this section as it read at the time a standby charge was established were followed, the entity may, by ordinance adopted by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body thereof, continue the charge pursuant to this section in successive years at the same rate. If new, increased, or extended assessments are proposed, the entity shall comply with the notice, protest, and hearing procedures in Section 53753 of the Government Code [the codification of the Proposition 218 procedural requirements].

Proposition 218 does not exempt from voting requirements fees for storm drain maintenance like it does for "water, sewer, and refuse collection" in section 6 (c) of article XIII D. In fact, in *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Ass'n. v. City of Salinas* (2002) 98 Cal.App.4th 1351, the court invalidated a local storm drain fee and held that the exemption from an election for sewer fees does not include storm drainage fees. As to new or increased assessments imposed for storm drainage operation and maintenance, they would be subject to the same election requirement of Proposition 218 (art. XIII D, § 4, subd. (e)) as for other assessments.

Therefore, the Commission finds that local agencies do not have sufficient authority under section 5471 of the Health and Safety Code to impose fees or assessments (under Gov. Code § 17556, subd. (d)) for conveyance system cleaning as required by part D.3.a.(3)(iii) of the permit or reporting as required by part J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii of the permit.

Fees or assessments for conveyance-system reports: The Commission also finds that local agencies do not have fee or assessment authority for reporting on conveyance-system (in part J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii) on the number of catch basins and inlets inspected and cleaned. Fees or

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[249] Entity is defined to include "counties, cities and counties, cities, sanitary districts, county sanitation districts, sewer maintenance districts, and other public corporations and districts authorized to acquire, construct, maintain and operate sanitary sewers and sewerage systems." Health and Safety Code section 5470, subdivision (e).

assessments imposed for this reporting would be subject to a vote of parcel owners. Moreover, Proposition 218 (art. XIII D, § 6, subd. (b)(4)) states: "No fee or charge may be imposed for a service unless that service is actually used by, or immediately available to, the owner of the property in question." The permit does not require the reports on conveyance- system cleaning be available to property owners, only that the reports be submitted to the Regional Board. For these reasons, the Commission finds that Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), does not apply to reporting on conveyance-system cleaning, and that part J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii of the permit imposes costs mandated by the state within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), and is reimbursable.

Any revenue from existing assessments, or assessments obtained after voter approval, for conveyance system cleaning would be included in the parameters and guidelines as offsets to reimbursement.

C. Claimants have potential fee authority and offsetting revenue if they comply with the requirements of Senate Bill 310 (Stats. 2009, ch. 577)

Effective January 2010, Senate Bill 310 (Stats. 2009, ch. 577) was enacted to add Water Code provisions authorizing local agencies to adopt watershed improvement plans.

SB 310 is intended to establish multiple watershed-based pilot programs.[250] The bill creates the California Watershed Improvement Act of 2009 (commencing with Wat. Code, § 16000). Pursuant to Water Code section 16101, each county, city, or special district that is a copermittee under a NPDES permit ***may*** develop either individually or jointly a watershed improvement plan. The process for developing a watershed improvement plan is to be conducted consistent with all applicable open meeting laws. Each county, city, or special district, or combination thereof, is to notify the appropriate Regional Board of its intention to develop a watershed improvement plan.

The watershed improvement plan is voluntary – it is not necessarily the same watershed activities required by the permit in the test claim.

SB 310 includes the following local agency fee authority:

> 16103. (a) In addition to making use of other financing mechanisms that are available to local agencies to fund watershed improvement plans and plan measures and facilities, a county, city, special district, or combination thereof may impose fees on activities that generate or contribute to runoff, stormwater, or surface runoff pollution, to pay the costs of the preparation of a watershed improvement plan, and the implementation of a watershed improvement plan if all of the following requirements are met:
>
> (1) The Regional Board has approved the watershed improvement plan.
>
> (2) The entity or entities that develop the watershed improvement plan make a finding, supported by substantial evidence, that the fee is reasonably related to the cost of mitigating the actual or anticipated past, present, or future adverse effects of the activities of the feepayer. "Activities," for the purposes of this paragraph,

[250] Senate Rules Committee, Office of Senate Floor Analyses, Analysis of Senate Bill 310 (2009-2010 Reg. Sess.) as amended August 31, 2009, page 4.

means the operations and existing structures and improvements subject to regulation under an NPDES permit for municipal separate storm sewer systems.

(3) The fee is not imposed solely as an incident of property ownership.

(b) A county, city, special district, or combination thereof may plan, design, implement, construct, operate, and maintain controls and facilities to improve water quality, including controls and facilities related to the infiltration, retention and reuse, diversion, interception, filtration, or collection of surface runoff, including urban runoff, stormwater, and other forms of runoff, the treatment of pollutants in runoff or other waters subject to water quality regulatory requirements, the return of diverted and treated waters to receiving water bodies, the enhance-ment of beneficial uses of waters of the state, or the beneficial use or reuse of diverted waters.

(c) The fees authorized under subdivision (a) may be imposed as user-based or regulatory fees consistent with this chapter.

However, Water Code section 16102, subdivision (d), states: "A regional board may, if it deems appropriate, utilize provisions of the approved watershed improvement plan (approved under this new act) to promote compliance with one of more of the regional board's regulatory plans or programs." Subdivision (e) states "Unless a regional board incorporates the provisions of the watershed improvement plan into waste discharge requirements issued to a permittee, the implementation of a watershed improvement plan by a permittee shall not be deemed to be in compliance with those waste discharge requirements."

Therefore, the Commission finds that Water Code section 16103 may only provide offsetting revenue for this test claim to the extent that a local agency voluntarily complies with Water Code section 16101, the Regional Board approves the plan and incorporates it into the test claim permit to satisfy the requirements of the permit.

D. The holding in *San Diego Unified School Dist. v. Commission on State Mandates* does not apply to the test claim activities.

The State Board's January 2010 comments on the draft staff analysis cite *San Diego Unified v. Commission on States Mandates,*[251] arguing that the permit in this test claim, like the pupil expulsion hearings, are intended to implement a federal law, and has costs that are, in context, de minimis. In *San Diego Unified School District,* the California Supreme Court held costs for hearing procedures and notice are not reimbursable for pupil expulsions that are discretionary under state law. The court found that these hearing procedures are incidental to federal due process requirements and the costs are de minimis, and thus not reimbursable.

The Commission disagrees. The permit in this case does not meet the criteria in the *San Diego Unified School District* case. Unlike the discretionary expulsions in *San Diego Unified School District,* the permit imposes state-mandated activities. And although the permit is intended to implement the federal Clean Water Act, there is no evidence or indication that its costs are de minimis. Claimants submitted declarations of costs totaling over $10 million for fiscal year

[251] *San Diego Unified School Dist., supra,* 33 Cal.4th 859.

2007-2008 alone.[252] Claimants further submitted documentation of 2008-2009 costs of over $18 million. The State Board offers no evidence or argument to refute these cost declarations, so the Commission finds that permit activities (except for LID and HMP discussed above) impose costs mandated by the state that are not de minimis.

Summary: To recap fee authority under issue 2, the Commission finds that, due to the fee authority under the police power generally, and as governed by the Mitigation Fee Act, there are no "costs mandated by the state" within the meaning of Government Code sections 17514 and 17556 for the following parts of the permit that have a reasonable relationship to property development:

- Hydromodification Management Plan (part D.1.g);
- Updating the Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans to include Low Impact Development requirements (parts D.1.d.(7) & D.1.d.(8));

The Commission also finds that the claimants' fee or assessment authority is not sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), and that there are costs mandated by the state within the meaning of Government Code section 17514 for all the activities in the permit, including:

- The fee authority in Public Resources Code section 40059 for the permit activities in parts D.3.a.5 (street sweeping) and J.3.a.(3)(c)x-xv (reporting on street sweeping);
- The fee authority in Health and Safety Code section 5471, for the permit activities in part D.3.a.(3)(iii) (conveyance system cleaning) or part J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii (reporting on conveyance system cleaning) of the permit.

Further, the Commission finds the following would be identified as offsetting revenue in the parameters and guidelines for this test claim:

- Any fees or assessments approved by the voters or property owners for any activities in the permit, including those authorized by Public Resources Code section 40059 for street sweeping or reporting on street sweeping, and those authorize by Health and Safety Code section 5471, for conveyance-system cleaning, or reporting on conveyance-system cleaning;
- Any proposed fees that are not subject to a written protest by a majority of parcel owners and that are imposed for street sweeping.
- Effective January 1, 2010, fees imposed pursuant to Water Code section 16103 only to the extent that a local agency voluntarily complies with Water Code section 16101 by developing a watershed improvement plan pursuant to Statutes 2009, chapter 577, and the Regional Board approves the plan and incorporates it into the test claim permit to satisfy the requirements of the permit.

[252] The County and city declarations are attached to the test claim.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, the Commission finds that parts of 2007 permit issued by the California Regional Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (Order No. R9-2007-001, NPDES No. CAS0108758), are a reimbursable state-mandated program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution for the claimants to perform the following activities.

The term of the permit is from January 24, 2007 – January 23, 2012.[253] The permit terms and conditions are automatically continued, however, pending issuance of a new permit if all requirements of the federal NPDES regulations on the continuation of expired permits are complied with.[254]

I. Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program and Reporting (parts D & J)

Street sweeping (part D.3.a.(5)): Sweeping of Municipal Areas

> Each Copermittee shall implement a program to sweep improved (possessing a curb and gutter) municipal roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities. The program shall include the following measures:
>
> (a) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept at least two times per month.
>
> (b) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept at least monthly.
>
> (c) Roads, streets, highways, and parking facilities identified as generating low volumes of trash and/or debris shall be swept as necessary, but no less than once per year.

Street sweeping reporting (J.3.a.(3)(c)x-xv): Report annually on the following:

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[253] According to attachment B of the permit: "*Effective Date.* This Order shall become effective on the date of its adoption provided the USEPA has no objection...." "(q) *Expiration.* This Order expires five years after adoption."

[254] According to attachment B of the permit: "(r) *Continuation of Expired Order* [23 CCR 2235.4]. After this Order expires, the terms and conditions of this Order are automatically continued pending issuance of a new permit if all requirements of the federal NPDES regulations on the continuation of expired permits (40 CFR 122.6) are complied with."

x. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
xi. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
xii. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles of improved roads, streets, and highways identified as consistently generating low volumes of trash and/or debris, as well as the frequency of sweeping conducted for such roads, streets, and highways.
xiii. Identification of the total distance of curb-miles swept.
xiv. Identification of the number of municipal parking lots, the number of municipal parking lots swept, and the frequency of sweeping.
xv. Amount of material (tons) collected from street and parking lot sweeping.

Conveyance system cleaning (D.3.a.(3)):

(a) Implement a schedule of inspection and maintenance activities to verify proper operation of all municipal structural treatment controls designed to reduce pollutant discharges to or from its MS4s and related drainage structures.

(b) Implement a schedule of maintenance activities for the MS4 and MS4 facilities (catch basins, storm drain inlets, open channels, etc). The maintenance activities shall, at a minimum, include: [¶]...[¶]

iii. Any catch basin or storm drain inlet that has accumulated trash and debris greater than 33% of design capacity shall be cleaned in a timely manner. Any MS4 facility that is designed to be self cleaning shall be cleaned of any accumulated trash and debris immediately. Open channels shall be cleaned of observed anthropogenic litter in a timely manner.

Conveyance system cleaning reporting (J.3.a.(3)(c)(iv)-(viii)): Update and revise the copermittees' JURMPs to contain:

iv. Identification of the total number of catch basins and inlets, the number of catch basins and inlets inspected, the number of catch basins and inlets found with accumulated waste exceeding cleaning criteria, and the number of catch basins and inlets cleaned.

v. Identification of the total distance (miles) of the MS4, the distance of the MS4 inspected, the distance of the MS4 found with accumulated waste exceeding cleaning criteria, and the distance of the MS4 cleaned.

vi. Identification of the total distance (miles) of open channels, the distance of the open channels inspected, the distance of the open channels found with anthropogenic litter, and the distance of open channels cleaned.

vii. Amount of waste and litter (tons) removed from catch basins, inlets, the MS4, and open channels, by category.

viii. Identification of any MS4 facility found to require inspection less than annually following two years of inspection, including justification for the finding.

Educational component (part D.5): To implement an education program using all media as appropriate to (1) measurably increase the knowledge of the target communities regarding MS4s, impacts of urban runoff on receiving waters, and potential BMP solutions for the target audience; and (2) to measurably change the behavior of target communities and thereby reduce pollutant releases to MS4s and the environment. At a minimum, the education program shall meet the requirements of this section and address the following target communities:

- Municipal Departments and Personnel
- Construction Site Owners and Developers
- Industrial Owners and Operators
- Commercial Owners and Operators
- Residential Community, General Public, and School Children

a.(1) Each Copermittee shall educate each target community on the following topics where appropriate: (i) Erosion prevention, (ii) Non storm water discharge prohibitions, and (iii) BMP types: facility or activity specific, LID,-source control, and treatment control.

a.(2) Copermittee educational programs shall emphasize underserved target audiences, high-risk behaviors, and "allowable" behaviors and discharges, including various ethnic and socioeconomic groups and mobile sources.

b. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

(1) Municipal Departments and Personnel Education

(a) Municipal Development Planning – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that its Planning Boards and Elected Officials, if applicable, have an understanding of:

i. Federal, state, and local water quality laws and regulations applicable to Development Projects;
ii. The connection between land use decisions and short and long-term water quality impacts (i.e., impacts from land development and urbanization);
iii. How to integrate LID BMP requirements into the local regulatory program(s) and requirements; and
iv. Methods of minimizing impacts to receiving water quality resulting from development, including:

[1] Storm water management plan development and review;
[2] Methods to control downstream erosion impacts;
[3] Identification of pollutants of concern;
[4] LID BMP techniques;
[5] Source control BMPs; and
[6] Selection of the most effective treatment control BMPs for the pollutants of concern.

(b) Municipal Construction Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program that includes annual training prior to the rainy season so that its construction, building, code enforcement, and grading review staffs, inspectors, and other responsible construction staff have, at a minimum, an understanding of the following topics, as appropriate for the target audience:

iii. Proper implementation of erosion and sediment control and other BMPs to minimize the impacts to receiving water quality resulting from construction activities.
iv. The Copermittee's inspection, plan review, and enforcement policies and procedures to verify consistent application.
v. Current advancements in BMP technologies.
vi. SUSMP Requirements including treatment options, LID BMPs, source control, and applicable tracking mechanisms.

(c) Municipal Industrial/Commercial Activities - Each Copermittee shall train staff responsible for conducting storm water compliance inspections and enforcement of industrial and commercial facilities at least once a year [except for staff who solely inspect new development]. Training shall cover inspection and enforcement procedures, BMP implementation, and reviewing monitoring data.

(d) Municipal Other Activities – Each Copermittee shall implement an education program so that municipal personnel and contractors performing activities which generate pollutants have an understanding of the activity specific BMPs for each activity to be performed.

(2) New Development and Construction Education

As early in the planning and development process as possible and all through the permitting and construction process, each Copermittee shall implement a program to educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, community planning groups, and other responsible parties. The education program shall provide an understanding of the topics listed in Sections D.5.b.(1)(a) and D.5.b.(1)(b) above, as appropriate for the audience being educated. The education program shall also educate project applicants, developers, contractors, property owners, and other responsible parties on the importance of educating all construction workers in the field about stormwater issues and BMPs through formal or informal training.

(3) Residential, General Public, and School Children Education

Each Copermittee shall collaboratively conduct or participate in development and implementation of a plan to educate residential, general public, and school children target communities. The plan shall evaluate use of mass media, mailers, door hangers, booths at public events, classroom education, field trips, hands-on experiences, or other educational methods.

II. Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program (parts E.2.f & E.2.g.)

Each Copermittee shall collaborate with other Copermittees within its WMA(s) [Watershed Management Area] as in Table 4 [of the permit] to develop and

implement an updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program for each watershed. Each updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program shall meet the requirements of section E of this Order, reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP, and prevent urban runoff discharges from the MS4 from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards. At a minimum, each Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program shall include the elements described below: [¶]...[¶]

[Paragraphs (a) through (e) were not part of the test claim.]

f. Watershed Activities

(1) The Watershed Copermittees shall identify and implement Watershed Activities that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA. Watershed Activities shall include both Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities. These activities may be implemented individually or collectively, and may be implemented at the regional, watershed, or jurisdictional level.

(a) Watershed Water Quality Activities are activities other than education that address the high priority water quality problems in the WMA. A Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented on a jurisdictional basis must be organized and implemented to target a watershed's high priority water quality problems or must exceed the baseline jurisdictional requirements of section D of this Order.

(b) Watershed Education Activities are outreach and training activities that address high priority water quality problems in the WMA.

(2) A Watershed Activities List shall be submitted with each updated Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan (WURMP) and updated annually thereafter. The Watershed Activities List shall include both Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities, along with a description of how each activity was selected, and how all of the activities on the list will collectively abate sources and reduce pollutant discharges causing the identified high priority water quality problems in the WMA.

(3) Each activity on the Watershed Activities List shall include the following information:

(a) A description of the activity;

(b) A time schedule for implementation of the activity, including key milestones;

(c) An identification of the specific responsibilities of Watershed Copermittees in completing the activity;

(d) A description of how the activity will address the identified high priority water quality problem(s) of the watershed;

(e) A description of how the activity is consistent with the collective watershed strategy;

(f) A description of the expected benefits of implementing the activity; and

(g) A description of how implementation effectiveness will be measured.

(4) Each Watershed Copermittee shall implement identified Watershed Activities pursuant to established schedules. For each Permit year, no less than two Watershed Water Quality Activities and two Watershed Education Activities shall be in an active implementation phase. A Watershed Water Quality Activity is in an active implementation phase when significant pollutant load reductions, source abatement, or other quantifiable benefits to discharge or receiving water quality can reasonably be established in relation to the watershed's high priority water quality problem(s). Watershed Water Quality Activities that are capital projects are in active implementation for the first year of implementation only. A Watershed Education Activity is in an active implementation phase when changes in attitudes, knowledge, awareness, or behavior can reasonably be established in target audiences.

g. Watershed Copermittees shall collaborate to develop and implement the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs. Watershed Copermittee collaboration shall include frequent regularly scheduled meetings.

III. Regional Urban Runoff Management Program (parts F.1, F.2 & F.3)

The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program shall, at a minimum:

Each copermittee shall collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop, implement, and update as necessary a Regional Urban Runoff Management Program that meets the requirements of section F of the permit, reduces the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP, and prevents urban runoff discharges from the MS4 from causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards. The Regional Urban Runoff Management Program shall, at a minimum: [¶]...[¶]

1. Develop and implement a Regional Residential Education Program. The program shall include:

a. Pollutant specific education which focuses educational efforts on bacteria, nutrients, sediment, pesticides, and trash. If a different pollutant is determined to be more critical for the education program, the pollutant can be substituted for one of these pollutants.

b. Education efforts focused on the specific residential sources of the pollutants listed in section F.1.a.

2. Develop the standardized fiscal analysis method required in section G of the permit, and,

3. Facilitate the assessment of the effectiveness of jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs.

IV. Program Effectiveness Assessment (parts I.1 & I.2)

1. Jurisdictional

a. As part of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program, each Copermittee shall annually assess the effectiveness of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program implementation. At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall:

(1) Specifically assess the effectiveness of each of the following:

(a) Each significant jurisdictional activity/BMP or type of jurisdictional activity/BMP implemented;

(b) Implementation of each major component of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (Development Planning, Construction, Municipal, Industrial/Commercial, Residential, Illicit Discharge[255] Detection and Elimination, and Education); and

(c) Implementation of the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole.

(2) Identify and utilize measurable targeted outcomes, assessment measures, and assessment methods for each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above.

(3) Utilize outcome levels 1-6[256] to assess the effectiveness of each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.

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[255] Illicit discharge, as defined in Attachment C of the permit, is "any discharge to the MS4 that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit and discharges resulting from firefighting activities [40 C.F.R. 122.26 (b)(2)]."

[256] Effectiveness assessment outcome levels are defined in Attachment C of the permit as follows: Effectiveness assessment outcome level 1 – Compliance with Activity-based Permit Requirements – Level 1 outcomes are those directly related to the implementation of specific activities prescribed by this Order or established pursuant to it. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 2 – Changes in Attitudes, Knowledge, and Awareness – Level 2 outcomes are measured as increases in knowledge and awareness among target audiences such as residents, business, and municipal employees. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 3 – Behavioral Changes and BMP Implementation – Level 3 outcomes measure the effectiveness of activities in affecting behavioral change and BMP implementation. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 4 – Load Reductions – Level 4 outcomes measure load reductions which quantify changes in the amounts of pollutants associated with specific sources before and after a BMP or other control measure is employed. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 5 – Changes in Urban Runoff and Discharge Quality – Level 5 outcomes are measured as changes in one or more specific constituents or stressors in discharges into or from MS4s. Effectiveness assessment outcome level 6 – Changes in Receiving Water Quality – Level 6 outcomes measure changes to receiving water quality resulting from discharges into and from MS4s, and may be expressed through a variety of means such as compliance with water quality objectives or other regulatory benchmarks, protection of biological integrity [i.e., ecosystem health], or beneficial use attainment.

(4) Utilize monitoring data and analysis from the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program to assess the effectiveness each of the items listed in section I.1.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.

(5) Utilize Implementation Assessment,[257] Water Quality Assessment,[258] and Integrated Assessment,[259] where applicable and feasible.

b. Based on the results of the effectiveness assessment, each Copermittee shall annually review its jurisdictional activities or BMPs to identify modifications and improvements needed to maximize Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness, as necessary to achieve compliance with section A of this Order. The Copermittees shall develop and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements. Jurisdictional activities/BMPs that are ineffective or less effective than other comparable jurisdictional activities/BMPs shall be replaced or improved upon by implementation of more effective jurisdictional activities/BMPs. Where monitoring data exhibits persistent water quality problems that are caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges, jurisdictional activities or BMPs applicable to the water quality problems shall be modified and improved to correct the water quality problems.

c. As part of its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Reports, each Copermittee shall report on its Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the requirements of sections I.1.a and I.1.b above.

2. Watershed

a. As part of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program, each watershed group of Copermittees (as identified in Table 4)[260] shall annually assess the effectiveness of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program implementation. At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall:

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[257] Implementation Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment conducted to determine the effectiveness of copermittee programs and activities in achieving measureable targeted outcomes, and in determining whether priority sources of water quality problems are being effectively addressed."

[258] Water Quality Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment conducted to evaluate the condition of non-storm water discharges, and the water bodies which receive these discharges."

[259] Integrated Assessment is defined in Attachment C of the permit as an "Assessment to be conducted to evaluate whether program implementation is properly targeted to and resulting in the protection and improvement of water quality."

[260] Table 4 of the permit divides the copermittees into nine watershed management areas. For example, the San Luis Rey River watershed management area lists the city of Oceanside, Vista and the County of San Diego as the responsible watershed copermittees. Table 4 also lists where the hydrologic units are and major receiving water bodies.

(1) Specifically assess the effectiveness of each of the following:

(a) Each Watershed Water Quality Activity implemented;

(b) Each Watershed Education Activity implemented; and

(c) Implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole.

2) Identify and utilize measurable targeted outcomes, assessment measures, and assessment methods for each of the items listed in section I.2.a.(1) above.

3) Utilize outcome levels 1-6 to assess the effectiveness of each of the items listed in sections I.2.a.(1)(a) and I.2.a.(1)(b) above, where applicable and feasible.

4) Utilize outcome levels 1-4 to assess the effectiveness of implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole, where applicable and feasible.

5) Utilize outcome levels 5 and 6 to qualitatively assess the effectiveness of implementation of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program as a whole, focusing on the high priority water quality problem(s) of the watershed. These assessments shall attempt to exhibit the impact of Watershed Urban

Runoff Management Program implementation on the high priority water quality problem(s) within the watershed.

6) Utilize monitoring data and analysis from the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program to assess the effectiveness each of the items listed in section I.2.a.(1) above, where applicable and feasible.

7) Utilize Implementation Assessment, Water Quality Assessment, and Integrated Assessment, where applicable and feasible.

b. Based on the results of the effectiveness assessment, the watershed Copermittees shall annually review their Watershed Water Quality Activities, Watershed Education Activities, and other aspects of the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program to identify modifications and improvements needed to maximize Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness, as necessary to achieve compliance with section A of this Order.[261] The Copermittees shall develop and implement a plan and schedule to address the identified modifications and improvements. Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities that are ineffective or less effective than other comparable Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities shall be replaced or improved upon by implementation of more effective Watershed Water Quality Activities/Watershed Education Activities. Where monitoring data exhibits persistent water quality problems that are caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges, Watershed Water Quality Activities and Watershed Education Activities applicable to the water quality problems shall be modified and improved to correct the water quality problems.

[261] Section A is "Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations."

c. As part of its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Reports, each watershed group of Copermittees (as identified in Table 4) shall report on its Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program effectiveness assessment as implemented under each of the requirements of section I.2.a and I.2.b above.

Long Term Effectiveness Assessment (I.5):

a. Collaborate with the other Copermittees to develop a Longterm Effectiveness Assessment (LTEA), which shall build on the results of the Copermittees' August 2005 Baseline LTEA. The LTEA shall be submitted by the Principal Permittee to the Regional Board no later than 210 days in advance of the expiration of this Order.

b. The LTEA shall be designed to address each of the objectives listed in section I.3.a.(6)[262] of this Order, and to serve as a basis for the Copermittees' Report of Waste Discharge for the next permit cycle.

c. The LTEA shall address outcome levels 1-6, and shall specifically include an evaluation of program implementation to changes in water quality (outcome levels 5 and 6).

d. The LTEA shall assess the effectiveness of the Receiving Waters Monitoring Program in meeting its objectives and its ability to answer the five core management questions. This shall include assessment of the frequency of monitoring conducted through the use of power analysis and other pertinent statistical methods. The power analysis shall identify the frequency and intensity of sampling needed to identify a 10% reduction in the concentration of constituents causing the high priority water quality problems within each watershed over the next permit term with 80% confidence.

e. The LTEA shall address the jurisdictional, watershed, and regional programs, with an emphasis on watershed assessment.

1. Collaborate with all other Copermittees regulated under the permit to address common issues, promote consistency among Jurisdictional Urban Runoff

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[262] Part I.3.a.(6) of the permit states: At a minimum, the annual effectiveness assessment shall: (6) Include evaluation of whether the Copermittees' jurisdictional, watershed, and regional effectiveness assessments are meeting the following objectives: (a) Assessment of watershed health and identification of water quality issues and concerns. (b) Evaluation of the degree to which existing source management priorities are properly targeted to, and effective in addressing, water quality issues and concerns. (c) Evaluation of the need to address additional pollutant sources not already included in Copermittee programs. (d) Assessment of progress in implementing Copermittee programs and activities. (e) Assessment of the effectiveness of Copermittee activities in addressing priority constituents and sources. (f) Assessment of changes in discharge and receiving water quality. (g) Assessment of the relationship of program implementation to changes in pollutant loading, discharge quality, and receiving water quality. (h) Identification of changes necessary to improve Copermittee programs, activities, and effectiveness assessment methods and strategies.

Management Programs and Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs, and to plan and coordinate activities required under this Order.

V. All Copermittee Collaboration (part L)

(a) Collaborate with all other Copermittees to address common issues, promote consistency among Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Programs and Watershed Urban Runoff Management Programs, and to plan and coordinate activities required under the permit.

Jointly execute and submit to the Regional Board no later than 180 days after adoption of the permit, a Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Powers Authority, or other instrument of formal agreement that at a minimum: [¶]...[¶]

3. Establishes a management structure to promote consistency and develop and implement regional activities;
4. Establishes standards for conducting meetings, decisions-making, and cost-sharing.
5. Provides guidelines for committee and workgroup structure and responsibilities;
6. Lays out a process for addressing Copermittee non-compliance with the formal agreement.

The Commission finds that due to the fee authority under the police power (Cal. Const. art. XI, § 7) and as governed by the Mitigation Fee Act, there are no "costs mandated by the state" within the meaning of Government Code sections 17514 and 17556 for the following parts of the permit that have a reasonable relationship to property development:

- Hydromodification Management Plan (part D.1.g);
- Updating the Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans to include Low Impact Development requirements (parts D.1.d.(7) & D.1.d.(8));

The Commission also finds that the claimants' fee or assessment authority is not sufficient within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), and that there are costs mandated by the state within the meaning of Government Code section 17514 for all the activities in the permit, including:

- The fee authority in Public Resources Code section 40059 for the permit activities in parts D.3.a.5 (street sweeping) and J.3.a.(3)(c)x-xv (reporting on street sweeping);
- The fee authority in Health and Safety Code section 5471, for the permit activities in part D.3.a.(3)(iii) (conveyance system cleaning) or part J.3.a.(3)(c)iv-viii (reporting on conveyance system cleaning) of the permit.

Further, the Commission finds the following would be identified as offsetting revenue in the parameters and guidelines for this test claim:

- Any fees or assessments approved by the voters or property owners for any activities in the permit, including those authorized by Public Resources Code section 40059 for street sweeping or reporting on street sweeping, and those authorize by Health and Safety Code

section 5471, for conveyance-system cleaning, or reporting on conveyance-system cleaning;

- Any proposed fees that are not subject to a written protest by a majority of parcel owners and that are imposed for street sweeping.
- Fees imposed pursuant to Water Code section 16103 only to the extent that a local agency voluntarily complies with Water Code section 16101, the Regional Board approves the plan and incorporates it into the test claim permit to satisfy the requirements of the permit.

Tab 20

BEFORE THE

COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE TEST CLAIM ON: 10-TC-12 Water Code Division 6, Part 2.55 [Sections 10608 through 10608.64] and Part 2.8 [Sections 10800 through 10853] as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, Chapter 4; Filed on June 30, 2011; By, South Feather Water and Power Agency, Paradise Irrigation District, Richvale Irrigation District, Biggs-West Gridley Water District, Claimants; *Consolidated with* 12-TC-01 Filed on February 28, 2013; California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 597, 597.1 597.2, 597.3, and 597.4, Register 2012, No. 28; By, Richvale Irrigation District, Biggs-West Gridley Water District, Oakdale Irrigation District, Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Claimants.	Case Nos.: 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01 *Water Conservation* DECISION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 17500 ET SEQ.; CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 2.5, ARTICLE 7. (*Adopted December 5, 2014*) (*Served December 12, 2014*)

DECISION

The Commission on State Mandates (Commission) heard and decided this test claim during a regularly scheduled hearing on December 5, 2014. Dustin Cooper, Peter Harman, and Alexis Stevens appeared on behalf of the claimants. Donna Ferebee and Lee Scott appeared on behalf of the Department of Finance. Spencer Kenner appeared on behalf of the Department of Water Resources. Dorothy Holzem of the California Special Districts Association and Geoffrey Neill of the California State Association of Counties also appeared on behalf of interested persons and parties.

The law applicable to the Commission's determination of a reimbursable state-mandated program is article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, Government Code sections 17500 et seq., and related case law.

The Commission adopted the proposed decision to deny the test claim by a vote of six to zero.

Summary of the Findings

The Commission finds that the two original agricultural water supplier claimants named in each test claim, Richvale Irrigation District and Biggs-West Gridley Water District, are not eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6, because they do not collect or expend tax revenue, and are therefore not subject to the limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B. However, two substitute agricultural water supplier claimants, Oakdale Irrigation District and Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, are subject to articles XIII A and XIII B and are therefore claimants eligible to seek reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6. As a result, the Commission has jurisdiction to hear and determine test claims 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01.

The Commission finds that the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (Act), and the Agricultural Water Measurement regulations promulgated by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to implement the Act, impose some new required activities on urban water suppliers and agricultural water suppliers, including measurement requirements, conservation and efficient water management requirements, notice and hearing requirements, and documentation requirements, with specified exceptions and limitations.

However, the Commission finds that several agricultural water suppliers are either exempted from the requirements of the test claim statutes and regulations or are subject to alternative and less expensive compliance alternatives because the activities were already required by a regime of federal statutes and regulations, which apply to most agricultural water suppliers within the state.[1]

Additionally, to the extent that the test claim statute and regulations impose any new state-mandated activities, they do not impose costs mandated by the state because the Commission finds that urban water suppliers and agricultural water suppliers possess fee authority, sufficient as a matter of law to cover the costs of any new required activities. Therefore, the test claim statute and regulations do not impose costs mandated by the state pursuant to Government Code section 17556(d), and are not reimbursable under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution.

COMMISSION FINDINGS

I. Chronology

06/30/2011	Co-claimants, South Feather Water and Power Agency (South Feather), Paradise Irrigation District (Paradise), Biggs-West Gridley Water District (Biggs), and Richvale Irrigation District (Richvale) filed test claim 10-TC-12 with the Commission.[2]
10/07/2011	Department of Finance (Finance) requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.

[1] See Public Law 102-565 and the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 and the specific exceptions and alternate compliance provisions in the test claim statutes for those subject to these federal requirements, as discussed in greater detail in the analysis below.

[2] Exhibit A, *Water Conservation Act* Test Claim, 10-TC-12.

12/06/2011	Department of Water Resources (DWR) requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
02/01/2012	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
03/30/2012	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
05/30/2012	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
08/02/2012	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
10/02/2012	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
12/03/2012	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
12/07/2012	Finance requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
02/04/2013	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
02/06/2013	Finance requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
02/28/2013	Richvale and Biggs filed test claim 12-TC-01 with the Commission.[3]
03/06/2013	The executive director consolidated the test claims for analysis and hearing, and renamed them *Water Conservation*.
03/29/2013	DWR requested an extension of time to file comments, which was approved.
06/07/2013	Finance submitted written comments on the consolidated test claims.[4]
06/07/2013	DWR submitted written comments on the consolidated test claims.[5]
07/09/2013	Claimants requested an extension of time to file rebuttal comments, which was approved.
08/07/2013	Claimants filed rebuttal comments.[6]
08/22/2013	Commission staff issued a request for additional information regarding the eligibility status of the claimants.[7]
09/19/2013	Finance submitted comments in response to staff's request.[8]
09/20/2013	The State Controller's Office (SCO) submitted a request for extension of time to comments, which was approved for good cause.
09/23/2013	DWR submitted comments in response to staff's request.[9]

[3] Exhibit B, *Agricultural Water Measurement* Test Claim, 12-TC-01.

[4] Exhibit C, Finance Comments on Consolidated Test Claims.

[5] Exhibit D, DWR Comments on Consolidated Test Claims.

[6] Exhibit E, Claimant Rebuttal Comments.

[7] Exhibit F, Request for Additional Information.

[8] Exhibit G, Finance Response to Commission Request for Comments.

09/23/2013	The claimants submitted comments in response to staff's request.[10]
10/07/2013	SCO submitted comments in response to staff's request.[11]
11/12/2013	Commission staff issued a Notice of Pending Dismissal of 12-TC-01, and a Notice of Opportunity for a Local Agency, Subject to the Tax and Spend Limitations of Articles XIII A and B of the California Constitution and Subject to the Requirements of the Alleged Mandate to Take Over the Test Claim by a Substitution of Parties.[12]
11/22/2013	Co-claimants Richvale and Biggs filed an appeal of the executive director's decision to dismiss test claim 12-TC-01.[13]
11/25/2013	The executive director issued notice that the appeal would be heard on March 28, 2014.[14]
01/13/2014	Oakdale Irrigation District (Oakdale) requested to be substituted in as a party to 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01, and designated Dustin C. Cooper, of Minasian, Meith, Soares, Sexton & Cooper, LLP, as its representative.[15]
01/13/2014	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (Glenn-Colusa) requested to be substituted in as a party to 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01, and designated Andrew M. Hitchings and Alexis K. Stevens of Somach, Simmons & Dunn as its representative.[16]
01/15/2014	Commission staff issued a Notice of Substitution of Parties and Notice of Hearing which mooted the appeal.[17]
07/31/2014	Commission staff issued a draft proposed statement of decision.[18]
08/13/2014	South Feather Water and Power Agency, Paradise Irrigation District, Richvale Irrigation District, and Biggs West Gridley Water District filed a request for an extension of time to comment and postponement of hearing to December 5, 2014, which was granted for good cause shown.

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[9] Exhibit H, DWR Response to Commission Request for Comments.

[10] Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Commission Request for Comments.

[11] Exhibit J, SCO Response to Commission Request for Comments.

[12] Exhibit K, Notice of Pending Dismissal.

[13] Exhibit L, Appeal of Executive Director's Decision.

[14] Exhibit M, Appeal of Executive Director Decision and Notice of Hearing.

[15] Exhibit N, Request for Substitution of Parties by Oakdale Irrigation District.

[16] Exhibit O, Request for Substitution of Parties by Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District.

[17] Exhibit P, Notice of Substitution of Parties and Notice of Hearing. Note that matters are only tentatively set for hearing until the draft staff analysis is issued which actually sets the matter for hearing pursuant to section 1187(b) of the Commission's regulations. Staff inadvertently omitted the word "tentative" in this notice.

[18] Exhibit Q, Draft Proposed Decision.

08/14/2014	Glenn Colusa Irrigation District filed a request for an extension of time to comment and postponement of hearing to December 5, 2014, which was granted for good cause shown.
10/16/2014	Claimant filed comments on the draft proposed decision.[19]
10/17/2014	California Special Districts Association (CSDA) filed comments on the draft proposed decision.[20]
10/17/2014	Environmental Law Foundation (ELF)filed comments on the draft proposed decision.[21]
10/17/2014	DWR filed comments on the draft proposed decision.[22]
10/22/2014	Northern California Water Association (NCWA) filed late comments on the draft proposed decision.[23]
11/07/2014	Claimants filed late comments.[24]

II. Background

These consolidated test claims allege that Water Code Part 2.55 [Sections 10608 through 10608.64] and Part 2.8 [Sections 10800 through 10853] enacted by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7) (10-TC-12) impose reimbursable state-mandated increased costs resulting from activities required of urban water suppliers and agricultural water suppliers. The claimants also allege that the Agricultural Water Measurement regulations issued by DWR (12-TC-01), codified at California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 597-597.4, impose additional reimbursable state-mandated increased costs on agricultural water suppliers only.

The Water Conservation Act of 2009, pled in test claim 10-TC-12, calls for a 20 percent reduction in urban per capita water use on or before December 31, 2020, and an interim reduction of at least 10 percent on or before December 31, 2015.[25] In order to achieve these reductions, the Act requires urban retail water suppliers, both publicly and privately owned, to develop urban water use targets and interim targets that cumulatively result in the desired 20 percent reduction by December 31, 2020.[26] Prior to adopting its urban water use targets, each supplier is required to conduct at least one public hearing to allow community input regarding the supplier's implementation plan to meet the desired reductions, and to consider the economic

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[19] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision.

[20] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision.

[21] Exhibit T, Environmental Law Foundation Comments on Draft Proposed Decision.

[22] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision.

[23] Exhibit V, NCWA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision.

[24] Exhibit W, Claimants Late Rebuttal Comments.

[25] Water Code section 10608.16 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[26] Water Code section 10608.20 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

impacts of the implementation plan.[27] This hearing may be combined with the hearing required under prior law (Water Code 10631) for adoption of the urban water management plan (UWMP).[28] An urban retail water supplier is also required to include in its UWMP, which is required to be updated every five years in accordance with pre-existing Water Code section 10621, information describing the baseline per capita water use; interim and final urban water use targets;[29] and a report on the supplier's progress in meeting urban water use targets.[30]

With respect to agricultural water suppliers, the Act requires implementation of specified critical efficient water management practices, including measuring the volume of water delivered to customers and adopting a volume-based pricing structure; and additional efficient water management practices that are locally cost effective and technically feasible.[31] In addition, the Act requires agricultural water suppliers (with specified exceptions)[32] to prepare and adopt, and every five years update, an agricultural water management plan (AWMP),[33] describing the service area, water sources and supplies, water uses within the service area, previous water management activities; and including a report on which efficient water management practices have been implemented or are planned to be implemented, and information documenting any determination that a specified efficient water management practice was not locally cost effective or technically feasible.[34]

Prior to preparing and adopting or updating an AWMP, the Act requires an agricultural water supplier to notify the city or county within which the supplier provides water that it will be preparing or considering changes to the AWMP;[35] and to make the proposed plan available for

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[27] Water Code section 10608.26 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[28] Exhibit X, Department of Water Resources, *Guidebook to Assist Urban Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2010 Urban Water Management Plan*, pp. A-2 and 3-4.

[29] Water Code section 10608.20 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[30] Water Code section 10608.40 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[31] Water Code section 10608.48 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[32] See Water Code sections 10608.8(d) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)) [agricultural water suppliers that are parties to the Quantification Settlement Agreement, as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617 are exempt from the requirements of Part 2.55 (Water Code sections 10608-10608.64)]; 10608.48(f); 10828 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)) [an agricultural water supplier may meet requirements of AWMPs by submitting its water conservation plan approved by United States Bureau of Reclamation]; 10827 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)) [members of Agricultural Water Management Council and submit water management plans to council pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding may rely on those plans to satisfy AWMP requirements]; 10829 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)) [adoption of an urban water management plan or participation in an areawide, regional, watershed, or basinwide water management plan will satisfy the AWMP requirements].

[33] Water Code section 10820 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[34] Water Code sections 10608.48; 10820 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[35] Water Code section 10821 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

public inspection and hold a noticed public hearing.[36] An agricultural water supplier is then required to implement the AWMP in accordance with the schedule set forth in the AWMP;[37] and to submit a copy of the AWMP to DWR and a number of specified local entities, and make the plan available on the internet, within 30 days of adoption.[38]

Finally, to aid agricultural water suppliers in complying with their measurement requirements and developing a volume-based pricing structure as required by section 10608.48, DWR adopted in 2012 the Agricultural Water Measurement Regulations,[39] which are the subject of test claim 12-TC-01. These regulations provide a range of options for agricultural water suppliers to implement accurate measurement of the volume of water delivered to customers. The regulations provide for measurement at the delivery point or farm gate of an individual customer, or at a point upstream of the delivery point where necessary, and provide for specified accuracy standards for measurement devices employed by the supplier, whether existing or new, as well as field testing protocols and recordkeeping requirements, to ensure ongoing accuracy of volume measurements.

To provide some context for how the the test claim statute and implementing regulations fit into the state's water conservation planning efforts, a brief discussion of the history of water conservation law in California follows.

A. Prior California Conservation and Water Supply Planning Requirements.

1. Constitutional and Statutory Framework of Water Conservation.

Article X, section 2 of the California Constitution prohibits the waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion of water. It also declares that the conditions in the state require "that the waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and that the conservation of such waters is to be exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof in the interest of the people and for the public welfare." Moreover, article X, section 2 provides that "[t]he right to water or to the use or flow of water in or from any natural stream or water course in this State is and shall be limited to such water as shall be reasonably required for the beneficial use to be served, and *such right does not and shall not extend to the waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use or unreasonable method of diversion of water.*"[40] Although article X, section 2 provides that it is self-executing; it also provides that the Legislature may enact statutes to advance its policy.

The Legislature has implemented these constitutional provisions in a number of enactments over the course of many years, which authorize water conservation programs by water suppliers, including metered pricing. For example:

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[36] Water Code section 10841 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[37] Water Code section 10842 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[38] Water Code sections 10843; 10844 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[39] Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 597-597.4 (Register 2012, No. 28).

[40] Adopted June 8, 1976. Derivation, former article 14, section 3, added November 6, 1928 and amended November 5, 1974 [emphasis added].

- Water Code section 1009 provides that water conservation programs are an authorized water supply function for all municipal water providers in the state.[41]
- Water Code section 1011 furthers the water conservation policies of the state by providing that a water appropriator does not lose an appropriative water right because of water conservation programs. [42]
- Water Code sections 520 -529.7 require water meters and recognize that metered water rates are an important conservation tool.[43]
- Water Code section 375(b) provides that public water suppliers may encourage conservation through "rate structure design." The bill amending the Water Code to add this authority was adopted during the height of a statewide drought. In an uncodified portion of the bill, the Legislature specifically acknowledged that conservation is an important part of the state's water policy and that water conservation pricing is a best management practice.[44]
- Water Code sections 370-374 provide additional, alternate authority (in addition to a water supplier's general authority to set rates) for public entities to encourage conservation rate structure design consistent with the proportionality requirements of Proposition 218.[45]
- Water Code section 10631(f)(1)(K) establishes water conservation pricing as a recognized water demand management measure for purposes of UWMPs, and other conservation measures including metering, leak detection and retrofits for pipes and plumbing fixtures.[46]

In addition, the Legislature has long vested water districts with broad authority to manage water to furnish a sustained, reliable supply. For example:

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[41] Statutes 1976, chapter 709, p. 1725, section 1.

[42] Added by statutes 1979, chapter 1112, p. 4047, section 2, amended by Statutes, 1982, chapter 876, p. 3223, section 4, Statutes 1996, chapter 408, section 1, and Statutes 1999, chapter 938, section 2.

[43] Added by Statutes 1991, chapter 407 and amended by Statutes 2004, chapter 884, section 3 and Statutes 2005, chapter 22. See especially, Water Code section 521 (b) and (c)).

[44] Statutes 1993, chapter 313, section 1.

[45] Statutes 2008, chapter 610 (AB 2882). See Exhibit X, Senate Floor Analysis AB 2882; Assembly Floor Analysis AB 2882.

[46] Water Code section 10631(f)(1)(K) (Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011); Stats. 2000, ch. 712 (SB 553); Stats. 2001, ch. 643 (SB 610); Stats. 2001, ch. 644 (AB 901); Stats. 2002, ch. 664 (AB 3034); Stats. 2002, ch. 969 (SB 1384); Stats. 2004, ch. 688 (SB 318); Stats. 2006, ch. 538 (SB 1852)).

- Irrigation Districts have the power to take any act necessary to furnish sufficient water for beneficial uses and to control water.[47] They have general authority to fix and collect charges for any service of the district.[48]
- County Water Districts have similar power to take any act necessary to furnish sufficient water and express authority to conserve.[49]
- Municipal Water Districts also have broad power to control water for beneficial uses and express power to conserve.[50]

2. Existing Requirements to Prepare, Adopt, and Update Urban Water Management Plans.

The Urban Water Management Act of 1983 required urban water suppliers to prepare and update an UWMP every five years.[51] This Act has been amended numerous times between its original enactment in 1983 and the enactment of the test claim statute in 2009.[52] The law pertaining to UWMPs in effect immediately prior to the enactment of the test claim statute consisted of sections 10610 through 10657 of the California Water Code, which detail the information that must be included in UWMPs, as well as who must file them.

According to the Act, as amended prior to the test claim statute, "[t]he conservation and efficient use of urban water supplies are of statewide concern; however, the planning for that use and the implementation of those plans can best be accomplished at the local level."[53] The Legislature declared as state policy that:

> (a) The management of urban water demands and efficient use of water shall be actively pursued to protect both the people of the state and their water resources.
>
> (b) The management of urban water demands and efficient use of urban water supplies shall be a guiding criterion in public decisions.

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[47] Water Code section 22075 added by Statutes 1943, chapter 372 and section 22078 added by Statutes 1953, chapter 719, p. 187, section 1.

[48] Water Code section 22280, as amended by statutes 2007, chapter 27, section 19.

[49] Water Code sections 31020 and 31021 added by Statutes 1949, chapter 274, p. 509, section 1.

[50] Water Code sections 71610 as amended by Statutes 1995, chapter 28 and 71610.5 as added by Statutes 1975, chapter 893, p. 1976, section 1.

[51] Statutes 1983, chapter 1009 added Part 2.6 to Division 6 of the Water Code, commencing at section 10610.

[52] Enacted, Statutes 1983, chapter 1009; Amended, Statutes 1990, chapter 355 (AB 2661); Statutes 1991-92, 1st Extraordinary Session, chapter 13 (AB 11); Statutes 1991, chapter 938 (AB 1869) Statutes 1993, chapter 589 (AB 2211); Statutes 1993, chapter 720 (AB 892); Statutes 1994, chapter 366 (AB 2853); Statutes 1995, chapter 28 (AB 1247); Statutes 1995, chapter 854 (SB 1011); Statutes 2000, chapter 712 (SB 553); Statutes 2001, chapter 643 (SB 610); Statutes 2001, chapter 644 (AB 901); Statutes 2002, chapter 664 (AB 3034); Statutes 2002, chapter 969 (SB 1384); Statutes 2004, chapter 688 (SB 318); Statutes 2006, chapter 538 (SB 1852); Statutes 2009, chapter 534 (AB 1465).

[53] Water Code section 10610.2 (Stats. 2002, ch. 664 (AB 3034)).

(c) Urban water suppliers shall be required to develop water management plans to actively pursue the efficient use of available supplies.[54]

The Act specified that each urban water supplier that provides water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplies more than 3,000 acre feet of water annually shall prepare, update, and adopt its urban water management plan at least once every five years on or before December 31, in years ending in five and zero.[55]

a. Contents of Plans

The required contents of an UWMP are provided in sections 10631 through 10635. These statutes are prior law and have not been pled in this test claim. As last amended by Statutes 2009, chapter 534 (AB 1465), section 10631 requires that an adopted UWMP contain information describing the service area of the supplier, reliability of supply, water uses over five year increments, water demand management measures currently being implemented or being considered or scheduled for implementation, and opportunities for development of desalinated water.[56] Section 10631 further provides that urban water suppliers that are members of the California Urban Water Conservation Council and submit annual reports in accordance with the "Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Urban Water Conservation in California," may submit those annual reports to satisfy the requirements of section 10631(f) and (g), pertaining to current, proposed, and future demand management measures.[57]

Section 10632 requires that an UWMP provide an urban water shortage contingency analysis, which includes actions to be taken in response to a supply shortage; an estimate of minimum supply available during the next three years; actions to be taken in the event of a "catastrophic interruption of water supplies," such as a natural disaster; additional prohibitions employed during water shortages; penalties or charges for excessive use; an analysis of impacts on revenues and expenditures; a draft water shortage contingency resolution or ordinance; and a mechanism for determining actual reductions in water use.[58]

Section 10633, as amended by Statutes 2002, chapter 261, specifies that the plan shall provide, to the extent available, information on recycled water and its potential for use as a water source in the service area of the urban water supplier. The preparation of the plan shall be coordinated with local water, wastewater, groundwater, and planning agencies that operate within the supplier's service area, and shall include: a description of wastewater collection and treatment systems; a description of the quantity of treated wastewater that meets recycled water standards; a description of recycled water currently used in the supplier's service area; a description and quantification of the potential uses of recycled water; projected use of recycled water over five year increments for the next 20 years; a description of actions that may be taken to encourage the

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[54] Water Code section 10610.4 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009; Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011)).

[55] Water Code sections 10617 (Stats. 1996, ch. 1023(SB 1497)); 10621(a) (Stats. 2007, ch. 64 (AB 1376)).

[56] Water Code section 10631 (Statutes 2009, chapter 534 (AB 1465)).

[57] Water Code section 10631(i) (Statutes 2009, chapter 534 (AB 1465)).

[58] Water Code section 10632 (Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011)).

use of recycled water; and a plan for optimizing the use of recycled water in the supplier's service area.[59]

As added by Statutes 2001, chapter 644, and continuously in law up to the adoption of the test claim statute, section 10634 requires the UWMP to include, to the extent practicable, information relating to the quality of existing sources of water available to the supplier over the same five-year increments as described in Section 10631(a); and to describe the manner in which water quality affects water management strategies and supply reliability.[60]

And finally, section 10635, added by Statutes 1995, chapter 330, requires an urban water supplier to include in its UWMP an assessment of the reliability of its water service to customers during normal and dry years, projected over the next 20 years, in five year increments.[61]

b. Adoption and Implementation of Plans

Sections 10640 through 10645, as added by Statutes 1983, chapter 1009 and Statutes 1990, chapter 355, provide the requirements for adoption and implementation of UWMPs, including public notice and recordkeeping requirements associated with the adoption of each update of the UWMP.

Section 10640 provides that every urban water supplier required to prepare an UWMP pursuant to this part shall prepare its UWMP pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 10630), and shall "periodically review the plan ... and any amendments or changes required as a result of that review shall be adopted pursuant to this article."[62] Section 10641 provides that an urban water supplier required to prepare an UWMP may consult with, and obtain comments from, any public agency or state agency or any person who has special expertise with respect to water demand management methods and techniques.[63]

Section 10642 provides that each urban water supplier shall encourage the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the service area prior to and during the preparation of its UWMP. Prior to adopting an UWMP, the urban water supplier shall make the plan available for public inspection and shall hold a public hearing thereon. Prior to the hearing, notice of the time and place of hearing shall be published within the jurisdiction of the publicly owned water supplier pursuant to section 6066 of the Government Code. A privately owned water supplier is required to provide a similar degree of notice, and the plan shall be adopted after the hearing either "as prepared or as modified..."[64]

Section 10643 provides that an UWMP shall be implemented "in accordance with the schedule set forth in [the] plan."[65] As amended by Statutes 2007, chapter 628, section 10644 requires an

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[59] Water Code section 10633 (Stats. 2002, ch. 261 (SB 1518)).

[60] Water Code section 10634 (Stats. 2001, ch. 644 (AB 901)).

[61] Water Code section 10635 (Stats. 1995, ch. 330 (AB 1845)).

[62] Water Code section 10640 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009).

[63] Water Code section 10640 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009; Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011)).

[64] Water Code section 10642 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009; Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011); Stats. 2000, ch. 297 (AB 2552)).

[65] Water Code section 10643 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009).

urban water supplier to submit to DWR, the State Library, and any city or county within which the supplier provides water supplies, a copy of its plan and copies of any changes or amendments to the plans no later than 30 days after adoption. Section 10644 also requires DWR to prepare and submit to the Legislature, on or before December 31, in the years ending in six and one, a report summarizing the status of the UWMPs adopted pursuant to this part. The report is required to identify the outstanding elements of the individual UWMPs. DWR is also required to provide a copy of the report to each urban water supplier that has submitted its UWMP to DWR.[66] And lastly, in accordance with section 10645, not later than 30 days after filing a copy of its UWMP with DWR, the urban water supplier and DWR shall make the plan available for public review during normal business hours.[67]

c. Miscellaneous Provisions Pertaining to the UWMP Requirement

While sections 10631 through 10635 provide for the lengthy and technical content requirements of UWMPs, and sections 10640 through 10645 provide the requirements of a valid adoption of a UWMP, several remaining provisions of the Urban Water Management Planning Act provide for the satisfaction of the UWMP requirements by other means, and provide for the easing of certain other regulatory requirements and the recovery of costs.

- Section 10631, as amended by Statutes 2009, chapter 534 (AB 1465), provides that urban water suppliers that are members of the California Urban Water Conservation Council shall be deemed in compliance with the demand management provisions of the UWMP "by complying with all the provisions of the 'Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Urban Water Conservation in California'...and by submitting the annual reports required by Section 6.2 of that memorandum."[68] These suppliers, then, are not separately required to comply with sections 10631(f) and (g), which require a description and evaluation of the supplier's "demand management measures" that are currently or could be implemented.[69]

- Section 10652 streamlines the adoption of UWMPs by exempting plans from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). However, section 10652 does not exempt any project (that might be contained in the plan) that would significantly affect water supplies for fish and wildlife.[70]

- Section 10653 provides that the adoption of a plan shall satisfy any requirements of state law, regulation, or order, including those of the State Water Resources Control Board and the Public Utilities Commission, for the preparation of water

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[66] Water Code section 10644 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009; Stats. 1990, ch. 355 (AB 2661); Stats. 1992, ch. 711 (AB 2874); Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011); Stats. 2000, ch. 297 (AB 2552); Stats. 2004, ch. 497 (AB 105); Stats. 2007, ch. 628 (AB 1420)).

[67] Water Code section 10645 (Stats. 1990, ch. 355 (AB 2661)).

[68] Water Code section 10631 (as amended, Stats. 2009, ch. 534 (AB 1465)).

[69] Water Code section 10631(f-g) (as amended, Stats. 2009, ch. 534 (AB 1465)).

[70] Water Code section 10652 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009; Stats. 1991-1992, 1st Ex. Sess., ch. 13 (AB 11); Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011)).

management plans or conservation plans; provided, that if the State Water Resources Control Board or the Public Utilities Commission requires additional information concerning water conservation to implement its existing authority, nothing in this part shall be deemed to limit the board or the commission in obtaining that information. In addition, section 10653 provides that "[t]he requirements of this part *shall be satisfied by any urban water demand management plan prepared to meet federal laws or regulations after the effective date of this part*, and which substantially meets the requirements of this part, or by any existing urban water management plan which includes the contents of a plan required under this part."[71] The plain language of section 10653 therefore exempts an urban retail water supplier that is already required to prepare a water demand management plan from any requirements of an UWMP added by the test claim statutes.

- Section 10654 provides expressly that an urban water supplier "may recover in its rates the costs incurred in preparing its plan and implementing the reasonable water conservation measures included in the plan." Any best water management practice that is included in the plan that is identified in the "Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Urban Water Conservation in California" (discussed below) is deemed to be reasonable for the purposes of this section.[72] Therefore, suppliers are expressly authorized to recover the costs of implementing "reasonable water conservation measures" or any "best water management practice…identified in [the MOU for Urban Water Conservation]."

3. Prior Requirements to Prepare, Adopt, and Update Agricultural Water Management Plans, Which Became Inoperative by their own Terms in 1993.

The Agricultural Water Management Planning Act was enacted in 1986 and became inoperative, by its own terms, in 1993.[73] The 1986 Act stated in its legislative findings and declarations that "[t]he Constitution requires that water in the state be used in a reasonable and beneficial way…" and that "[t]he conservation of agricultural water supplies are of great concern." The findings and declarations further stated that "[a]gricultural water suppliers that receive water from the federal Central Valley Water Project are required by federal law to develop and implement water conservation plans," as are "[a]gricultural water suppliers applying for a permit to appropriate water from the State Water Resources Control Board…" Therefore, the act stated that "it is the policy of the state as follows:"

(a) The conservation of water shall be pursued actively to protect both the people of the state and their water resources.

(b) The conservation of agricultural water supplies shall be an important criterion in public decisions on water.

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[71] Water Code section 10653 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009; Stats. 1995, ch. 854 (SB 1011)) [emphasis added].

[72] Water Code section 10654 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009; Stats. 1994, ch. 609 (SB 1017)).

[73] Statutes 1986, chapter 954 (AB1658). See Former Water Code section 10855 (Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

(c) Agricultural water suppliers, who determine that a significant opportunity exists to conserve water or reduce the quantity of highly saline or toxic drainage water, shall be required to develop water management plans to achieve conservation of water.[74]

Specifically, the 1986 Act provided that every agricultural water supplier serving water directly to customers "shall prepare an informational report based on information from the last three irrigation seasons on its water management and conservation practices..." That report "shall include a determination of whether the supplier has a significant opportunity to conserve water or reduce the quantity of highly saline or toxic drainage water through improved irrigation water management..." If a "significant opportunity exists" to conserve water or improve the quality of drainage water, the supplier "shall prepare and adopt an agricultural water management plan..." (AWMP).[75] The Act provided, however, that an agricultural water supplier "may satisfy the requirements of this part by participation in areawide, regional, watershed, or basinwide agricultural water management planning where those plans will reduce preparation costs and contribute to the achievement of conservation and efficient water use and where those plans satisfy the requirements of this part." The requirements of an AWMP or an informational report, where required, included quantity and sources of water delivered to and by the supplier; other sources of water used within the service area, including groundwater; a general description of the delivery system and service area; total irrigated acreage within the service area; acreage of trees and vines within the service area; an identification of current water conservation practices being used, plans for implementation of water conservation practices, and conservation educational practices being used; and a determination of whether the supplier has a significant opportunity to save water by means of reduced evapotranspiration, evaporation, or reduction of flows to unusable water bodies, or to reduce the quantity of highly saline or toxic drainage water.[76] In addition, an AWMP "shall address all of the following:" quantity and source of surface and groundwater delivered to and by the supplier; a description of the water delivery system, the beneficial uses of the water supplied, conjunctive use programs, incidental and planned groundwater recharge, and the amounts of delivered water that are lost to evapotranspiration, evaporation, or surface flow or percolation; an identification of cost-effective and economically feasible measures for water conservation; an evaluation of other significant impacts; and a schedule to implement those water management practices that the supplier determines to be cost-effective and economically feasible.[77]

The Act further provided that an agricultural water supplier required to prepare an AWMP "may consult with, and obtain comments from, any public agency or state agency or any person who has special expertise with respect to water conservation and management methods and techniques."[78] And, "[p]rior to adopting a plan, the agricultural water supplier shall make the plan available for public inspection and shall hold a public hearing thereon." This requirement

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[74] Former Water Code section 10802 (Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[75] Former Water Code section 10821 (as added, Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[76] Former Water Code section 10825 (as added, Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[77] Former Water Code section 10826 (as added, Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[78] Former Water Code section 10841(as added, Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

applies also to privately owned water suppliers.[79] In addition, the Act states that an agricultural water supplier shall implement its AWMP in accordance with the schedule set forth in the plan, and "shall file with [DWR] a copy of its plan no later than 30 days after adoption."[80] Finally, the 1986 Act provided for funds to be appropriated to prepare the informational reports and agricultural water management plans, as required, and provided that "[t]his part shall remain operative only until January 1, 1993, except that, if an agricultural water supplier fails to submit its information report or agricultural water management plan prior to January 1, 1993, this part shall remain operative with respect to that supplier until it has submitted its report or plan, or both."[81]

As noted above, the AWMP requirements provided by the Agricultural Water Management Planning Act became inoperative as of January 1, 1993,[82] and therefore do not constitute the law in effect immediately prior to the test claim statute, even though, as shown below, the test claim statute reenacted substantially similar plan requirements. However, the federal requirement to submit water conservation plans to the United States Bureau of Reclamation pursuant to either the federal Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-565) or the federal Reclamation Reform Act of 1982, remained the law throughout and does constitute the law in effect immediately prior to the test claim statute, with respect to those suppliers subject to one or both federal requirements.[83]

4. The Water Measurement Law, Statutes 1991, chapter 407, applicable to Urban and Agricultural Water Suppliers.

The Water Measurement Law (Water Code sections 510-535) requires standardized water management practices and water measurement, and is applicable to Urban and Agricultural Water Suppliers, as follows:[84]

- Every water purveyor that provides potable water to 15 or more service connections or 25 or more yearlong residents must require meters as a condition of *new* water service.[85]
- Urban water suppliers, except those that receive water from the federal Central Valley Project, must install meters on all municipal (i.e., residential and governmental) and industrial (i.e., commercial) service connections on or before January 1, 2025 and shall charge each customer that has a service connection for which a meter has been installed based on the actual volume of deliveries beginning on or before January 1, 2010 service. A water purveyor, including an

[79] Former Water Code section 10842(as added, Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[80] Former Water Code sections 10843 and 10844 (as added, Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[81] Former Water Code sections 10853; 10854; 10855 (as added, Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[82] Former Water Code section 10855 (Stats. 1986, ch. 954 (AB 1658)).

[83] See Water Code section 10828 (added, Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[84] The Water Measurement Law was added by Statutes 1991, chapter 407.

[85] Section 525 as amended by statutes 2005, chapter 22.

urban water supplier, may recover the cost of the purchase, installation, and operation of a water meter from rates, fees, or charges.[86]

- Urban water suppliers receiving water from the federal Central Valley Project (CVP) shall install water meters on all residential and non-agricultural commercial service connections constructed prior to 1992 on or before January 1, 2013 and charge customers for water based on the actual volume of deliveries, as measured by a water meter, beginning March 1, 2013, or according to the CVP water contract. Urban water suppliers that receive water from the CVP are also specifically authorized to "recover the cost of providing services related to the purchase, installation, and operation and maintenance of water meters from rates, fees or charges.[87]

- Agricultural water providers shall report annually to DWR summarizing aggregated farm-gate delivery data, on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. However, the Water Measurement Law does not require implementation of water measurement programs or practices that are not locally cost effective.[88]

The test claim statute, as noted above, requires agricultural water suppliers to measure the volume of water delivered to customers and to adopt a volume-based pricing structure. However, the test claim statute also contemplates a water supplier that is both an agricultural and an urban water supplier, by definition: section 10829 provides that an agricultural water supplier may satisfy the AWMP requirements by adopting an UWMP pursuant to Part 2.6 of Division 6 of the Water Code; and the definitions of "agricultural" and "urban retail" water suppliers in section 10608.12 are not, based on their plain language, mutually exclusive. The record on this test claim is not sufficient to determine how many, if any, agricultural water suppliers are also urban retail water suppliers,[89] and consequently would be required to install water meters on new and existing service connections in accordance with Water Code sections 525-527, and to charge customers based on the volume of water delivered. In addition, the record is not sufficient to determine whether and to what extent some agricultural water suppliers may already have implemented water measurement programs which were locally cost effective, in accordance with section 531.10. However, to the extent that an agricultural water supplier is also an urban water supplier, sections 525-527 may constitute a prior law requirement to accurately measure water delivered and charge customers based on volume, and the test claim statute may not impose new requirements or costs on some entities. And, to the extent that water measurement programs or practices were previously implemented pursuant to section 531.10, some of the activities required by the test claim statute and regulations may not be newly required, with respect to certain agricultural suppliers. These caveats and limitations are noted where relevant in the analysis below.

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[86] Section 527 as amended by statutes 2005, chapter 22.

[87] Section 526 as amended by Statutes 2004, chapter 884.

[88] Section 531.10 as added by Statutes 2007, chapter 675.

[89] See Water Code section 10608.12, as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7) for definitions of "agricultural water supplier" and "urban retail water supplier."

III. Positions of the Parties

A. Claimants' Positions:

The four original claimants together alleged a total of $72,194.48 in mandated costs for fiscal year 2009-2010 (although Paradise maintains a different fiscal year than the remaining claimants). In addition, claimants project that program costs for fiscal year 2010-2011, and for 2011-2012, will be "higher," but claimants allege that they are unable to reasonably estimate the amount.

South Feather Water and Power Agency and Paradise Irrigation District

South Feather and Paradise allege that they are urban retail water suppliers, as defined in Water Code section 10608.12. As such, they allege that they are required to establish urban water use targets "by July 1, 2011 by selecting one of four methods to achieve the mandated water conservation." South Feather and Paradise further allege that they are "mandated to adopt expanded and more detailed urban water management plans in 2010 that include the baseline daily per capita water use, urban water use target, interim urban water use target, compliance daily per capita water use, along with the bases for determining estimates, including supporting data."[90] South Feather and Paradise allege that thereafter, UWMPs are to be updated "in every year ending in 5 and 0," and the 2015 plan "must describe the urban retail water supplier's progress towards [*sic*] achieving the 20% reduction by 2020."[91] Finally, South Feather and Paradise allege that they are required to conduct at least one noticed public hearing to allow community input, consider economic impacts, and adopt a method for determining a water use baseline "from which to measure the 20% reduction."[92]

Prior to the Act, South Feather and Paradise allege that there was no requirement to achieve a 20 percent per capita reduction in water use by 2020. They allege that they were required to adopt UWMPs prior to the Act, but not to include 'the baseline per capita water use, urban water use target, interim urban water use target, and compliance daily per capita water use, along with bases for determining those estimates, including supporting data."[93] And they allege that "[f]inally, prior to the Act, there was no requirement to conduct at least one public hearing to allow for community input regarding conservation, consider economic impacts…or to adopt a method for determining an urban water use target."[94]

Biggs-West Gridley Water District and Richvale Irrigation District

Richvale and Biggs allege that they are required to "measure the volume of water delivered to their customers using best professional practices to achieve a minimum level of measurement accuracy at the farm-gate," in accordance with regulations adopted by DWR pursuant to the Act.[95] They further allege that they are required to adopt a pricing structure for water customers

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[90] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 3.

[91] *Ibid.*

[92] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 4.

[93] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, pages 7-8.

[94] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 8.

[95] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 4.

based on the quantity of water delivered, and that "[b]ecause Richvale and Biggs are local public agencies, the change in pricing structure would have to be authorized and approved by its [*sic*] customers through the Proposition 218 process."[96]

In addition, Richvale and Biggs allege that "[i]f 'locally cost effective' and technically feasible, agricultural water suppliers are required to implement fourteen additional efficient management practices," as specified. They additionally allege that on or before December 31, 2012, they are required to prepare AWMPs that include a report on the implementation and planned implementation of efficient water management practices, and documentation supporting any determination made that certain conservation measures were held to be not locally cost effective or technically feasible.[97] Finally, Richvale and Biggs allege that prior to adoption of an AWMP, they are required to notice and hold a public hearing; and that after adoption the plan must be distributed to "various entities" and posted on the internet for public review.[98]

Prior to the Act, Richvale and Biggs assert, agricultural water suppliers "were not required to have a pricing structure based, at least in part, on the quantity of water delivered." In addition, prior to the Act, "there was no requirement to implement up to 14 additional conservation measures if locally cost effective and technically feasible." And, Richvale and Biggs allege that prior to the Act the number of agricultural water suppliers subject to the requirement to develop an AWMP was significantly fewer, and now the "contents of the plans" are "more encompassing than plans required under the former law."[99] Richvale and Biggs allege that "[f]inally, prior to the Act, there was no requirement to conduct at least one public hearing prior to adopting the plan, make copies of it available for public inspection, or to publish the time and place of the hearing once per week for two successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation."[100]

As discussed below, in the early stages of Commission staff's review and analysis of these consolidated test claims, it became apparent that Richvale and Biggs, the two claimants representing agricultural water suppliers, are not subject to the revenue limits of article XIII B, and do not collect or expend "proceeds of taxes," within the meaning of articles XIII A and XIII B.[101] After additional briefing and further review, it was concluded that Richvale and Biggs are indeed not eligible for reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6. The Commission's executive director therefore issued a notice of pending dismissal and offered an opportunity for another eligible local claimant, subject to the tax and spend limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B, to take over the test claim.[102] Richvale and Biggs filed an appeal of that decision, and maintain that they are eligible local government claimants pursuant to Government Code section 17518, and that the fees or assessments that the districts would be required to establish or increase to comply with the requirements of the test claim statute and regulations would be

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[96] *Ibid.*

[97] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, pages 4-6.

[98] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 6.

[99] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 8.

[100] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 9.

[101] Exhibit F, Commission Request for Additional Information, page 1.

[102] Exhibit K, Notice of Pending Dismissal.

characterized as taxes under article XIII B, section 8, because such fees or assessments would exceed the reasonable costs of providing water services.[103] This decision addresses these issues.

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District and Oakdale Irrigation District

Glenn-Colusa and Oakdale requested to be substituted in as parties to these consolidated test claims, in place of Richvale and Biggs.[104] Both Glenn-Colusa and Oakdale submitted declarations asserting that they receive an annual share of property tax revenue, and therefore are subject to articles XIII A and XIII B of the California Constitution. Both additionally allege that they incur at least $1000 in increased costs as a result of the test claim statute and regulations, and that they are subject to the requirements of the test claim statutes and regulations as described in the test claim narrative.[105]

Claimants' Collective Response to the Draft Proposed Decision

In comments on the draft proposed decision, the claimants focus primarily on the findings regarding the ineligibility of Richvale and Biggs to claim reimbursement based on the evidence in the record indicating that neither agency collects or expends tax revenues subject to the limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B. The claimants also address the related findings that all claimants have sufficient fee authority under law to cover the costs of the mandate, and thus the Commission cannot find costs mandated by the state, pursuant to section 17556(d).

Specifically, the claimants argue that "[f]ees and charges for sewer, water, or refuse collection services are excused from the formal election process, but not from the majority protest process."[106] Therefore, claimants conclude that "[a]gencies that provide water, sewer, or refuse collection services, including Claimants, lack sufficient authority to unilaterally impose new or increased fees or charges in light of Proposition 218's majority protest procedure."[107]

In addition, claimants note the Commission's analysis in 07-TC-09, *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, and argue that the Commission should not "ignore a prior Commission decision that is directly on point…" The claimants assert that "as this Commission has already recognized…" Proposition 218 "created a legal barrier to establishing or increasing fees or charges…" and as a result claimants "can do no more than merely propose new or increased fees for customer approval and the customers have the authority to then accept or reject…" a fee increase.[108]

The claimants assert that the reasoning of the draft proposed decision "would prohibit state subvention for every enterprise district in the state that is subject to Proposition 218..."[109] and "would create a class of local agencies that are per se ineligible for reimbursement under this test

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[103] Exhibit L, Appeal of Executive Director's Decision.

[104] Exhibit N, Request for Substitution of Parties by Oakdale Irrigation District; Exhibit O, Request for Substitution of Parties by Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District.

[105] *Ibid.*

[106] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 10.

[107] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 11.

[108] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 11.

[109] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 14.

claim, all potential future test claims, and all previous test claims dating back to Proposition 218's passage in 1996."[110] The claimant calls this a "sea change in Constitutional interpretation..."[111]

The claimants argue, based on this interpretation of the effect of Proposition 218, that the draft proposed decision inappropriately excluded Richvale and Biggs from subvention, "because they do not currently collect or expend tax revenues."[112] The claimants argue that "this additional 'requirement' [is] based on an outdated case that predates Proposition 218 and on an inapplicable line of cases that apply only to redevelopment agencies, while ignoring the strong policy underlying the voters' approval of the subvention requirement."[113] The claimants argue that after articles XIII C and XIII D, "assessments and property-related fees and charges have joined tax revenues as among local entities' 'increasingly limited revenue sources...'"[114]

The claimants further argue that: "Agencies like Richvale and Biggs that need additional revenue to pay for new mandates but are subject to the limitations of Proposition 218 are faced with three problematic options: (a) do not implement the mandates in light of revenue limitations; (b) implement the mandates with existing revenue; or (c) propose a new or increased fee or charge, assessment, or special tax to implement the mandates."[115] The claimants argue for the Commission to take action to expand the scope of reimbursement: "the subvention provision should be read in harmony with later Constitutional enactments and protect not just tax revenue, but assessment and fee revenue as well."[116]

Finally, in late comments, the claimants challenge DWR's reasoning, including the figures cited by the department, that due to the existence of a substantial number of private water suppliers, the test claim statutes do not impose a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.[117]

B. State Agency Positions:

Department of Finance

Finance maintains that "the Act and Regulations do not impose a reimbursable mandate on local agencies within the meaning of Article XIII B, section 6."[118] Finance asserts that each of the claimants is a special district authorized to charge a fee for delivery of water to its users, and therefore has the ability to cover the costs of any new required activities.[119] Finance further

[110] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 15.

[111] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 15.

[112] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 15.

[113] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 16.

[114] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 17.

[115] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 20.

[116] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 21.

[117] Exhibit W, Claimant Late Comments, pages 1-4.

[118] Exhibit C, Finance Comments, page 1.

[119] Exhibit C, Finance Comments, page 1.

asserts that the conservation efforts required by the test claim statute and regulations will result in surplus water accruing to the claimant districts, which are authorized to sell water. Finance concludes that "each district will likely have the opportunity to cover all or a portion of costs related to implementation of the Act or Regulations with revenue from surplus water sales."[120] Moreover, Finance argues that "special districts are only entitled to reimbursement if they are subject to the tax and spend limitations under articles XIII A and XIII B...*and only when the mandated costs in question can be recovered solely from the proceeds of taxes.*"[121] Finance argues that the claimants "should be directed to provide information that will enable the Commission on State Mandates to determine if they are subject to tax and spending limitations."[122] Finance did not submit comments on the draft proposed decision.

State Controller's Office

In response to Commission staff's request for additional information regarding the uncertain eligibility of the test claimants, the SCO submitted written comments confirming that the "Butte County Auditor-Controller has confirmed for fiscal years 2010-2011, 2011-2012, and 2012-2013," that South Feather and Paradise both received proceeds of taxes, but Richvale and Biggs did not.[123] However, the SCO also noted that none of the four claimants reported an appropriations limit for fiscal years 2010-2011, 2011-2012, and 2012-2013. The SCO stated that "Government Code section 7910 requires each local government entity to annually establish its appropriations limit by resolution of its governing board," and that "Government Code section 12463 requires the annual appropriations limit to be reported in the financial transactions report submitted to the SCO." However, the SCO noted that it "has the responsibility to review each report for reasonableness, yet we are not required to audit any of the data reported." The SCO concluded, therefore, that "we are unable to determine which special district is subject to report an annual appropriations limit." The SCO did not comment on the draft proposed decision.

Department of Water Resources

DWR argues, in comments on the consolidated test claims, first, that the Water Conservation Act of 2009 applies to public and private entities alike, and is therefore not a "program" within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6. In addition, DWR argues that the Act is not a "new program," because it is "a refinement of urban and agricultural water conservation requirements that have been part of the law for years." DWR further asserts that even if the Act "were an unfunded state mandate, it would not be reimbursable since the water suppliers have sufficient non-tax sources to offset any implementation costs." And, DWR asserts that the test claim regulations on agricultural water measurement do not impose any requirements on water suppliers because "they are free to choose alternative measurement methods." And finally, DWR argues that the Act does not impose any new programs or higher levels of service "because what is required is compliance with general and evolving water conservation standards based on

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[120] Exhibit C, Finance Comments, page 2.

[121] Exhibit C, Finance Comments, page 2 [emphasis in original].

[122] Exhibit C, Finance Comments, page 2.

[123] Exhibit J, SCO Comments, pages 1-2.

the foundational reasonable and beneficial water use principle dating from before the 1928 amendment – Article X, section 2 – to California's Constitution revising water use standards."[124]

In comments on the draft proposed decision, DWR "concurs with and fully supports the ultimate conclusion reached…", but reiterates and expands upon its earlier comments with respect to whether the alleged test claim requirements constitute a new program or higher level of service that is uniquely imposed upon local government.[125] DWR argues that "a law that governs private and public entities alike is not a 'program' for purposes of article XIII B…"[126] DWR continues:

> Claimants, in their Rebuttal Comments, ignore DWR's reference to the language of the Water Conservation Act, which by its plain terms is made applicable to both public and private entities. Instead, Claimants seek to shift attention away from the nature of the activity and focus instead on the number of entities engaged in that activity. Claimants concede that the law and regulations adopted pursuant to that law do in fact apply to both private and public entities, but argue that because (according to their calculation) "only 7.67%" of urban retail water suppliers are private, the requirements of the Water Conservation Act ought to be treated as reimbursable "programs" because those requirements "fall overwhelmingly on local governmental agencies."[127]

DWR maintains that "there are, in fact, 72 private wholesale and retail suppliers out of a total of 369…so the proportion of private water suppliers is actually 16.3 percent." And, "based on data submitted in the 2010 urban water management plans, it turns out that private retail water suppliers serve 19.7 percent of the population and account for 17.3 percent of water delivered."[128]

DWR acknowledges that there are more public than private water suppliers, but asserts that "[u]nder the Supreme Court's test in *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* the question is not whether an activity is more likely to be undertaken by a governmental entity, but whether the activity implements a state policy and imposes unique requirements on local governments, but is one that does not apply generally to all residents and entities in the state."[129] DWR explains that "generally," in this context, is not synonymous with "commonly," and therefore the prevalence of public water suppliers as to private is not relevant to the issue; rather, "generally" refers to

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[124] Exhibit D, DWR Comments, page 2.

[125] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 1.

[126] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 2 [citing Exhibit D, DWR Comments, filed June 7, 2013; *Carmel Valley Fire Protection District v. State* (1987) 190 Cal.App.3d 521, 537].

[127] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3 [quoting Exhibit E, Claimant's Rebuttal Comments, pages 3-4].

[128] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3.

[129] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3. See also, *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46.

laws of general application, meaning "those that apply to all persons or entities of a particular class."[130] The Water Conservation Act, DWR maintains, "does just that."[131]

In addition, DWR disputes that the provision of water services is a "classic governmental function," as asserted by the claimants.[132] The California Supreme Court has held that reimbursement should be limited to new "programs" that carry out the governmental function of providing services to the public.[133] DWR maintains that there is an important distinction between public purposes, and private or corporate purposes, and that that distinction should control in the analysis of a new program or higher level of service. In particular, DWR identifies the provision of utilities to municipal customers as a corporate activity, rather than a governmental purpose:

> Of the myriad services provided by government, although some may be difficult to categorize, at either end of the spectrum the categories are fairly clear. At one end, such things as police and fire protection have long been recognized as true governmental functions, those that implicate the notion of the "government as sovereign." At the other end, however, are public utilities such as power generation, and, of particular significance to this claim, municipal water districts.[134]

DWR argues that "California law thus draws a distinction between the many utilitarian services that could as easily be (and often are) undertaken by the private sector, and those that implicate the unique authority vested in the state and its political subdivisions." DWR continues: "Maintaining a police force, for instance, is easily understood as something fundamental to the government *as government*." "On the other hand," DWR reasons, "there is nothing intrinsically governmental about a government entity operating a utility and providing services such as electricity, natural gas, sewer, garbage collection, or water delivery."[135]

DWR thus "urges the Commission to give full consideration to the fact that the Water Conservation Act is a law of general application that applies to private as well as public water

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[130] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3 [citing *McDonald v. Conniff* (1893) 99 Cal.386, 391.

[131] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3.

[132] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 4 [citing Exhibit E, Claimant Rebuttal Comments, page 4].

[133] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 4 [citing *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 50].

[134] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 5 [citing *Chappelle v. City of Concord* (1956) 144 Cal.App.2d 822, 825; *County of Sacramento v. Superior Court* (1972) 8 Cal.3d 479, 481; *Davoust v. City of Alameda* (1906) 149 Cal. 69, 72; *City of South Pasadena v. Pasadena Land & Water Co.* (1908) 152 Cal. 579, 593; *Nourse v. City of Los Angeles* (1914) 25 Cal.App. 384, 385; *Mann Water & Power Co. v. Town of Sausalito* (1920) 49 Cal.App. 78, 79; *In re Bonds of Orosi Public Utility Dist.* (1925) 196 Cal. 43, 58; *Glenbrook Development Co. v. City of Brea* (1967) 253 Cal.App.2d 267, 274].

[135] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 6.

suppliers alike." And, DWR reiterates: "contrary to Claimants' suggestion, water delivery, while clearly an important service, is not a classic "governmental function" in the constitutional sense."[136]

C. Interested Person Positions:[137]

California Special Districts Association

CSDA asserts that "the Proposed Decision fails to appropriately analyze the provisions of Article XIII B Section 6...as amended by Proposition 1A in 2004..."[138] CSDA argues that the draft proposed decision "rather analyzes the original language of Article XIII B Section 6 adopted as Proposition 4 in 1978, before the adoption of Proposition 218 adding articles XIII C and XIII D to the Constitution and before the adoption of Proposition 1A amending Article XIII B Section 6."[139]

CSDA argues that the plain language of article XIII B, section 6, as amended by Proposition 1A, "indicates that the mandate provisions are applicable to all cities, counties, cities and counties, and special districts without restriction."[140] CSDA further asserts that "[t]he plain language also mandates the state to appropriate the 'full payment amount' of costs incurred by local government in complying with state mandated programs, without any qualification as to the types of revenues utilized by local governments in paying the costs of such compliance."[141] CSDA reasons that "there are no words of limitation indicating that suspension of mandates is only applicable to those local government agencies which receive proceeds of taxes and expend those proceeds of taxes in complying with state mandated programs." Therefore, absent "such limiting language, the holding of the Proposed Decision which limits eligibility for claiming reimbursement...to those local agencies receiving proceeds of taxes is contradicted by the mandate provisions of Proposition 1A, and is therefore incorrect as a matter of law."[142]

CSDA also argues that the voters' intent and understanding in adopting Proposition 1A is controlling, and can be determined by examining the LAO analysis in the ballot pamphlet.[143] CSDA argues that "[t]he LAO analysis of Proposition 1A in the ballot pamphlet fails to mention any restriction or limitation on state mandates to be reimbursed or suspended, and such analysis is totally silent as to any requirement that reimbursable mandates be limited to those mandates imposed on local governments which receive and expend proceeds of taxes..." In fact, CSDA argues, the LAO analysis indicates that Proposition 1A "expand(s) the circumstances under

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[136] Exhibit U, DWR Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 7.

[137] "Interested person" is defined in the Commission's regulations to mean "any individual, local agency, school district, state agency, corporation, partnership, association, or other type of entity, having an interest in the activities of the Commission." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1181.2(j).)

[138] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 6.

[139] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 6.

[140] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 8.

[141] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 8.

[142] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 8.

[143] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 8.

which the state is responsible for reimbursing cities, counties and special districts for complying with state mandated programs by including all programs for which the state even had partial financial responsibility before such transfer."[144] CSDA maintains that "[t]herefore the voters who approved Proposition 1A by 82% of the popular vote had no understanding of this limitation on reimbursement of state mandates to local governments which is the basic holding of the Proposed Decision."[145] CSDA relies on the language of the ballot pamphlet, which states: "if the state does not fund a mandate within any year, the state must eliminate local government's duty to implement it for that same time period."[146] CSDA concludes that "[t]he plain words of Proposition 1A support this voter intent to require the state to fully reimburse the costs incurred by all cities, counties, cities and counties and special districts in implementing any state program in which the complete or partial financial responsibility for that program has been transferred from the state to local government, not just those cities, counties, cities and counties, and special districts which receive proceeds of taxes."[147]

In addition, CSDA argues that the Commission's analysis must read together and harmonize articles XIII A, XIII B, XIII C, and XIII D.[148] Specifically, CSDA argues that pursuant to article XIII C, added by Proposition 218, property-related fees are subject to "majority protest procedures" and "may not be expended for general governmental services…which are available to the public at large in substantially the same manner as they are to property owners..."[149] And, revenues from property-related fees "may not be used for any purpose other than that for which the fee was imposed;" and "may not exceed the costs required to provide the property related service."[150] In addition, CSDA asserts that the amount of a property-related fee must not exceed the proportional cost of providing the service to each individual parcel subject to the fee.[151] CSDA also notes that "Article XIII D includes similar provisions restricting the ability of local governments to raise and expend assessment revenue."[152] CSDA argues that "[a]nalyzed together, all of these restrictions on the raising and expenditure of property related fees and charges by local government agencies specified in Articles XIII C and D of the Constitution severely limit the ability of local government agencies to utilize revenue for property related fees and charges to fund the costs of state mandated programs."[153] CSDA goes on to argue that "[t]hose restrictions are more onerous and stringent than the restrictions imposed on local government agencies in expending proceeds of taxes by virtue of the appropriations limit in

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[144] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 9.

[145] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 9.

[146] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 10.

[147] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 10.

[148] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 10.

[149] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 11.

[150] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 11.

[151] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 11.

[152] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 12.

[153] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 12.

Article XIII B."[154] CSDA concludes that "[t]he Proposed Decision should be modified to recognize these restrictions imposed by Articles XIII C and D."[155]

Environmental Law Foundation Position

ELF states, in its comments, that it agrees with the draft proposed decision, however, "[t]o aid the Commission in developing its final decision, we would like to present an additional ground upon which the Commission could rely in denying the test claim..."[156] ELF asserts that "the Commission should find that charges for irrigation water are not 'property-related fees' for the purposes of Article XIII D of the California Constitution."[157] Specifically, ELF agrees that the test claim statutes are exempt from the voter-approval requirements of article XIII D, section 6(c);[158] however, ELF also argues that "charges for irrigation water are not 'property-related fees' at all." ELF reasons: "As a result, raising them does not trigger the substantive or procedural requirements contained in Article XIII D, and the claimant districts may increase them free of any constitutional obstacle."[159]

ELF continues: "Article XIII D, § 3 restricts local governments' ability to levy a new "assessment, fee, or charge" without complying with the substantive and procedural requirements of section 4 (assessments) and section 6 (property-related fees)." However, ELF asserts that "Section 2 of Article XIII D makes Proposition 218's relatively limited reach abundantly clear."[160] ELF notes that section 2 defines a fee or charge as "any levy other than an ad valorem tax, a special tax, or an assessment, imposed by an agency upon a parcel or upon a person as an incident of property ownership, including a user fee or charge for a property related service."[161] ELF therefore reasons that "[f]ees that are not 'imposed upon a parcel' or that are not imposed upon a 'person as an incident of property ownership' or that are not a 'user fee or charge for a property related service' are not subject to Article XIII D."[162] ELF notes that in *Apartment Association of Los Angeles County v. City of Los Angeles*[163] the court held that an inspection fee imposed upon landlords was not imposed upon them as property owners, but as business owners and, therefore the fee was not subject to article XIII D.[164] The court, ELF

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[154] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 12.

[155] Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 12.

[156] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 1.

[157] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 1.

[158] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3 [citing Exhibit Q, Draft Proposed Decision, page 80].

[159] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3.

[160] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3.

[161] California Constitution, article XIII D, section 2; Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 3.

[162] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, pages 3-4.

[163] (2001) 24 Cal.4th 830.

[164] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 4.

explains, found that this type of fee was "not 'property related' because it was dependent on the property's use – it was not imposed on the property simply as an incident of ownership."[165]

ELF goes on to note that "no case has squarely addressed the issue…" but the courts have recognized that not all water service charges are necessarily subject to article XIII D. In *Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency v. Amrheim*,[166] the court held that a groundwater augmentation charge was a property-related fee, but "it rested that conclusion on the fact that the majority of users were residential users, not large-scale irrigators."[167] And, ELF notes, other cases have found that domestic water use is "necessary for 'normal ownership and use of property.'"[168] ELF concludes that these cases, and others, "present no obstacle to the conclusion that irrigation water is not a property-related service."[169] ELF concludes that fees for irrigation water are not "property-related" but a business-related fee, and that therefore the Commission should deny this test claim.[170]

Northern California Water Association Position

In late comments on the draft proposed decision, NCWA seeks to "highlight and emphasize how onerous and expensive these new state mandates are in the Sacramento Valley."[171] NCWA argues that "[t]hese statewide benefits, achieved through implementation of incredibly expensive mandates, ought to be funded by the state and not borne exclusively by the impacted local agencies' landowners."[172] NCWA continues: "The draft proposed decision, in an effort to circumvent the clear requirements to reimburse for these types of state mandates, has attempted to avoid reimbursement by exerting exclusions that are not appropriate for the facts before the Commission."[173] NCWA denies that any "exemptions" apply to the test claim statutes, and "urge[s] the Commission to modify the draft proposed decision to reimburse these and other similarly affected water suppliers."[174]

IV. Discussion

Article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution provides in relevant part the following:

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[165] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 4.

[166] (2007) 150 Cal.App.4th 1364.

[167] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, pages 4-5.

[168] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 5 [citing *Richmond v. Shasta Community Services District* (2004) 32 Cal.4th 409, 427; *Bighorn Desert View Water Agency v. Verjil* (2006) 39 Cal.4th 205].

[169] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 5.

[170] Exhibit T, ELF Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 5.

[171] Exhibit V, NCWA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 1.

[172] Exhibit V, NCWA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 2.

[173] Exhibit V, NCWA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 2.

[174] Exhibit V, NCWA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 2.

> Whenever the Legislature or any state agency mandates a new program or higher level of service on any local government, the state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse such local government for the costs of such programs or increased level of service, except that the Legislature *may, but need not*, provide a subvention of funds for the following mandates:
>
> (1) Legislative mandates requested by the local agency affected.
>
> (2) Legislation defining a new crime or changing an existing definition of a crime.
>
> (3) Legislative mandates enacted prior to January 1, 1975, or executive orders or regulations initially implementing legislation enacted prior to January 1, 1975.

The purpose of article XIII B, section 6 is to "preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions to local agencies, which are 'ill equipped' to assume increased financial responsibilities because of the taxing and spending limitations that articles XIII A and XIII B impose."[175] Thus, the subvention requirement of section 6 is "directed to state-mandated increases in the services provided by [local government] ..."[176]

Reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6 is required when the following elements are met:

1. A state statute or executive order requires or "mandates" local agencies or school districts to perform an activity.[177]
2. The mandated activity either:
    a. Carries out the governmental function of providing a service to the public; or
    b. Imposes unique requirements on local agencies or school districts and does not apply generally to all residents and entities in the state.[178]
3. The mandated activity is new when compared with the legal requirements in effect immediately before the enactment of the test claim statute or executive order and it increases the level of service provided to the public.[179]
4. The mandated activity results in the local agency or school district incurring increased costs, within the meaning of section 17514. Increased costs, however, are not

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[175] *County of San Diego v. State of California* (1997) 15 Cal.4th 68, 81.

[176] *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (*County of Los Angeles I*) (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 56.

[177] *San Diego Unified School Dist. v. Commission on State Mandates* (*San Diego Unified School Dist.*) (2004) 33 Cal.4th 859, 874.

[178] *Id.* at 874-875 (reaffirming the test set out in *County of Los Angeles*, *supra*, 43 Cal.3d 46, 56).

[179] *San Diego Unified School Dist.*, *supra*, 33 Cal.4th 859, 874-875, 878; *Lucia Mar Unified School District v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 830, 835.

reimbursable if an exception identified in Government Code section 17556 applies to the activity.[180]

The determination whether a statute or executive order imposes a reimbursable state-mandated program is a question of law.[181] The Commission is vested with exclusive authority to adjudicate disputes over the existence of state-mandated programs within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6.[182] In making its decisions, the Commission must strictly construe article XIII B, section 6, and not apply it as an "equitable remedy to cure the perceived unfairness resulting from political decisions on funding priorities."[183]

The parties raise the following issues in their comments:

- The test claim statute and executive order do not impose a new program or higher level of service that is subject to article XIII B, section 6 because the Water Conservation Law and implementing regulations apply to both public and private water suppliers alike, and do not impose requirements uniquely upon local government.
- The test claim statute and executive order do not impose a new program or higher level of service because the provision of water and other utilities is an activity that could be, and often is, undertaken by private enterprise, and is therefore not a quintessentially governmental service in the manner that police and fire protection are generally accepted to be.
- The test claim does not result in costs mandated by the state for agricultural water suppliers because fees or charges for the provision of irrigation water are not "property-related" fees or charges subject to the limitations of articles XIII C and XIII D.

As described below, the Commission denies this claim on the grounds that most of the code sections and regulations pled do not impose new mandated activities, and all affected claimants have sufficient fee authority as a matter of law to cover the costs of any new requirements. Therefore, this decision does not make findings on the additional potential grounds for denial raised in comments on the draft proposed decision summarized above.

A. South Feather Water and Power Agency, Paradise Irrigation District, Oakdale Irrigation District, and Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District are Subject to the Revenue Limitations of Article XIII B, and are Therefore Eligible for Reimbursement Pursuant to Article XIII B, Section 6.

1. To be eligible for reimbursement, a local agency must be subject to the taxing and spending limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B.

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[180] *County of Fresno v. State of California* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482, 487; *County of Sonoma v. Commission on State Mandates* (Cal. Ct. App. 1st Dist. 2000) 84 Cal.App.4th 1265, 1284; Government Code sections 17514 and 17556.

[181] *County of San Diego, supra*, 15 Cal.4th 68, 109.

[182] *Kinlaw v. State of California* (1991) 54 Cal.3d 326, 332.

[183] *County of Sonoma, supra*, 84 Cal.App.4th 1265, 1280 [citing *City of San Jose, supra*].

An interpretation of article XIII B, section 6 requires an understanding of articles XIII A and XIII B. "Articles XIII A and XIII B work in tandem, together restricting California governments' power both to levy and to spend taxes for public purposes."[184]

In 1978, the voters adopted Proposition 13, which added article XIII A to the California Constitution. Article XIII A drastically reduced property tax revenue previously enjoyed by local governments by providing that "the maximum amount of any ad valorem tax on real property shall not exceed one percent (1%) of the full cash value of such property," and that the one percent (1%) tax was to be collected by counties and "apportioned according to law to the districts within the counties..."[185] In addition to limiting the property tax, section 4 also restricts a local government's ability to impose special taxes by requiring a two-thirds approval by voters.[186]

Article XIII B was adopted by the voters as Proposition 4 less than 18 months after the addition of article XIII A to the state Constitution, and was billed as "the next logical step to Proposition 13."[187] While article XIII A is aimed at controlling ad valorem property taxes and the imposition of new special taxes, "the thrust of article XIII B is toward placing certain limitations on the growth of appropriations at both the state and local government level; in particular, Article XIII B places limits on the authorization to expend the 'proceeds of taxes.'"[188]

Article XIII B established an "appropriations limit," or spending limit for each "entity of local government" beginning in fiscal year 1980-1981.[189] Specifically, the appropriations limit provides as follows:

> The total annual appropriations subject to limitation of the State and of each local government shall not exceed the appropriations limit of the entity of government for the prior year adjusted for the change in the cost of living and the change in population, except as otherwise provided in this article.[190]

No "appropriations subject to limitation" may be made in excess of the appropriations limit, and revenues received in excess of authorized appropriations must be returned to the taxpayers within the following two fiscal years.[191] Article XIII B does not limit the ability to expend government funds collected from *all sources*; the appropriations limit is based on "appropriations subject to limitation," which means, pursuant to article XIII B, section 8, "any authorization to

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[184] *County of Fresno v. State of California* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482, 486 (*County of Fresno*).

[185] California Constitution, article XIII A, section 1 (effective June 7, 1978).

[186] California Constitution, article XIII A, section 4 (effective June 7, 1978).

[187] *County of Placer v. Corin* (1980) 113 Cal.App.3d 443, 446 (*County of Placer*).

[188] *Ibid.*

[189] California Constitution, article XIII B, section 8(h) (added, Nov. 7, 1979).

[190] California Constitution, article XIII B, section 1 (added, Nov. 7, 1979; amended by Proposition 111, June 5, 1990).

[191] California Constitution, article XIII B, section 2 (added, Nov. 7, 1979).

expend during a fiscal year the *proceeds of taxes* levied by or for that entity."[192] Appropriations subject to limitation do not include "local agency loan funds or indebtedness funds"; "investment (or authorizations to invest) funds...of an entity of local government in accounts at banks...or in liquid securities";[193] "[a]ppropriations for debt service"; "[a]ppropriations required to comply with mandates of the courts or the federal government"; and "[a]ppropriations of any special district which existed on January 1, 1978 and which did not as of the 1977-78 fiscal year levy an ad valorem tax on property in excess of 12 [and one half] cents per $100 of assessed value; or the appropriations of any special district then existing or thereafter created by a vote of the people, which is totally funded by other than the proceeds of taxes."[194]

Proposition 4 also added article XIII B, section 6 to require the state to reimburse local governments for any additional expenditures that might be mandated by the state, and which would rely solely on revenues subject to the appropriations limit. The California Supreme Court, in *County of Fresno v. State of California*,[195] explained:

> Section 6 was included in article XIII B in recognition that article XIII A of the Constitution severely restricted the taxing powers of local governments. (See *County of Los Angeles I, supra,* 43 Cal.3d at p. 61.) The provision was intended to preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions onto local entities that were ill equipped to handle the task. (*Ibid.*; see *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist. v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 830, 836, fn. 6.) Specifically, it was designed to protect the tax revenues of local governments from state mandates that would require expenditure of such revenues. Thus, although its language broadly declares that the "state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse ... local government for the costs [of a state-mandated new] program or higher level of service," read in its textual and historical context section 6 of article XIII B requires subvention only when the costs in question can be recovered *solely from tax revenues*.[196]

Not every local agency is subject to the restrictions of article XIII B, and therefore not every local agency is entitled to reimbursement. Redevelopment agencies, for example, have been identified by the courts as being exempt from the restrictions of article XIII B. In *Bell Community Redevelopment Agency v. Woolsey*, the Second District Court of Appeal concluded that a redevelopment agency's power to issue bonds, and to repay those bonds with its tax increment, was not subject to the spending limit of article XIII B. The court reasoned that to construe tax increment payments as appropriations subject to limitation "would be directly contrary to the mandate of section 7," which provides that "[n]othing in this Article shall be construed to impair the ability of the state or of any local government to meet its obligations with

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[192] California Constitution, article XIII B, section 8 (added, Nov. 7, 1979; amended by Proposition 111, June 5, 1990) [emphasis added].

[193] California Constitution, article XIII B, section 8.

[194] California Constitution, article XIII B, section 9 (added, Nov. 7, 1979; amended by Proposition 111, June 5, 1990).

[195] *County of Fresno, supra,* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482.

[196] *Id,* at p. 487. Emphasis in original.

respect to existing or future bonded indebtedness."[197] In addition, the court found that article XVI, section 16, addressing the funding of redevelopment agencies, was inconsistent with the limitations of article XIII B:

> Article XVI, section 16, provides that tax increment revenues "may be irrevocably pledged" to the payment of tax allocation bonds. If bonds must annually compete for payment within an annual appropriations limit, and their payment depend upon complying with the such limit [*sic*], it is clear that tax allocation proceeds cannot be irrevocably pledged to the payment of the bonds. Annual bond payments would be contingent upon factors extraneous to the pledge. That is, bond payments would be revocable every year of their life to the extent that they conflicted with an annual appropriation limit. The untoward effect would be that bonds would become unsaleable because a purchaser could not depend upon the agency having a sure source of payment for such bonds.[198]

The court therefore concluded that redevelopment agencies could not reasonably be subject to article XIII B, and therefore upheld Health and Safety Code section 33678, and ordered that the writ issue to compel Woolsey to publish the notice.

Accordingly, in *Redevelopment Agency of San Marcos v. Commission on State Mandates*,[199] the court held that redevelopment agencies were not eligible to claim reimbursement because Health and Safety Code section 33678 exempted tax increment financing, their primary source of revenue, from the limitations of article XIII B.

> Because of the nature of the financing they receive, tax increment financing, redevelopment agencies are not subject to this type of appropriations limitations or spending caps; they do not expend any "proceeds of taxes." Nor do they raise, through tax increment financing, "general revenues for the local entity." The purpose for which state subvention of funds was created, to protect local agencies from having the state transfer its cost of government from itself to the local level, is therefore not brought into play when redevelopment agencies are required to allocate their tax increment financing in a particular manner...
>
> For all these reasons, we conclude the same policies which support exempting tax increment revenues from article XIII B appropriations limits also support denying reimbursement under section 6... [The] costs of depositing tax increment revenues in the Housing Fund are attributable not directly to tax revenues, but to the benefit received by the Agency from the tax increment financing scheme, which is one step removed from other local agencies' collection of tax revenues.[200]

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[197] (1985) 169 Cal.App.3d 24, at p. 31 [quoting article XIII B, section 7].

[198] *Id*, at p. 31.

[199] (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 976.

[200] *Redevelopment Agency of San Marcos, supra*, 55 Cal.App.4th at pp. 986-987 [internal citations omitted].

In 2000, the Third District Court of Appeal, in *City of El Monte v. Commission on State Mandates,* affirmed the reasoning of the *San Marcos* decision, holding that a redevelopment agency cannot accept the benefits of an exemption from article XIII B's spending limit while asserting an entitlement to reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6.[201]

Therefore, pursuant to the plain language of article XIII B, section 9 and the decisions in *County of Fresno, supra, Redevelopment Agency of San Marcos, supra,* and *City of El Monte, supra,* a local agency that does not collect and expend "proceeds of taxes" is not subject to the tax and spend limitations of articles XIII A and B, and therefore is not entitled to claim reimbursement pursuant to article XIII B, section 6.

Nevertheless, claimants argue that *County of Fresno* and the redevelopment agency cases do not apply in this case. Specifically, claimants argue that *County of Fresno, supra,* predates Proposition 218, which added articles XIII C and XIII D to the California Constitution, and is factually distinguishable from this test claim because the test claim statute at issue in *County of Fresno* specifically authorized user fees to pay for the mandated activities. With respect to the redevelopment cases (*Bell Community Redevelopment Agency, Redevelopment Agency of San Marcos,* and *City of El Monte*), the claimants argue that the courts' findings rely on Health and Safety Code section 33678, which specifically excepts the revenues of redevelopment agencies from the scope of revenue-limited appropriations under article XIII B.[202] In addition, the claimants argue that the above reasoning "would prohibit state subvention for every enterprise district in the state that is subject to Proposition 218…" and "would create a class of local agencies that are per se ineligible for reimbursement under this test claim, all potential future test claims, and all previous test claims dating back to Proposition 218's passage in 1996."[203] In addition, both the claimants and CSDA suggest that the Commission broaden the scope of reimbursement eligibility under article XIII B, section 6, beyond that articulated by the courts, and beyond the plain language of articles XIII A and XIII B.[204] The claimants and CSDA urge the Commission to consider the restrictions placed on special districts' authority to impose assessments, fees, or charges by articles XIII C and XIII D to be part of the "increasingly limited revenues sources" that subvention under section 6 was intended to protect. The claimants and CSDA would have the Commission broadly interpret and extend the subvention requirement and treat fee authority subject to proposition 218 as proceeds of taxes, "to advance the goal of 'preclud[ing] the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions onto local entities that [are] ill equipped to handle the task."[205]

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[201] (2000) 83 Cal.App.4th 266, 281-282 (*El Monte*).

[202] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, pages 17-18.

[203] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, pages 14-15.

[204] See Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 21; Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, pages 10-12 [Arguing that the restrictions of articles XIII C and XIII D are more onerous than the revenue limits of article XIII B, and the Commission should "recognize these restrictions…" and "Articles XIII A, B, C, and D should be read together and harmonized…"].

[205] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 21 [quoting *County of Fresno, supra* 53 Cal.3d, at p. 487.].

The claimant's comments do not alter the above analysis. The factual distinction that claimants allege between this test claim and *County of Fresno* is not dispositive.[206] Specific fee authority provided by the test claim statute is not necessary: so long as a local government's statutory fee authority can be legally applied to alleged activities mandated by the test claim statute, there are no *costs mandated by the state* within the meaning of Government Code section 17514 and article XIII B, section 6, to the extent of that fee authority.[207] If the local entity is not compelled to rely on *appropriations subject to limitation* to comply with the alleged mandate, no reimbursement is required.[208]

The claimant's comments addressing the redevelopment cases are similarly unpersuasive. Those cases are discussed above not as analogues for the types of special districts represented in this test claim, but only to demonstrate that *not all local government entities* are subject to articles XIII A and XIII B, and that an agency that is not bound by article XIII B cannot assert an entitlement to reimbursement under section 6.[209]

Moreover, enterprise districts, and indeed any local government entity funded exclusively through user fees, charges, or assessments, *are* per se ineligible for mandate reimbursement. This is so because only a mandate to expend revenues that are subject to the appropriations limit, as defined and expounded upon by the courts,[210] can entitle a local government entity to mandate reimbursement. In other words, a local agency that is funded solely by user fees or charges, (or tax increment revenues, as discussed above), or appropriations for debt service, or any combination of revenues "other than the proceeds of taxes" is an agency that is not subject to the appropriations limit, and therefore not entitled to subvention.[211]

This interpretation is supported by decades of mandates precedent and is consistent with the purpose of article XIII B. As discussed above, "Section 6 was included in article XIII B in recognition that article XIII A...severely restricted the *taxing* powers of local governments."[212] Article XIII B "was not intended to reach beyond taxation..." and "would not restrict the growth in appropriations financed from other [i.e., nontax] sources of revenue..."[213] The issue, then, is

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[206] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, pages 17-18. *County of Fresno*, *supra*, 53 Cal.3d at p. 485.

[207] See also, *Clovis Unified School District v. Chiang* (2010) 188 Cal.App.4th 794, 812 ["Claimants can choose not to required these fees, but not at the state's expense."

[208] See *Redevelopment Agency of San Marcos*, *supra*, 55 Cal.App.4th at p. 987 ["No state duty of subvention is triggered where the local agency is not required to expend its proceeds of taxes."].

[209] *City of El Monte*, *supra*, (2000) 83 Cal.App.4th 266, 281-282 [citing *Redevelopment Agency of San Marcos*, *supra*, (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 976].

[210] See *Placer v. Corin* (1980) 113 Cal.App.3d 443; *Bell Community Redevelopment Agency*, *supra* (1985) 169 Cal.App.3d 24; *County of Fresno*, *supra* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482; *Redevelopment Agency of San Marcos*, *supra*, (1997) 55 Cal.App.4th 976.

[211] California Constitution, article XIII B, section 9 (Adopted Nov. 6, 1979; Amended June 5, 1990).

[212] See *County of Fresno*, *supra*, 53 Cal.3d at p. 487 [emphasis added].

[213] *Ibid.*

not *how many* different sources of revenue a local entity has at its disposal, as suggested by claimants;[214] it is whether and to what extent those sources of revenue (and the appropriations to be made) are *limited* by articles XIII A and XIII B. Based on the foregoing, nothing in claimants' comments alters the above analysis.

The Commission also disagrees with the interpretation offered by CSDA. CSDA argues in its comments that Proposition 1A, adopted in 2004, made changes to article XIII B, section 6, which must be considered by the Commission, and that the voters' intent and understanding when adopting Proposition 1A should weigh heavily on the Commission's interpretation of the amended text.[215] However, the amendments made by Proposition 1A require the Legislature to either pay or suspend a mandate for local agencies, and expand the definition of a new program or higher level of service. The plain language of Proposition 1A does not address which entities are eligible to claim reimbursement, and does not require reimbursement for all special districts, including those that do not receive property tax revenue and are not subject to the appropriations limitation of article XIII B.[216] CSDA's comments do not alter the above analysis.

Based on the foregoing, a local agency that does not collect and expend "proceeds of taxes" is not subject to the tax and spend limitations of articles XIII A and B, and therefore is not entitled to claim reimbursement pursuant to article XIII B, section 6.

2. Biggs-West Gridley Water District and Richvale Irrigation District are not subject to the taxing and spending limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B, and are therefore not eligible for reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution. However, Oakdale Irrigation District and Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District are subject to the taxing and spending limitations, have been substituted in as claimants for both of the consolidated test claims, and are eligible for reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution.

10-TC-12 was originally filed by four co-claimants: South Feather, Paradise, Biggs, and Richvale.[217] 12-TC-01 was filed by Richvale and Biggs only,[218] and the two test claims were consolidated for analysis and hearing and renamed *Water Conservation*. Based on the analysis herein, the Commission finds that Richvale and Biggs are ineligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6, and test claim 12-TC-01 would have to be dismissed for want of an eligible claimant.[219] However, Oakdale and Glenn-Colusa have requested to be substituted in on both test claims in the place of the ineligible claimants.[220] The analysis below will therefore address the eligibility of each of the six co-claimants, and will show that South Feather, Paradise,

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[214] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, pages 20-21.

[215] See, e.g., Exhibit S, CSDA Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 7.

[216] See California Constitution, article XIII B, section 6 (b-c).

[217] Exhibit A, Test Claim 10-TC-12.

[218] Exhibit B, Test Claim 12-TC-01.

[219] See Exhibit K, Notice of Pending Dismissal.

[220] Exhibit N, Request for Substitution of Parties by Oakdale Irrigation District; Exhibit O, Request for Substitution of Parties by Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District.

Oakdale, and Glenn-Colusa are all eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6, and therefore the Commission maintains jurisdiction over both of the consolidated test claims.

a. Biggs-West Gridley Water District and Richvale Irrigation District are not eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6.

The Districts have acknowledged that "Richvale and Biggs do not receive property tax revenue."[221] With respect to Richvale, that statement is consistent with the original test claim filing, in which Richvale stated that it "does not receive an annual share of property tax revenue."[222] However, Biggs had earlier stated in a declaration by Karen Peters, the District's Executive Administrator, that "Biggs receives an annual share of property tax revenue," and for "Fiscal Year 2011 the amount of property tax revenue is expected to be approximately $64,000."[223] Biggs has since determined that the Peters declaration was in error, and a more recent declaration from Eugene Massa, the District's General Manager, states that "[t]hat revenue estimate actually reflects Biggs' *assessment*, equating to $2 per acre within Biggs' boundaries." Mr. Massa goes on to state that "Biggs does not currently receive any share of ad valorem *property tax* revenue."[224,225]

Even though Richvale and Biggs acknowledge that they receive no property tax revenue, they argue that they and "other similarly situated public agencies should not be deemed ineligible for subvention due to a historical quirk that resulted in those agencies not receiving a share of ad valorem property taxes."[226] The "historical quirk" to which Richvale and Biggs refer, it is assumed, is the fact that Richvale and Biggs either did not exist or did not share in ad valorem property tax revenue as of the 1977-78 fiscal year, which would render at least some portion of

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[221] Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, page 1.

[222] Exhibit A, South Feather Water and Power Test Claim, page 22.

[223] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 30.

[224] Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, page 393 [emphasis added].

[225] See also Exhibit X, Special Districts Annual Report 2010-2011, pages 184; 389; 1051 [The Special Districts Annual Report for 2010-2011 is consistent with Richvale's statement that it does not receive property tax revenue. Table 8 indicates no property tax receipts, and Table 1 does not indicate an appropriations limit. Biggs did not submit the necessary information to the SCO, and therefore does not appear in Tables 1 or 8 of the 2010-2011 Special Districts Annual Report. Based on that report, and the admissions of the Districts, a notice of dismissal was issued on November 12, 2013 for test claim 12-TC-01, for which Richvale and Biggs were the only named claimants. In response to the Notice of Pending Dismissal, the Districts submitted an Appeal of Dismissal, in which they argue that Proposition 218 undermines a local agency's fee authority, and that the Districts are eligible for reimbursement "for the reasons already explained in the Districts' 'Claimants' Response to Request for Additional Information 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01.'" (Exhibit K, Notice of Pending Dismissal; Exhibit L, Appeal of Executive Director's Decision)].

[226] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 20.

their revenues subject to the appropriations limit, in accordance with article XIII B, section 9.[227] They argue that all public agencies are ill-equipped to cover the costs of new mandates, whether they are subject to the tax and spend limits of articles XIII A and XIII B, or the fee and assessment restrictions of articles XIII C and XIII D.[228] In addition, Richvale and Biggs assert that to the extent they do have authority to raise revenues other than taxes, any increased fees or assessments necessary to cover the costs of the required activities would, by definition, be classified as proceeds of taxes under article XIII B, section 8.[229]

The Districts' reasoning is both circular and fundamentally unsound. Article XIII B, section 8 provides that "proceeds of taxes" includes "all tax revenues and the proceeds to an entity of government from (1) regulatory licenses, user charges, and user fees *to the extent that those proceeds exceed the costs reasonably borne by that entity in providing the regulation, product, or service*, and (2) the investment of tax revenues."[230] The districts argue, therefore, that "proceeds of taxes" includes not only revenues directly derived from taxes, "but also revenues exceeding the costs to fund the services provided by the agency." The Districts argue that Richvale and Biggs are unable, under Proposition 218, to impose new fees as a matter of law, and must reallocate existing fees, which constitute "proceeds of taxes" under article XIII B, section 8. But Proposition 218 added article XIII D to expressly provide that fees or charges "*shall not be extended, imposed, or increased*" if revenues derived from the fee or charge exceed the funds needed to provide the property-related service; and "shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the fee or charge was imposed."[231] Therefore, Proposition 218 imposes an absolute bar to raising fees beyond those necessary to provide the property-related service, or "reallocating" fees for a purpose other than that for which the fee or charge was imposed.

Moreover, Richvale and Biggs' reasoning that such fees *would automatically and by definition* constitute proceeds of taxes under article XIII B, section 8, rests on the initial presumption that such fees or charges would "exceed" those necessary to provide the service. In other words, the Districts presume that the costs of the mandate are unrelated to, or exceed, the costs of providing water service to the districts' users.[232] On the contrary, any fees or charges, whether *new or existing*, imposed by Richvale and Biggs are imposed for the purpose of providing irrigation water. The alleged mandated activities imposed upon irrigation districts by the test claim statute and regulations are required for those districts to *continue* providing irrigation water. Therefore, utilizing revenues from fees or charges to comply with the alleged new requirements is not

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[227] Section 9 states that appropriations subject to limitation do not include: "Appropriations of any special district which existed on January 1, 1978, and which did not as of the 1977–78 fiscal year levy an ad valorem tax on property in excess of 12 1/2 cents per $100 of assessed value; or the appropriations of any special district then existing or thereafter created by a vote of the people, which is totally funded by other than the proceeds of taxes."

[228] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 20.

[229] Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, page 3.

[230] Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, page 3 [citing California Constitution, article XIII B, section 8 (emphasis added)].

[231] Article XIII D, section 6(b) (added November 5, 1996, by Proposition 218).

[232] Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, pages 4-5.

"divert[ing] existing revenues from their authorized purposes..."[233] Rather, the increased or reallocated fees are merely being used to ensure that claimants can continue to provide water service consistently with all applicable legal requirements. Claimants' assertion that an increase or reallocation of fees alters the legal significance of such fees pursuant to article XIII B, section 8 is not supported by the law or the record.

Simply put, Richvale and Biggs do not impose or collect taxes[234] and the Commission cannot say, as a matter of law, that fees increased or imposed to comply with the alleged mandate would constitute proceeds of taxes, within the meaning of article XIII B, section 8. Unless or until a court determines that article XIII B, section 8 can be applied in this manner, the Commission must presume that only those local government entities that collect and expend proceeds of taxes, within the meaning of article XIII A, are subject to the spending limits of article XIII B, including section 6.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that Richvale Irrigation District and Biggs-West Gridley Water District are not subject to the taxing and spending limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B, and are therefore not eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6.

b. South Feather Water and Power Agency and Paradise Irrigation District are eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6.

Claimants state that "South Feather and Paradise receive property tax revenue," and "are in the process of establishing their appropriations limits for their current fiscal years."[235]

Declarations attached to claimants' response state that both South Feather and Paradise are in the process of determining and adopting an appropriations limit. Kevin Phillips, Finance Manager of Paradise, stated that during his tenure, "I have not calculated or otherwise established Paradise's appropriation limit as set forth in Proposition 4." Mr. Phillips further states that "[a]t the request of Paradise's legal counsel, I have begun working to establish Paradise's appropriation limit and intend...to ask Paradise's Board of Directors to adopt a resolution...for its current fiscal year."[236] Similarly, Steve Wong, Finance Division Manager of South Feather, states that he has not "calculated or otherwise established South Feather's appropriation limit" during his employment with South Feather. Mr. Wong further states that "[a]t the request of South Feather's legal counsel, I have begun working to establish South Feather's appropriation limit and intend, after the requisite public review period, to ask South Feather's Board of Directors to adopt a resolution establishing South Feather's appropriation limit for its current fiscal year."[237]

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[233] See Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, pages 4-5.

[234] Note that special districts generally have statutory authorization to impose special taxes, but only with two-thirds voter approval (See article XIII A, section 4). However, there is no evidence in the record indicating that Richvale or Biggs currently collects or expends special taxes.

[235] Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, pages 1-2.

[236] See Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, page 394.

[237] See Exhibit I, Claimant Response to Request for Additional Information, page 427.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that both South Feather and Paradise are subject to the tax and spend limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B, and are therefore eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6.

3. Oakdale Irrigation District and Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District are eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6 and are thus substituted in as claimants in the consolidated test claims in place of Biggs-West Gridley Water District and Richvale Irrigation District.

Pursuant to the Notice of Pending Dismissal, Oakdale submitted a request to be substituted in as a party on 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01 on January 13, 2014. Oakdale states that it is subject to the tax and spend limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B, and that it is an agricultural water supplier "subject to the mandates imposed by the Agricultural Water Measurement Regulations…and the Water Conservation Act of 2009."[238] The declaration of Steve Knell, Oakdale's General Manager, attached to the Request for Substitution, states that Oakdale "receives an annual share of ad valorem property tax revenue from Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties." The declaration further states that the District "received $5,701,730 in property taxes for 2011-2013 and expects to receive approximately $1.9 million in 2014."

The Special Districts Annual Reports for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 do not indicate an appropriations limit for Oakdale in Table 1,[239] but they do indicate that Oakdale received property tax revenue in Table 8 for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.[240]

Similarly, Glenn-Colusa submitted a request to be substituted in as a party on both test claims. Glenn-Colusa asserted in its request that it "is subject to the tax and spend limitations of Articles XIII A and XIII B of the California Constitution," and is an agricultural water supplier, subject to "the mandates imposed by the Water Conservation Act of 2009…and the Agricultural Water Measurement Regulations."[241] In declarations attached to the Request for Substitution, Thaddeus Bettner, General Manager of Glenn-Colusa, asserts that the District "received $520,420 in property taxes in 2013 and expects to receive $528,300 in 2014."[242]

Table 8 of the Special Districts Annual Report indicates that Glenn-Colusa collected property taxes in 2010-2011 and 2011-2012,[243] but Table 1 does not indicate an appropriations limit for the district.[244]

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[238] Exhibit N, Request for Substitution of Parties by Oakdale Irrigation District, page 2.

[239] Exhibit X, Special Districts Annual Reports for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, pages 159 and 157, respectively.

[240] Exhibit X, Special Districts Annual Reports for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, pages 381 and 379, respectively.

[241] Exhibit O, Request for Substitution of Parties by Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, pages 1-2.

[242] Exhibit O, Request for Substitution of Parties by Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, page 7.

[243] Exhibit X, Special Districts Annual Report, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, pages 357 and 355, respectively.

[244] Exhibit X, Special Districts Annual Report, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, pages 104 and 101, respectively.

Based on the evidence in the record, including the declarations of the General Managers of Oakdale and Glenn-Colusa, as well as the information reported to the SCO in the Special Districts Annual Reports for fiscal years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, both the substitute claimants collect some amount of property tax revenue. In turn, because property tax revenue is subject to the appropriations limit, both claimants also expend revenues subject to the appropriations limit, in accordance with article XIII B. A local government entity that is subject to both articles XIII A and XIII B is eligible for subvention under article XIII B, section 6, and is an eligible claimant before the Commission.

The Commission concludes that both Oakdale and Glenn-Colusa are subject to article XIII B as a matter of law, because they have authority to collect and expend property tax revenue.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that Oakdale and Glenn-Colusa are subject to the tax and spend limitations of articles XIII A and XIII B, and are therefore eligible to claim reimbursement under article XIII B, section 6.

B. Some of the Test Claim Statutes and Regulations Impose New Requirements on Urban Retail Water Suppliers.

Test claim 10-TC-12 alleged all of Part 2.55 of Division 6 of the Water Code, which consists of sections 10608 through 10608.64. The following analysis addresses only those sections of Part 2.55 containing mandatory language, and those sections specifically alleged in the test claim narrative. Sections 10608.22, 10608.28, 10608.36, 10608.43, 10608.44, 10608.50, 10608.56, 10608.60, and 10608.64 are not analyzed below, because those sections were not specifically alleged to impose increased costs mandated by the state, and because they do not impose new requirements on local government.

1. Water Code sections 10608, 10608.4(d), 10608.12(a; p), and 10608.16(a), as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), do not impose any new requirements on local government.

Water Code section 10608 states the Legislature's findings and declarations, including: "Water is a public resource that the California Constitution protects against waste and unreasonable use..." and "Reduced water use through conservation provides significant energy and environmental benefits, and can help protect water quality, improve streamflows, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions." Subdivision (g), specifically invoked by the claimants,[245] states that "[t]he Governor has called for a 20 percent per capita reduction in urban water use statewide by 2020."[246] The plain language of this section establishes a goal, but does not, itself, impose any new requirements on local government.

Water Code section 10608.4 as added, states the "intent of the legislature," including, as highlighted by the claimants,[247] to "[e]stablish a method or methods for urban retail water suppliers to determine targets for achieving increased water use efficiency by the year 2020, in

[245] Exhibit A, Test Claim 10-TC-12, page 3.

[246] Water Code section 10608(a; d; g) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[247] Exhibit A, Test Claim 10-TC-12, page 3.

accordance with the Governor's goal of a 20 percent reduction."[248] The plain language of this section expresses legislative intent, and does not impose any new activities on local government

Water Code section 10608.16(a), as added, states that "[t]he state shall achieve a 20 percent reduction in urban per capita water use in California on or before December 31, 2020." In addition, section 10608.16(b) provides that the state "shall make incremental progress towards the state target specified in subdivision (a) by reducing urban per capita water use by at least 10 percent on or before December 31, 2015."[249] The plain language of this section is directed to the State generally, and does not impose any new mandated activities on local government.

Water Code section 10608.12 provides that "the following definitions govern the construction of this part:" An "urban retail water supplier " is defined as "a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes."[250] The claimants allege that the Water Conservation Act imposes unfunded state mandates on urban retail water suppliers, and that South Feather and Paradise "are 'urban retail water suppliers,' as defined."[251] Likewise, under section 10608.12, an "agricultural water supplier" is defined as "a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water to 10,000 or more irrigated acres, excluding recycled water."[252] The claimants allege that this definition "expanded the definition of what constitutes an agricultural water supplier," and thus required a greater number of entities to adopt AWMPs and perform other activities under the Water Code.[253] However, whatever new activities may be required by the test claim statutes, the plain language of amended section 10608.12 does not impose any new requirements on urban retail water suppliers or agricultural water suppliers; section 10608.12 merely prescribes the applicability and scope of the other requirements of the test claim statutes.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that sections 10608, 10608.4 10608.12, and 10608.16, pled as added, do not impose any new requirements on local government, and are therefore denied.

2. Water Code sections 10608.20(a; b; e; and j), 10608.24, and 10608.40, as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7) impose new required activities on urban water suppliers.

Prior law required the preparation of an urban water management plan, and required urban water suppliers to update the plan every five years. The test claim statutes add additional information related to conservation goals to that required to be included in a supplier's UWMP, and authorize an extension of time from December 31, 2010 to July 1, 2011 for the adoption of the next UWMP. As added by the test claim statute, section 10608.20 provides, in pertinent part:

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[248] Water Code section 10608.4 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[249] Water Code section 10608.16(a; b) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[250] Water Code section 10608.12(p) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[251] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 2.

[252] Water Code section 10608.12(a) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[253] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 8.

(a)(1) Each urban retail water supplier shall develop urban water use targets and an interim urban water use target by July 1, 2011. Urban retail water suppliers may elect to determine and report progress toward achieving these targets on an individual or regional basis, as provided in subdivision (a) of Section 10608.28, and may determine the targets on a fiscal year or calendar year basis.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that the urban water use targets described in subdivision (a) cumulatively result in a 20-percent reduction from the baseline daily per capita water use by December 31, 2020.

(b) An urban retail water supplier shall adopt one of the following methods for determining its urban water use target pursuant to subdivision (a):

(1) Eighty percent of the urban retail water supplier's baseline per capita daily water use.

(2) The per capita daily water use that is estimated using the sum of the following performance standards:

(A) For indoor residential water use, 55 gallons per capita daily water use as a provisional standard. Upon completion of the department's 2016 report to the Legislature pursuant to Section 10608.42, this standard may be adjusted by the Legislature by statute.

(B) For landscape irrigated through dedicated or residential meters or connections, water efficiency equivalent to the standards of the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance set forth in Chapter 2.7 (commencing with Section 490) of Division 2 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, as in effect the later of the year of the landscape's installation or 1992. An urban retail water supplier using the approach specified in this subparagraph shall use satellite imagery, site visits, or other best available technology to develop an accurate estimate of landscaped areas.

(C) For commercial, industrial, and institutional uses, a 10-percent reduction in water use from the baseline commercial, industrial, and institutional water use by 2020.

(3) Ninety-five percent of the applicable state hydrologic region target, as set forth in the state's draft 20x2020 Water Conservation Plan (dated April 30, 2009). If the service area of an urban water supplier includes more than one hydrologic region, the supplier shall apportion its service area to each region based on population or area.

(4) A method that shall be identified and developed by the department, through a public process, and reported to the Legislature no later than December 31, 2010...[254]

In addition, section 10608.20(e) provides that an urban retail water supplier "shall include in its urban water management plan due in 2010...the baseline daily per capita water use, urban water

[254] Water Code section 10608.20 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

use target, interim urban water use target, and compliance daily per capita water use, along with the bases for determining estimates, including references to supporting data."[255]

And, section 10608.20(j) provides that an urban retail water supplier "shall be granted an extension to July 1, 2011..." to adopt a complying water management plan, and that an urban retail water supplier that adopts an urban water management plan due in 2010 "that does not use the methodologies developed by the department pursuant to subdivision (h) shall amend the plan by July 1, 2011 to comply with this part."[256]

Section 10608.40 provides that an urban retail water supplier shall also "report to [DWR] on their progress in meeting their urban water use targets as part of their [UWMPs] submitted pursuant to Section 10631."[257]

Section 10608.24 provides that each urban retail water supplier "shall meet its interim urban water use target by December 31, 2015," and "shall meet its [final] urban water use target by December 31, 2020."[258]

As discussed above, prior law required the adoption of an UWMP, which, pursuant to section 10631, included a detailed description and analysis of water supplies within the service area, including reliability of supply in normal, dry, and multiple dry years, and a description and evaluation of water demand management measures currently being implemented and scheduled for implementation.[259] Pursuant to existing section 10621, that plan was required to be updated "once every five years...in years ending in five and zero."[260] And, existing section 10631(e) also required identification and quantification of past, current and projected water use over a five-year period including, but not necessarily limited to, all of the following uses:

> (A) Single-family residential.
>
> (B) Multifamily.
>
> (C) Commercial.
>
> (D) Industrial.
>
> (E) Institutional and governmental.
>
> (F) Landscape.
>
> (G) Sales to other agencies.
>
> (H) Saline water intrusion barriers, groundwater recharge, or conjunctive use, or any combination thereof.

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[255] Water Code section 10608.20(e) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[256] Water Code section 10608.20(j) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[257] Water Code section 10608.40 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[258] Water Code section 10608.24(a; b) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[259] Water Code section 10631 (Stats. 2009, ch. 534 (AB 1465)).

[260] Water Code section 10621 (Stats. 2007, ch. 64 (AB 1376)).

(I) Agricultural.[261]

However, nothing in prior law required the adoption of urban water use targets, baseline information on a per capita basis (as opposed to on a type of use basis), interim and final water use targets, assessment of present and proposed measures to achieve the targeted reductions, or a report on the supplier's progress toward meeting the reductions.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that Water Code sections 10608.20, 10608.24, and 10608.40, as added by the test claim statute, impose new requirements on urban retail water suppliers, as follows:

- Develop urban water use targets and an interim urban water use targets by July 1, 2011.[262]
- Adopt one of the methods specified in section 10608.20(b) for determining an urban water use target.[263]
- Include in its urban water management plan due in 2010 the baseline daily per capita water use, urban water use target, interim urban water use target, and compliance daily per capita water use, along with the bases for determining those estimates, including references to supporting data.[264]
- Report to DWR on their progress in meeting urban water use targets as part of their UWMPs.[265]
- Amend its urban water management plan, by July 1, 2011, to allow use of technical methodologies developed by the department pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (h) of section 10608.20.[266]
- Meet interim urban water use target by December 31, 2015.[267]
- Meet final urban water use target by December 31, 2020.[268]

The activities required to meet the interim and final urban water use targets are intended to vary significantly among local governments based upon differences in climate, population density, levels of per capita water use according to plant water needs, levels of commercial, industrial, and institutional water use, and the amount of hardening that has occurred as a result of prior conservation measures implemented in different regions

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[261] Water Code section 10631 (Stats. 2009, ch. 534 (AB 1465)).

[262] Water Code section 10608.20(a) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[263] Water Code section 10608.20(b) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[264] Water Code section 10608.20(e) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[265] Water Code section 10608.40 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[266] Water Code section 10608.20(i) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[267] Water Code section 10608.24(a) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[268] Water Code section 10608.24(b) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

throughout the state. Local variations, therefore, are not expressly stated in the test claim statutes.

3. Water Code section 10608.26, as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), requires urban water suppliers to conduct at least one public hearing to allow community input regarding an urban retail water supplier's implementation plan.

Section 10608.26 provides that "[i]n complying with this part," an urban retail water supplier shall conduct at least one public hearing "to accomplish all of the following:" (1) allow community input regarding the urban retail water supplier's implementation plan; (2) consider the economic impacts of the urban retail water supplier's implementation plan; and (3) adopt one of the four methods provided in section 10608.20(b) for determining its urban water use target.[269]

The claimants assert that "prior to the Act, there was no requirement to conduct at least one public hearing to allow for community input regarding conservation, consider economic impacts of the implementing the 20% reduction [*sic*], or to adopt a method for determining an urban water use target."[270]

Section 10642, added by Statutes 1983, chapter 1009, required a public hearing prior to *adopting an UWMP*, as follows:

> Prior to adopting a plan, the urban water supplier shall make the plan available for public inspection and shall hold a public hearing thereon. Prior to the hearing, notice of the time and place of hearing shall be published within the jurisdiction of the publicly owned water supplier pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government Code...[271]

However, section 10608.26 requires a public hearing for purposes of allowing public input regarding an implementation plan, considering the economic impacts of an implementation plan, or adopting a method for determining the urban water supplier's water use targets, as required by section 10608.20(b). DWR, the agency with responsibility for implementing the Water Conservation Act, has interpreted these two requirements as only requiring one hearing.[272] As the implementing agency, DWRs interpretation of the Act is entitled to great weight.[273]

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that section 10608.26 imposes a new and additional requirement on urban retail water suppliers, as follows:

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[269] Water Code section 10608.26(a) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[270] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 8 [citing Water Code section 10608.26(a)(1-3)].

[271] Water Code section 10642 (Stats. 1983, ch. 1009) [citing Government Code section 6066 (Stats. 1959, ch. 954), which provides for publication once per week for two successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation].

[272] Exhibit X, Department of Water Resources, *Guidebook to Assist Urban Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2010 Urban Water Management Plan*, pp. A-2 and 3-4.

[273] *Yamaha Corporation of America v. State Board of Equalization* (1998) 19 Cal.4th 1, 10-11.

Include in the public hearing on the adoption of the UWMP an opportunity for community input regarding the urban retail water supplier's implementation plan; consideration of the economic impacts of the implementation plan; and the adoption of a method, pursuant to section 10608.20(b), for determining urban water use targets.[274]

4. Water Code section 10608.42, as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), does not impose any new requirements on local government.

Section 10608.42 provides:

> The department shall review the 2015 urban water management plans and report to the Legislature by December 31, 2016, on progress towards achieving a 20-percent reduction in urban water use by December 31, 2020. The report shall include recommendations on changes to water efficiency standards or urban water use targets in order to achieve the 20-percent reduction and to reflect updated efficiency information and technology changes.[275]

The claimants allege that section 10608.42 requires an UWMP, adopted by an urban retail water supplier, to "describe the urban retail water supplier's progress toward achieving the 20% reduction by 2020."[276] However, the plain language of this section is directed to DWR, and does not, itself, impose any new activities or requirements on local government.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that section 10608.42 does not impose any new requirements on local government, and is therefore denied.

5. Water Code sections 10608.56 and 10608.8, as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), do not impose any new requirements on local government.

Section 10806.56 provides that "[o]n and after July 1, 2016, an urban retail water supplier is not eligible for a water grant or loan awarded or administered by the state unless the supplier complies with this part."[277] The plain language of this section does not impose any new requirements on local government; the section only states the consequence of failing to comply with all other requirements of the Act.

Section 10608.8 provides that "[b]ecause an urban agency is not required to meet its urban water use target until 2020 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 10608.24, an urban retail water supplier's failure to meet those targets shall not establish a violation of law for purposes of any state administrative or judicial proceeding prior to January 1, 2021."[278] The plain language of

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[274] Water Code section 10608.26 ((Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)). See also Exhibit X, Department of Water Resources, *Guidebook to Assist Urban Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2010 Urban Water Management Plan*, pp. A-2 and 3-4.

[275] Water Code section 10608.42 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[276] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 3.

[277] Water Code section 10608.56 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[278] Water Code section 10608.8 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

this section does not impose any new requirements on local government; rather, the section states that no violation of law shall occur until after the date that urban water use targets are supposed to be met.

The claimants allege that Water Code section 10608.56 imposes reimbursable state-mandated costs, alleging that "[f]ailure to comply with the aforementioned mandates by South Feather and Paradise will result, on and after July 1, 2016, in ineligibility for water grants or loans awarded or administered by the State of California." In addition, the claimants allege that "a failure to meet the 20% target shall be a violation of law on and after January 1, 2021," citing Water Code section 10608.8.[279] The plain language of sections 10608.8 and 10608.56, as described above, do not impose any new activities or tasks on local government; the provisions that the claimants allege only state the consequences of failing to comply with all other requirements of the Act.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that sections 10806.56 and 10806.8 do not impose any new requirements on local government, and are therefore denied.

C. Some of the Test Claim Statutes and Regulations Impose New Requirements on Non-exempt Agricultural Water Suppliers.

Chapter 4 of Part 2.55 of Division 6 of the Water Code consists of a single code section that addresses water conservation requirements for agricultural water suppliers: section 10608.48. The remaining provisions of the test claim statute addressing agricultural water suppliers were added in Part 2.8 of Division 6 of the Water Code, consisting of sections 10800-10853, and address agricultural water management planning requirements. Sections 10608.8 and 10828 provide for exemptions from the requirements of Part 2.55 and Part 2.8, respectively, under certain circumstances, which are addressed where relevant below.

1. Water Code section 10608.48(a-c), as amended by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), imposes new requirements on some agricultural water suppliers to implement efficient water management practices, including measurement and a pricing structure based in part on quantity of water delivered; and to implement up to fourteen other efficient water management practices, if locally cost effective and technically feasible.

Section 10608.48 provides for the implementation by agricultural water suppliers of specified critical efficient water management practices, including measurement and volume-based pricing; and *additional* efficient water management practices, where locally cost effective and technically feasible, as follows:

> (a) On or before July 31, 2012, an agricultural water supplier shall implement efficient water management practices pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c).
>
> (b) Agricultural water suppliers shall implement *all of the following critical efficient management practices*:
>
> (1) Measure the volume of water delivered to customers with sufficient accuracy to comply with subdivision (a) of Section 531.10 and to implement paragraph (2).

[279] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 4.

(2) Adopt a pricing structure for water customers based at least in part on quantity delivered.

(c) Agricultural water suppliers shall implement *additional efficient management practices*, including, but not limited to, practices to accomplish all of the following, *if the measures are locally cost effective and technically feasible*:

(1) Facilitate alternative land use for lands with exceptionally high water duties or whose irrigation contributes to significant problems, including drainage.

(2) Facilitate use of available recycled water that otherwise would not be used beneficially, meets all health and safety criteria, and does not harm crops or soils.

(3) Facilitate the financing of capital improvements for on-farm irrigation systems.

(4) Implement an incentive pricing structure that promotes one or more of the following goals:

(A) More efficient water use at the farm level.

(B) Conjunctive use of groundwater.

(C) Appropriate increase of groundwater recharge.

(D) Reduction in problem drainage.

(E) Improved management of environmental resources.

(F) Effective management of all water sources throughout the year by adjusting seasonal pricing structures based on current conditions.

(5) Expand line or pipe distribution systems, and construct regulatory reservoirs to increase distribution system flexibility and capacity, decrease maintenance, and reduce seepage.

(6) Increase flexibility in water ordering by, and delivery to, water customers within operational limits.

(7) Construct and operate supplier spill and tailwater recovery systems.

(8) Increase planned conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater within the supplier service area.

(9) Automate canal control structures.

(10) Facilitate or promote customer pump testing and evaluation.

(11) Designate a water conservation coordinator who will develop and implement the water management plan and prepare progress reports.

(12) Provide for the availability of water management services to water users. These services may include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(A) On-farm irrigation and drainage system evaluations.

(B) Normal year and real-time irrigation scheduling and crop evapotranspiration information.

(C) Surface water, groundwater, and drainage water quantity and quality data.

(D) Agricultural water management educational programs and materials for farmers, staff, and the public.

(13) Evaluate the policies of agencies that provide the supplier with water to identify the potential for institutional changes to allow more flexible water deliveries and storage.

(14) Evaluate and improve the efficiencies of the supplier's pumps.[280]

The claimants allege that section 10608.48 requires agricultural water suppliers (Oakdale and Glenn-Colusa) to "measure the volume of water delivered to their customers using best professional practices to achieve a minimum level of measurement accuracy at the farm-gate." In addition, they allege, agricultural water suppliers are required to "adopt a pricing structure for water customers based on the quantity of water delivered." The claimants further allege that "[i]f 'locally cost effective' and technically feasible, agricultural water suppliers are required to implement fourteen additional efficient management practices" specified in section 10608.48(c).[281]

The claimants argue that prior to the test claim statute, agricultural water suppliers "were not required to have a pricing structure based, at least in part, on the quantity of water delivered," and were not required to measure the volume of water delivered if it was not locally cost effective to do so. The claimants assert that "[w]hile subdivision (a) of Water Code section 531.10 was a preexisting obligation, subdivision (b) of that same section gave an exception to the farm-gate measurement requirement if the measurement devices were not locally cost effective." The claimants conclude that now "[t]he Act requires compliance with subdivision (a) regardless of whether it is locally cost effective."[282] In addition, the claimants assert that prior to the Act, "there was no requirement to implement up to 14 additional conservation measures if locally cost effective and technically feasible."[283]

Section 531.10 of the Water Measurement Law, as added by Statutes 2007, chapter 675 provides, in its entirety:

(a) An agricultural water supplier shall submit an annual report to the department that summarizes aggregated farm-gate delivery data, on a monthly or bimonthly basis, using best professional practices.

(b) Nothing in this article shall be construed to require the implementation of water measurement programs or practices that are not locally cost effective.

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[280] Water Code section 10608.48(a-c) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)) [emphasis added].

[281] Exhibit A, Test Claim 10-TC-12, page 4.

[282] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 8.

[283] Exhibit A, 10-TC-12, page 8.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the requirements of this section shall complement and not affect the scope of authority granted to the department or the board by provisions of law other than this article.

The plain language of section 531.10 required agricultural water suppliers to submit an annual report to DWR summarizing aggregated data on water delivered to individual agricultural customers using best professional practices, but only if water measurement programs or practices were locally cost effective.[284] Therefore, to the extent that water measurement programs or practices *were* locally cost effective, such activities were required to comply with prior law. Section 10608.48(b), in turn, does not impose a *new* requirement to "[m]easure the volume of water delivered to customers with sufficient accuracy to comply with [section 531.10(a),]" if such water measurement activities were already performed. However, section 10608.48(b) also requires an agricultural water supplier, *regardless of local cost-effectiveness*, to "[m]easure the volume of water delivered to customers with sufficient accuracy to comply with subdivision (a) of Section 531.10 *and to implement paragraph (2),*" which requires suppliers to implement a pricing structure based at least in part on volume of water delivered. Therefore, section 10608.48(b) imposes a new requirement to the extent that prior law activities were not sufficient to also implement a pricing structure based at least in part on quantity of water delivered.

Moreover, Water Code section 10608.8 provides that "[t]he requirements of this part do not apply to an agricultural water supplier that is a party to the Quantification Settlement Agreement" (QSA), as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617, section 1, for as long as the QSA remains in effect.[285] The local agency parties to the QSA include the San Diego County Water Authority, Coachella Valley Water District, Imperial Irrigation District, and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.[286] As a result, by the plain language of Water Code section 10608.8 those entities are exempt and are not mandated by the state to comply with the requirements of Part 2.55 of Division 6 of the Water Code, including section 10608.48.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that section 10608.48 imposes new requirements on agricultural water suppliers, except those that are parties to the Quantification Settlement Agreement, as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617, section 1, for as long as QSA remains in effect, as follows:

- Measure the volume of water delivered to customers with sufficient accuracy to (1) comply with subdivision (a) of Water Code section 531.10, which previously imposed the requirement, with specified exceptions, for agricultural water suppliers to submit an annual report summarizing aggregated farm-gate delivery data, on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, using best professional practices; and (2) implement a pricing structure for water customers based at least in part on quantity of water delivered.[287]

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[284] Water Code section 531.10 (Stats. 2007, Ch. 675 (AB 1404)).

[285] Water Code section 10608.8 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[286] Exhibit X, Quantification Settlement Agreement, dated October 10, 2003.

[287] Water Code section 10608.48(b)(1) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

This activity is only newly required if measurement of farm-gate delivery data was not previously performed by the agricultural water supplier pursuant to a determination under section 531.10(b) that such measurement programs or practices were not locally cost effective, or if measurement data was not sufficient to implement a pricing structure based at least in part on quantity of water delivered.[288]

- Implement a pricing structure for water customers based at least in part on quantity of water delivered.[289]
- *If the measures are locally cost effective and technically feasible,* implement additional efficient management practices, including, but not limited to, practices to accomplish all of the following:

  (1) Facilitate alternative land use for lands with exceptionally high water duties or whose irrigation contributes to significant problems, including drainage.

  (2) Facilitate use of available recycled water that otherwise would not be used beneficially, meets all health and safety criteria, and does not harm crops or soils.

  (3) Facilitate the financing of capital improvements for on-farm irrigation systems.

  (4) Implement an incentive pricing structure that promotes one or more of the following goals:

  (A) More efficient water use at the farm level.

  (B) Conjunctive use of groundwater.

  (C) Appropriate increase of groundwater recharge.

  (D) Reduction in problem drainage.

  (E) Improved management of environmental resources.

  (F) Effective management of all water sources throughout the year by adjusting seasonal pricing structures based on current conditions.

  (5) Expand line or pipe distribution systems, and construct regulatory reservoirs to increase distribution system flexibility and capacity, decrease maintenance, and reduce seepage.

  (6) Increase flexibility in water ordering by, and delivery to, water customers within operational limits.

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[288] Water Code section 531.10(a-b) previously required reporting annually to the Department of Water Resources aggregated farm-gate delivery data, summarized on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, unless such measurement programs or practices were not locally cost effective. If an agricultural water supplier had not determined that such practices were not locally cost effective, then the prior law, Section 531.10(a) would have required measurement, and the activity is not therefore new.

[289] Water Code section 10608.48(b)(2) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

(7) Construct and operate supplier spill and tailwater recovery systems.

(8) Increase planned conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater within the supplier service area.

(9) Automate canal control structures.

(10) Facilitate or promote customer pump testing and evaluation.

(11) Designate a water conservation coordinator who will develop and implement the water management plan and prepare progress reports.

(12) Provide for the availability of water management services to water users. These services may include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(A) On-farm irrigation and drainage system evaluations.

(B) Normal year and real-time irrigation scheduling and crop evapotranspiration information.

(C) Surface water, groundwater, and drainage water quantity and quality data.

(D) Agricultural water management educational programs and materials for farmers, staff, and the public.

(13) Evaluate the policies of agencies that provide the supplier with water to identify the potential for institutional changes to allow more flexible water deliveries and storage.

(14) Evaluate and improve the efficiencies of the supplier's pumps.[290]

2. Water Code sections 10608.48(d-f) and 10820-10829, as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), impose new requirements on agricultural water suppliers, as defined pursuant to section 10608.12, to prepare and adopt on or before December 31, 2012, and to update on or before December 31, 2015, and every five years thereafter, an agricultural water management plan, as specified. However, many agricultural water suppliers, including all participants in the Central Valley Project and United States Bureau of Reclamation water contracts, are exempt from the requirement to *prepare and adopt* an agricultural water management plan pursuant to 10826, because they were already required by existing federal law to prepare a water conservation plan, which they may submit to satisfy this requirement.

As noted above, the test claim statute repealed and added Part 2.8 of Division 6 of the Water Code, commencing with section 10800. While a number of the activities alleged in these consolidated test claims were required by the prior provisions of the Water Code that were repealed and replaced by the test claim statute, those provisions were by their own terms no longer operative immediately prior to the effective date of the test claim statute. Former Water Code section 10855, as added by Statutes 1986, chapter 954, provided that "[t]his part shall

[290] Water Code section 10608.48(c) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

remain operative only until January 1, 1993..." Therefore, the provisions added by the test claim statute, which became effective on February 3, 2010, impose new requirements or activities.[291]

Section 10820, as added, provides that all agricultural water suppliers *shall prepare and adopt* an AWMP on or before December 31, 2012, and shall update that plan on December 31, 2015, and on or before December 31 every five years thereafter.[292]

Section 10826, as added, provides that the plan "shall do all of the following:"

> (a) Describe the agricultural water supplier and the service area, including all of the following:
>
> (1) Size of the service area.
>
> (2) Location of the service area and its water management facilities.
>
> (3) Terrain and soils.
>
> (4) Climate.
>
> (5) Operating rules and regulations.
>
> (6) Water delivery measurements or calculations.
>
> (7) Water rate schedules and billing.
>
> (8) Water shortage allocation policies.
>
> (b) Describe the quantity and quality of water resources of the agricultural water supplier, including all of the following:
>
> (1) Surface water supply.
>
> (2) Groundwater supply.
>
> (3) Other water supplies.
>
> (4) Source water quality monitoring practices.
>
> (5) Water uses within the agricultural water supplier's service area, including all of the following:
>
> (A) Agricultural.
>
> (B) Environmental.
>
> (C) Recreational.
>
> (D) Municipal and industrial.
>
> (E) Groundwater recharge.
>
> (F) Transfers and exchanges.

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[291] Bills introduced in an extraordinary session take effect 91 days after the final adjournment of that extraordinary session. (Cal. Const. Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)(1).) The 7th Extraordinary Session concluded on November 4, 2009. Thus, the effective date of SB X7 7 is February 3, 2010.

[292] Water Code section 10820 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

(G) Other water uses.

(6) Drainage from the water supplier's service area.

(7) Water accounting, including all of the following:

(A) Quantifying the water supplier's water supplies.

(B) Tabulating water uses.

(C) Overall water budget.

(8) Water supply reliability.

(c) Include an analysis, based on available information, of the effect of climate change on future water supplies.

(d) Describe previous water management activities.

(e) Include in the plan the water use efficiency information required pursuant to Section 10608.48.[293]

Meanwhile, section 10608.48(d) provides that agricultural water suppliers "shall include in the agricultural water management plans required pursuant to [section 10820] a report on which efficient water management practices have been implemented and are planned to be implemented, an estimate of the water use efficiency improvements that have occurred since the last report, and an estimate of the water use efficiency improvements estimated to occur five and 10 years in the future."[294]

Furthermore, section 10608.48 provides that if a supplier "determines that an efficient water management practice is not locally cost effective or technically feasible, the supplier shall submit information documenting that determination."[295] And, the section further provides that "[t]he data shall be reported using a standardized form developed pursuant to Section 10608.52."[296]

In addition, section 10828 provides that:

> (a) Agricultural water suppliers that are required to submit water conservation plans to the United States Bureau of Reclamation pursuant to either the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575) or the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982, or both, *may submit those water conservation plans to satisfy the requirements of Section 10826, if both of the following apply*:
>
> (1) The agricultural water supplier has adopted and submitted the water conservation plan to the United States Bureau of Reclamation within the previous four years.
>
> (2) The United States Bureau of Reclamation has accepted the water conservation plan as adequate.

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[293] Water Code section 10826 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[294] Water Code section 10608.48(d) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[295] Water Code section 10608.48(d) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[296] *Ibid.*

(b) This part does not require agricultural water suppliers that are required to submit water conservation plans to the United States Bureau of Reclamation pursuant to either the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law 102-575) or the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982, or both, to prepare and adopt water conservation plans according to a schedule that is different from that required by the United States Bureau of Reclamation.[297]

And, section 10829 provides that an agricultural water supplier may satisfy the requirements "of this part" by adopting an UWMP pursuant to Part 2.6 or by participating in areawide, regional, watershed, or basinwide water management planning, so long as those plans meet or exceed the requirements of this part.[298]

Based on the plain language of section 10828, those local agencies who are CVP or USBR contractors may submit a copy of their water conservation plan already submitted to USBR in satisfaction of the requirements of section 10826 (which provides for the contents of an AWMP). In addition, section 10828(b) provides that CVP or USBR contractors are not required to adhere to the "schedule" for preparing and adopting AWMPs, as provided in section 10820, above. Therefore, the requirements of section 10820, to prepare and adopt an AWMP on or before December 31, 2012, and to update the AWMP on or before December 31, 2015 and every five years thereafter, do not apply to CVP or USBR contractors, who may instead rely on the schedule for updating and readopting their water conservation plans.

Both Glenn-Colusa and Oakdale are contractors with the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and as a result are required by federal law to prepare water conservation plans. Glenn-Colusa and Oakdale are also CVP contractors, as are dozens of other local agencies.[299]

As noted above, Water Code section 10608.8 provides that "[t]he requirements of this part do not apply to an agricultural water supplier that is a party to the Quantification Settlement Agreement" (QSA), as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617, section 1 for as long as QSA remains in effect.[300] Therefore, a supplier that is a party to the QSA is not mandated by the state to include the water use efficiency reporting requirements in the plan pursuant to section 10680.48.

Additionally, section 10608.48(f) provides that an agricultural water supplier "may meet the requirements of subdivisions (d) and (e) by submitting to [DWR] a water conservation plan submitted to the United States Bureau of Reclamation that meets the requirements described in Section 10828."[301] Therefore, the requirements to include in a supplier's AWMP a report on efficient water management practices and documentation on those practices determined not to be cost effective or technically feasible, pursuant to section 10608.48(d-e), do not apply to CVP or

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[297] Water Code section 10828 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[298] Water Code section 10829 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[299] Exhibit X, Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, Central Valley Project (CVP) Water Contractors, dated March 4, 2014.

[300] Water Code section 10608.8 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[301] Water Code section 10608.48(e; f) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

USBR contractors that prepare and submit water conservation plans to USBR.[302] The *Guidebook to Assist Agricultural Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2012 Agricultural Water Management Plan*, issued by DWR, "encourages" suppliers to file certain "documentation as an attachment with the USBR-accepted water management/conservation plan."[303] However, the plain language of section 10608.48(f) states that a supplier may satisfy the requirements of section 10608.48(d) and (e) by submitting to DWR its water conservation plan prepared for USBR. And, section 10828, as shown above, exempts CVP and USBR contractors from the requirement to prepare an AWMP in the first instance. Finally, pursuant to section 10829, the requirement to adopt an AWMP in the first instance does not apply if the supplier adopts a UWMP, or participates in regional water management planning.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that newly added sections 10820 and 10826, and 10608.48(d-f), impose the following new requirements on agricultural water suppliers, except for suppliers that adopt a UWMP or participate in areawide, regional, watershed, or basinwide water management planning, and CVP and USBR contractors:

- On or before December 31, 2012, prepare and adopt an agricultural water management plan in accordance with section 10826.[304]
- On or before December 31, 2015, and every five years thereafter, update the agricultural water management plan, in accordance with section 10820 et seq.[305]
- If a supplier becomes an agricultural water supplier, as defined, after December 31, 2012, that agricultural water supplier shall prepare and adopt an agricultural water management plan within one year after the date that it has become an agricultural water supplier.[306]
- Include in the agricultural water management plans required pursuant to Water Code section 10800 et seq. a report on which efficient water management practices have been implemented and are planned to be implemented, an estimate of the water use efficiency improvements that have occurred since the last report,

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[302] Water Code section 10608.48(f) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[303] Exhibit X, *Guidebook to Assist Agricultural Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2012 Agricultural Water Management Plan*, page 11, "The agricultural water suppliers that submit a plan to USBR may meet the requirements of section 10608.48 (d) and (e) [report of EWMPs implemented, planned for implementation, and estimate of efficiency improvements, as well as documentation for not locally cost effective EWMPs] by submitting the USBR-accepted plan to DWR. "DWR *encourages* CVPIA/RRA water suppliers to also provide a report on water use efficiency information (required by section 10608.48(d);see Section 3.7 of this Guidebook)." Emphasis added.

[304] Water Code sections 10820; 10826 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[305] Water Code sections 10820; 10826 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[306] Water Code section 10820 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

and an estimate of the water use efficiency improvements estimated to occur five and 10 years in the future.[307]

In addition, an agricultural water supplier that is a party to the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA), as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617, section 1 is not subject to this requirement for as long as the QSA remains in effect.[308]

- If an agricultural water supplier determines that an efficient water management practice is not locally cost effective or technically feasible, the supplier shall submit information documenting that determination.[309]

  In addition, an agricultural water supplier that is a party to the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA), as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617, section 1 is not subject to this requirement for as long as the QSA remains in effect.[310]

- Report the data using a standardized form developed pursuant to Water Code section 10608.52.[311]

  An agricultural water supplier that is a party to the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA), as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617, section 1 is not subject to this requirement for as long as the QSA remains in effect.[312]

3. Section 10608.48(g-i), as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), does not impose any new activities on local government.

Section 10608.48(g) provides that on or before December 31, 2013, DWR shall submit to the Legislature a report on agricultural efficient water management practices that have been implemented or are planned to be implemented, and an assessment of those practices and their effects on agricultural operations. Section 10608.48(h) states that DWR "may update the efficient water management practices required pursuant to [section 10608.48(c)]," but only after conducting public hearings. Section 10608.48(i) provides that DWR "shall adopt regulations that provide for a range of options that agricultural water suppliers may use or implement to comply with the measurement requirement" of section 10608.48(b).

The plain language of these sections section 10608.48(g-i) is directed to DWR, and does not impose any activities or requirements on local government.

4. Sections 10821, 10841, 10842, 10843, and 10844, as added by Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), impose new requirements on agricultural water suppliers.

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[307] Water Code section 10608.48(d) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[308] Water Code section 10608.8 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[309] Water Code section 10608.48(d) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[310] Water Code section 10608.8 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[311] Water Code section 10608.48(e) (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[312] Water Code section 10608.8 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

Water Code section 10821, as added, provides that an agricultural water supplier required to prepare an AWMP pursuant to this part, "shall notify each city or county within which the supplier provides water supplies that the agricultural water supplier will be preparing the plan or reviewing the plan and considering amendments or changes to the plan."[313]

In addition, newly added section 10841 requires that the plan be made available for public inspection and that a public hearing shall be held as follows:

> Prior to adopting a plan, the agricultural water supplier shall make the proposed plan available for public inspection, and shall hold a public hearing on the plan. Prior to the hearing, notice of the time and place of hearing shall be published within the jurisdiction of the publicly owned agricultural water supplier pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government Code. A privately owned agricultural water supplier shall provide an equivalent notice within its service area and shall provide a reasonably equivalent opportunity that would otherwise be afforded through a public hearing process for interested parties to provide input on the plan...[314]

Section 10842 provides that an agricultural water supplier shall implement its AWMP "in accordance with the schedule set forth in its plan."[315]

Following adoption of an AWMP, section 10843 requires an agricultural water supplier to submit a copy of its AWMP, no later than 30 days after adoption, to DWR and to the following affected or interested entities:

> (2) Any city, county, or city and county within which the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.
>
> (3) Any groundwater management entity within which jurisdiction the agricultural water supplier extracts or provides water supplies.
>
> (4) Any urban water supplier within which jurisdiction the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.
>
> (5) Any city or county library within which jurisdiction the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.
>
> (6) The California State Library.
>
> (7) Any local agency formation commission serving a county within which the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.[316]

Finally, newly added section 10844 requires an agricultural water supplier to make its water management plan available for public review via the internet, as follows:

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[313] Water Code section 10821 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[314] Water Code section 10841 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[315] Water Code section 10842 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[316] Water Code section 10843 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

(a) Not later than 30 days after the date of adopting its plan, the agricultural water supplier shall make the plan available for public review on the agricultural water supplier's Internet Web site.

(b) An agricultural water supplier that does not have an Internet Web site shall submit to [DWR], not later than 30 days after the date of adopting its plan, a copy of the adopted plan in an electronic format. [DWR] shall make the plan available for public review on [its] Internet Web site.[317]

The prior provisions of the Water Code pertaining to the adoption and implementation of AWMPs, as explained above, were inoperative by their own terms as of January 1, 1993.[318] Therefore, the requirements to hold a public hearing, to implement the plan in accordance with the schedule, to submit copies to DWR and other specified local entities, and to make the plan available by either posting the plan on the supplier's web site, or by sending an electronic copy to DWR for posting on its web site, are new activities with respect to prior law.

However, section 10828, as discussed above, provides that USBR or CVP contractors may satisfy the requirements of section 10826 by submitting their water conservation plans adopted within the previous four years pursuant to the Central Valley Improvement Act or the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982.[319] This section does not expressly exempt CVP or USBR contractors from all requirements of Part 2.8, but only from the content requirements of the plan itself, and the requirement to adopt according to the "schedule" set forth in section 10820, as discussed above. Accordingly, DWR's *Guidebook to Assist Agricultural Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2012 [AWMP]* provides:

> All agricultural water suppliers required to prepare new agricultural water management/conservation plans must prepare and complete their plan in accordance with Water Code Part 2.8, Article 1 and Article 3 requirements for notification, public participation, adoption, and submittal (refer to Section 3.1 for details). *The federal review process may incorporate many requirements specified in Part 2.8, Articles 1 and 3; as such the federal process may meet the requirements of Part 2.8, otherwise, the agricultural water supplier would have to complete those requirements in Part 2.8, Articles 1 and 3 that are not already a part of the federal review process.*[320]

Article 1 of Part 2.8 includes section 10821, which requires an agricultural water supplier to notify the city or county that it will be preparing an AWMP. Therefore, to the extent that the "federal process" of adopting a water conservation plan for USBR or CVP also requires notice to the city or county, this activity is not newly required. Article 3 of Part 2.8 includes sections 10840-10845, pertaining to the adoption and implementation of AWMPs. Those requirements include, as discussed above, noticing and holding a public hearing; implementing the plan in

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[317] Water Code section 10844 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[318] See former Water Code sections 10840-10845; 10855 (Stats. 1986, ch. 954).

[319] Water Code section 10828 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[320] Exhibit X, *Guidebook to Assist Agricultural Water Suppliers to Prepare a 2012 Agricultural Water Management Plan*, page 94 [emphasis added].

accordance with the schedule set forth in the plan; submitting a copy of the AWMP to specified state and local entities within 30 days after adoption; and making the AWMP available on the supplier's website, or submitting the AWMP for posting on DWR's website. To the extent that the "federal process" satisfies those requirements, they are not newly required by the test claim statutes.

In addition, as noted above, section 10829 provides that an agricultural water supplier may satisfy the requirements "of this part" by adopting an UWMP pursuant to Part 2.6 or by participating in areawide, regional, watershed, or basinwide water management planning, so long as those plans meet or exceed the requirements of this part.[321] That exception would include all of the notice and hearing requirements identified below.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that Water Code sections 10821, 10841, 10842, 10843, and 10844 impose new requirements on agricultural water suppliers, except those that adopt an UWMP or participate in areawide, regional, watershed, or basinwide water management planning, and except to the extent that suppliers that are USBR or CVP contractors have water conservation plans that satisfy the AWMP adoption requirements, as follows:

- Notify the city or county within which the agricultural supplier provides water supplies that it will be preparing the AWMP or reviewing the AWMP and considering amendments or changes.[322]
- Prior to adopting a plan, the agricultural water supplier shall make the proposed plan available for public inspection, and shall hold a public hearing on the plan.[323]
- Prior to the hearing, notice of the time and place of hearing shall be published in a newspaper within the jurisdiction of the publicly owned agricultural water supplier once a week for two successive weeks, as specified in Government Code 6066.[324]
- Implement the AWMP in accordance with the schedule set forth in the AWMP.[325]
- An agricultural water supplier shall submit to the following entities a copy of its plan no later than 30 days after the adoption of the plan. Copies of amendments or changes to the plans shall be submitted to the entities identified within 30 days after the adoption of the amendments or changes.
    - DWR.
    - Any city, county, or city and county within which the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.
    - Any groundwater management entity within which jurisdiction the agricultural water supplier extracts or provides water supplies.

[321] Water Code section 10829 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[322] Water Code section 10821(Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[323] Water Code section 10841 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[324] Water Code section 10841 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[325] Water Code section 10842 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

- Any urban water supplier within which jurisdiction the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.
- Any city or county library within which jurisdiction the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.
- The California State Library.
- Any local agency formation commission serving a county within which the agricultural water supplier provides water supplies.[326]

- An agricultural water supplier shall make its agricultural water management plan available for public review on its web site not later than 30 days after adopting the plan, or for an agricultural water supplier that does not have a web site, submit an electronic copy to the Department of Water Resources not later than 30 days after adoption, and the Department shall make the plan available for public review on its web site.[327]

5. Agricultural Water Measurement Regulations, California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Division 6, sections 597 through 597.4, Register 2012, Number 28.

California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597 provides that under authority included in Water Code section 10608.48(i), DWR is required to adopt regulations that provide for a range of options that agricultural water suppliers may use or implement to comply with the measurement requirements of section 10609.48(b).[328] The plain language of this section does not impose any new activities or requirements on local government.

Section 597.1 provides that an agricultural water supplier providing water to less than 10,000 irrigated acres, excluding acres that receive only recycled water, is not subject to this article, and a supplier providing water to 10,000 or more irrigated acres but less than 25,000 irrigated acres, excluding acres that receive only recycled water, is not subject to this article unless sufficient funding is provided pursuant to Water Code section 10853. A supplier providing water to 25,000 irrigated acres or more, excluding acres that receive only recycled water, is subject to this article. A supplier providing water to wildlife refuges or habitat lands, as specified, is subject to this article. A *wholesale* agricultural water supplier is subject to this article at the location at which control of the water is transferred to the receiving water supplier, but the wholesale supplier is not required to measure the ultimate deliveries to customers. A canal authority or other entity that conveys water through facilities owned by a federal agency is not subject to this article. An agricultural water supplier that is a party to the QSA, as defined in Statutes 2002, chapter 617, section 1, is not subject to this article. And finally, DWR is not subject to this article.[329] None of the above-described provisions of section 597.1 impose any new requirements or activities on local government.

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[326] Water Code section 10843 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[327] Water Code section 10844 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[328] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597 (Register 2012, No. 28).

[329] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.1 (Register 2012, No. 28).

Section 597.2 provides definitions of "accuracy," "agricultural water supplier," "approved by an engineer," "best professional practices," "customer," "delivery point," "existing measurement device," "farm-gate," "irrigated acres," "manufactured device," "measurement device," "new or replacement measurement device," "recycled water," and "type of device."[330] Based on the plain language of 597.2, the definitions provided in section 597.2 do not impose any new requirements or activities on local government.

Section 597.3 requires an agricultural water supplier to measure surface water and groundwater that it delivers to its customers and provides a range of options to comply with section 10608.48(i), as follows:

> An agricultural water supplier subject to this article shall measure surface water and groundwater that it delivers to its customers pursuant to the accuracy standards in this section. The supplier may choose any applicable single measurement option or combination of options listed in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section. Measurement device accuracy and operation shall be certified, tested, inspected and/or analyzed as described in §597.4 of this article.
>
> **(a) Measurement Options at the Delivery Point or Farm-gate of a Single Customer**
>
> An agricultural water supplier shall measure water delivered at the delivery point or farm-gate of a single customer using one of the following measurement options. The stated numerical accuracy for each measurement option is for the volume delivered. If a device measures a value other than volume, for example, flow rate, velocity or water elevation, the accuracy certification must incorporate the measurements or calculations required to convert the measured value to volume as described in §597.4(e).
>
> (1) An existing measurement device shall be certified to be accurate to within +12% by volume,
>
> and,
>
> (2) A new or replacement measurement device shall be certified to be accurate to within:
>
> (A) ±5% by volume in the laboratory if using a laboratory certification;
>
> (B) ±10% by volume in the field if using a non-laboratory certification.
>
> **(b) Measurement Options at a Location Upstream of the Delivery Points or Farm-gates of Multiple Customers**
>
> (1) An agricultural water supplier may measure water delivered at a location upstream of the delivery points or farm-gates of multiple customers using one of the measurement options described in §597.3(a) if the downstream individual customer's delivery points meet either of the following conditions:

[330] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.2 (Register 2012, No. 28).

(A) The agricultural water supplier does not have legal access to the delivery points of individual customers or group of customers needed to install, measure, maintain, operate, and monitor a measurement device.

(B) An engineer determines that, due to small differentials in water level or large fluctuations in flow rate or velocity that occur during the delivery season at a single farm-gate, accuracy standards of measurement options in §597.3(a) cannot be met by installing a measurement device or devices (manufactured or on-site built or in-house built devices with or without additional components such as gauging rod, water level control structure at the farm-gate, etc.). If conditions change such that the accuracy standards of measurement options in §597.3(a) at the farm-gate can be met, an agricultural water supplier shall include in its Agricultural Water Management Plan, a schedule, budget and finance plan to demonstrate progress to measure water at the farm-gate in compliance with §597.3(a) of this article.

(2) An agricultural water supplier choosing an option under paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall provide the following current documentation in its Agricultural Water Management Plan(s) submitted pursuant to Water Code §10826:

(A) When applicable, to demonstrate lack of legal access at delivery points of individual customers or group of customers downstream of the point of measurement, the agricultural water supplier's legal counsel shall certify to the Department that it does not have legal access to measure water at customers delivery points and that it has sought and been denied access from its customers to measure water at those points.

(B) When applicable, the agricultural water supplier shall document the water measurement device unavailability and that the water level or flow conditions described in §597.3(b)(1)(B) exist at individual customer's delivery points downstream of the point of measurement as approved by an engineer.

(C) The agricultural water supplier shall document all of the following criteria about the methodology it uses to apportion the volume of water delivered to the individual downstream customers:

(i) How it accounts for differences in water use among the individual customers based on but not limited to the duration of water delivery to the individual customers, annual customer water use patterns, irrigated acreage, crops planted, and on-farm irrigation system, and;

(ii) That it is sufficient for establishing a pricing structure based at least in part on the volume delivered, and;

(iii) That it was approved by the agricultural water supplier's governing board or body.[331]

Thus, one option under these regulations, in order to measure the volume of water delivered, as required by section 10608.48, is measurement "at the delivery point or farm-gate of a single customer" using an existing measurement device certified to be accurate to within 12 percent by volume, or a new measurement device certified to be accurate within 5 percent if certified in a laboratory or within 10 percent if certified in the field. Another option is to measure upstream of a delivery point or farm gate if the supplier does not have legal access to the delivery point for an individual customer, or if the standards of measurement cannot be met due to large fluctuations in flow rate or velocity during the delivery season. If this option is chosen, appropriate documentation explaining the option must be provided, as described above.

The claimants allege that section 597.3 requires agricultural water suppliers to measure at a delivery point or farm gate "by either (1) using an existing measurement device, certified to be accurate within ±12% by volume or (2) a new or replacement measurement device, certified to be accurate within ±5% by volume in the laboratory if using a laboratory certification or ±10% by volume in the field if using a non-laboratory certification." In addition, the claimants allege that the regulations provide for "limited exceptions" if the supplier is unable to measure at the farm-gate, which allow, in certain circumstances, for upstream measurement.[332] The claimants assert that prior to these regulations, "there was no requirement to measure water delivered to the farm-gate of *each* single customer, with limited exception."[333]

DWR argues that these regulations merely provide options, and are not therefore a mandate. Specifically, DWR asserts that "[n]o local government is required to comply with those regulations." DWR asserts that "the regulations exist as a resource for agricultural water suppliers who wish to comply with certain requirements…described in the 2009 Water Law." DWR concludes that "[the regulations] are optional, and the suppliers are free to comply with the law in other ways."[334]

Section 10608.48(i) provides that DWR "shall adopt regulations that provide for a range of options that agricultural water suppliers may use or implement" to comply with the measurement requirements of subdivision (b).[335] The phrase "may use or implement" suggests that the regulations provide a choice for agricultural water suppliers, rather than a mandate.

However, Section 10608.48(b) states that agricultural water suppliers "shall implement all of the following critical efficient management practices…(1) Measure the volume of water delivered to customers with sufficient accuracy to comply with subdivision (a) of Section 531.10 and to [adopt a pricing structure based in part on quantity of water delivered]."[336] Moreover, the plain language of section 597.3 of the regulations, as cited above, states that an agricultural water

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[331] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.3 (Register 2012, No. 28).

[332] Exhibit B, 12-TC-01, page 4.

[333] Exhibit B, 12-TC-01, page 6.

[334] Exhibit D, DWR Comments, page 11.

[335] Water Code section 10608.48 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess., ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[336] *Ibid.*

supplier "shall measure surface water and groundwater that it delivers to customers pursuant to the accuracy standards in this section." The language states that the supplier "may choose any applicable single measurement option or combination of options listed in paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section."[337] There is no express provision for choosing a measurement option or combination of options not listed in section 597.3. Although an agricultural water supplier may pick which one of the regulatory options to comply with, it "shall" pick one of them based on the plain language of section 597.3. As a result, most agricultural water suppliers are required to implement one of the measurement options provided by 597.3. As discussed above though, there are several water suppliers exempt from this requirement, including parties to the QSA, suppliers providing water to less than 10,000 irrigated acres, excluding acres that receive only recycled water, and suppliers providing water to more than 10,000 irrigated acres but less than 25,000 irrigated acres, excluding acres that receive only recycled water, unless sufficient funding is provided pursuant to Water Code section 10853. Thus, section 597.3 requires the following for those agencies which are not exempt:

- Measure water delivered at the delivery point or farm-gate of a single customer using one of the following options.
    - An existing measurement device certified to be accurate to within ±12% by volume.
    - A new or replacement measurement device certified to be accurate to within:
        - ±5% by volume in the laboratory if using a laboratory certification;
        - ±10% by volume in the field if using a non-laboratory certification.

      If a device measures a value other than volume (e.g., flow rate, velocity or water elevation) the accuracy certification must incorporate the measurements or calculations required to convert the measured value to volume.[338]
- Measure water delivered at a location upstream of the delivery points or farm-gates of multiple customers if:
    - The supplier does not have legal access to the delivery points of individual customers or group of customers needed to install, measure, maintain, operate, and monitor a measurement device; or
    - An engineer determines that, due to small differentials in water level or large fluctuations in flow rate or velocity that occur during the delivery season, accuracy standards of measurement cannot be met by installing a measurement device or devices.[339]
- And, when a supplier chooses to measure water delivered at an upstream location:

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[337] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.3 (Register 2012, No. 28).

[338] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.3(a) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[339] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.3(b) (Register 2012, No. 28).

- Provide, where applicable, documentation to demonstrate the lack of legal access at delivery points of individual or groups of customers downstream of the point of measurement; or documentation of the water measurement device unavailability and that water level or flow conditions exist that prohibit meeting accuracy standards, as approved by an engineer.
- Document the following about its apportionment of water delivered to individual customers:
  - How the supplier accounts for differences in water use among individual customers based on the duration of water delivery to the individual customers, annual customer water use patterns, irrigated acreage, crops planted, and on-farm irrigation system;
  - That it is sufficient for establishing a pricing structure based at least in part on the volume of water delivered; and
  - That it was approved by the agricultural water supplier's governing board or body.[340]

Section 597.4, also alleged in this consolidated test claim, requires that measurement devices be certified and documented as follows:

(a) Initial Certification of Device Accuracy

The accuracy of an existing, new or replacement measurement device or type of device, as required in §597.3, shall be initially certified and documented as follows:

(1) For existing measurement devices, the device accuracy required in section 597.3(a) shall be initially certified and documented by either:

(A) Field-testing that is completed on a random and statistically representative sample of the existing measurement devices as described in §597.4(b)(1) and §597.4(b)(2). Field-testing shall be performed by individuals trained in the use of field-testing equipment, and documented in a report approved by an engineer.

Or,

(B) Field-inspections and analysis completed for every existing measurement device as described in §597.4(b)(3). Field-inspections and analysis shall be performed by trained individuals in the use of field inspection and analysis, and documented in a report approved by an engineer.

(2) For new or replacement measurement devices, the device accuracy required in sections 597.3 (a)(2) shall be initially certified and documented by either:

[340] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.3(b) (Register 2012, No. 28).

(A) Laboratory Certification prior to installation of a measurement device as documented by the manufacturer or an entity, institution or individual that tested the device following industry-established protocols such as the National Institute for Standards and Testing (NIST) traceability standards. Documentation shall include the manufacturer's literature or the results of laboratory testing of an individual device or type of device.

Or,

(B) Non-Laboratory Certification after the installation of a measurement device in the field, as documented by either:

(i) An affidavit approved by an engineer submitted to the agricultural water supplier of either (1) the design and installation of an individual device at a specified location, or (2) the standardized design and installation for a group of measurement devices for each type of device installed at specified locations.

Or,

(ii) A report submitted to the agricultural water supplier and approved by an engineer documenting the field-testing performed on the installed measurement device or type of device, by individuals trained in the use of field testing equipment.

(b) Protocols for Field-Testing and Field-Inspection and Analysis of Existing Devices

(1) Field-testing shall be performed for a sample of existing measurement devices according to manufacturer's recommendations or design specifications and following best professional practices. It is recommended that the sample size be no less than 10% of existing devices, with a minimum of 5, and not to exceed 100 individual devices for any particular device type. Alternatively, the supplier may develop its own sampling plan using an accepted statistical methodology.

(2) If during the field-testing of existing measurement devices, more than one quarter of the samples for any particular device type do not meet the criteria pursuant to §597.3(a), the agricultural water supplier shall provide in its Agricultural Water Management Plan, a plan to test an additional 10% of its existing devices, with a minimum of 5, but not to exceed an additional 100 individual devices for the particular device type. This second round of field-testing and corrective actions shall be completed within three years of the initial field-testing.

(3) Field-inspections and analysis protocols shall be performed and the results shall be approved by an engineer for every existing measurement device to demonstrate that the design and installation standards used for the installation of existing measurement devices meet the accuracy standards

of §597.3(a) and operation and maintenance protocols meet best professional practices.

(c) Records Retention

Records documenting compliance with the requirements in §597.3 and §597.4 shall be maintained by the agricultural water supplier for ten years or two Agricultural Water Management Plan cycles.

(d) Performance Requirements

(1) All measurement devices shall be correctly installed, maintained, operated, inspected, and monitored as described by the manufacturer, the laboratory or the registered Professional Engineer that has signed and stamped certification of the device, and pursuant to best professional practices.

(2) If an installed measurement device no longer meets the accuracy requirements of §597.3(a) based on either field-testing or field-inspections and analysis as defined in sections 597.4 (a) and (b) for either the initial accuracy certification or during operations and maintenance, then the agricultural water supplier shall take appropriate corrective action, including but not limited to, repair or replacement to achieve the requirements of this article.

(e) Reporting in Agricultural Water Management Plans

Agricultural water suppliers shall report the following information in their Agricultural Water Management Plan(s):

(1) Documentation as required to demonstrate compliance with §597.3 (b), as outlined in section §597.3(b)(2), and §597.4(b)(2).

(2) A description of best professional practices about, but not limited to, the (1) collection of water measurement data, (2) frequency of measurements, (3) method for determining irrigated acres, and (4) quality control and quality assurance procedures.

(3) If a water measurement device measures flow rate, velocity or water elevation, and does not report the total volume of water delivered, the agricultural water supplier must document in its Agricultural Water Management Plan how it converted the measured value to volume. The protocols must follow best professional practices and include the following methods for determining volumetric deliveries:

(A) For devices that measure flow-rate, documentation shall describe protocols used to measure the duration of water delivery where volume is derived by the following formula: Volume = flow rate x duration of delivery.

(B) For devices that measure velocity only, the documentation shall describe protocols associated with the measurement of the cross-sectional area of flow and duration of water delivery, where volume is

derived by the following formula: Volume = velocity x cross-section flow area x duration of delivery.

(C) For devices that measure water elevation at the device (e.g. flow over a weir or differential elevation on either side of a device), the documentation shall describe protocols associated with the measurement of elevation that was used to derive flow rate at the device. The documentation will also describe the method or formula used to derive volume from the measured elevation value(s).

(4) If an existing water measurement device is determined to be out of compliance with §597.3, and the agricultural water supplier is unable to bring it into compliance before submitting its Agricultural Water Management Plan in December 2012, the agricultural water supplier shall provide in its 2012 plan, a schedule, budget and finance plan for taking corrective action in three years or less.

Thus, the plain language of section 597.4 requires agricultural water suppliers to certify and document the initial accuracy of "existing, new or replacement measurement device[s]," as specified.[341] In addition, section 597.4 provides that field-testing "shall be performed" following "best professional practices," and either sampling "no less than 10% of existing devices," as recommended by the department, or developing a "sampling plan using an accepted statistical methodology." Then, if field testing results in more than a quarter of any particular devices failing the accuracy criteria described in section 597.3(a), above, the supplier "shall provide in its Agricultural Water Management Plan, a plan to test an additional 10% of its existing devices..."[342] In addition, section 597.4 provides that records documenting compliance "shall be maintained...for ten years or two Agricultural Water Management Plan cycles."[343] Section 597.4 further provides that "all measurement devices shall be correctly installed, maintained, operated, inspected, and monitored," and if a device no longer meets the accuracy requirements of section 597.3, the supplier "shall take appropriate corrective action," including repair or replacement, if necessary.[344] And finally, section 597.4 requires agricultural water suppliers to report additional information regarding their compliance and "best professional practices" for water measurement in their agricultural water measurement plan.[345]

As noted above, some agricultural water suppliers may have been required pursuant to section 531.10 to measure farm-gate water deliveries.[346] To the extent that those measurement programs or practices satisfy the requirements of these regulations, the regulations do not impose new activities.[347] In addition, for any agricultural water supplier that is also an urban water supplier,

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[341] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(a) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[342] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(b) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[343] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(c) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[344] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(d) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[345] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(e) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[346] Water Code section 531.10 (Stats. 2007, ch. 675 (AB 1404)).

[347] See discussion above addressing section 10608.48(a-c).

existing sections 525 through 527 required those entities to install water meters on new and existing service connections, as specified.[348] To the extent that any such water meter on an agricultural service connection satisfies the measurement requirements of these regulations, the regulations do not impose any new activities or requirements.

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that section 597.4 imposes new requirements on agricultural water suppliers not exempt from the water measurement requirements, and not already required by existing law to take part in the programs or practices of water measurement, discussed above, that would satisfy the accuracy standards of these regulations, as follows:

- Certify the initial accuracy of existing measurement devices by either:
    - Field-testing that is completed on a random and statistically representative sample of the existing measurement devices, performed by individuals trained in the use of field-testing equipment, and documented in a report approved by an engineer; or
    - Field inspections and analysis for every existing measurement device, performed by individuals trained in the use of field inspection and analysis, and documented in a report approved by an engineer.[349]
- Certify the initial accuracy of new or replacement measurement devices by either:
    - Laboratory certification prior to installation of the device as documented by the manufacturer or an entity, institution, or individual that tested the device following industry-established protocols such as the National Institute of Standards and Testing traceability standards. Documentation shall include the manufacturer's literature or the results of laboratory testing of an individual device or type of device; or
    - Non-laboratory certification after installation of a measurement device in the field, documented by either:
        - An affidavit approved by an engineer submitted to the agricultural water supplier of either (1) the design and installation of an individual device at a specified location, or (2) the standardized design and installation for a group of measurement devises for each type of device installed at specified locations; or
        - A report submitted to the agricultural water supplier and approved by an engineer documenting the field-testing performed on the installed measurement device or type of device, by individuals trained in the use of field testing equipment.[350]
- Ensure that field-testing is performed as follows:

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[348] Section 525 as amended by statutes 2005, chapter 22; Section 527 as amended by statutes 2005, chapter 22; Section 526 as amended by Statutes 2004, chapter 884.

[349] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(a)(1) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[350] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(a)(2) (Register 2012, No. 28).

- Field-testing shall be performed for a sample of existing measurement devices according to the manufacturer's recommendations or design specifications and following best professional practices.
- If more than one quarter of the samples for any particular device type do not meet the accuracy criteria specified in section 597.3(a), the supplier shall provide in its Agricultural Water Management Plan a plan to test an additional 10% of its existing devices, with a minimum of 5, but not to exceed 100 additional devices for the particular device type, and shall complete the second round of field-testing and corrective actions within three years of the initial field-testing.
- Field inspections and analysis protocols shall be performed and the results shall be approved by an engineer for every existing measurement device to demonstrate that the design and installation standards used for the installation of existing measurement devices meet the accuracy standards specified in section 597.3(a) and that operation and maintenance protocols meet best professional practices.[351]

- Maintain records documenting compliance with the requirements of sections 597.3 and 597.4 for ten years or two Agricultural Water Management Plan cycles.[352]
- Ensure that all measurement devices are correctly installed, maintained, operated, inspected, and monitored as described by the manufacturer, the laboratory or the registered Professional Engineer that has signed and stamped certification of the device, and pursuant to best professional practices.[353]
- If an installed measurement device no longer meets the accuracy requirements of section 597.3(a) based on either field-testing or field-inspections and analysis for either the initial accuracy certification or during operations and maintenance, take appropriate corrective action, including but not limited to, repair or replacement of the device.[354]
- Report the information listed below in its Agricultural Water Management Plan(s). :
  - Documentation, as required, to demonstrate that an agricultural water supplier that chooses to measure upstream of a delivery point or farm-gate for a customer or group of customers has complied justified the reason to do so, and has taken appropriate steps to ensure that measurements can be allocated to the customer or group of customers sufficiently to support a pricing structure based at least in part on quantity of water delivered.

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[351] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(b) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[352] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(c) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[353] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(d)(1) (Register 2012, No. 28).

[354] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(d)(2) (Register 2012, No. 28).

- A description of best professional practices about, but not limited to, the (1) collection of water measurement data, (2) frequency of measurements, (3) method for determining irrigated acres, and (4) quality control and quality assurance procedures.
- If a water measurement device measures flow rate, velocity or water elevation, and does not report the total volume of water delivered, the agricultural water supplier must document in its Agricultural Water Management Plan how it converted the measured value to volume. The protocols must follow best professional practices and include the following methods for determining volumetric deliveries:
    - For devices that measure flow-rate, documentation shall describe protocols used to measure the duration of water delivery where volume is derived by the following formula: Volume = flow rate x duration of delivery.
    - For devices that measure velocity only, the documentation shall describe protocols associated with the measurement of the cross-sectional area of flow and duration of water delivery, where volume is derived by the following formula: Volume = velocity x cross-section flow area x duration of delivery.
    - For devices that measure water elevation at the device (e.g. flow over a weir or differential elevation on either side of a device), the documentation shall describe protocols associated with the measurement of elevation that was used to derive flow rate at the device. The documentation will also describe the method or formula used to derive volume from the measured elevation value(s).
- If an existing water measurement device is determined to be out of compliance with §597.3, and the agricultural water supplier is unable to bring it into compliance before submitting its Agricultural Water Management Plan in December 2012, the agricultural water supplier shall provide in its 2012 plan, a schedule, budget and finance plan for taking corrective action in three years or less.[355]

D. The Test Claim Statutes and Regulations do not Result in Increased Costs Mandated by the State, Because the Claimants Possess Fee Authority Sufficient as a Matter of Law to Cover the Costs of any New Mandated Activities.

As the preceding analysis indicates, many of the requirements of the test claim statutes are not new, at least with respect to *some* urban or agricultural water suppliers, because suppliers were previously required to perform substantially the same activities under prior law. Additionally, many of the alleged test claim statutes do not impose any requirements at all, based on the plain language. However, even if the new requirements identified above could be argued to mandate a new program or higher level of service, the Commission finds that the costs incurred to comply

[355] Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597.4(e) (Register 2012, No. 28).

with those requirements are not costs mandated by the state, within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 and Government Code section 17514, because all affected entities have fee authority, sufficient as a matter of law to cover the costs of any mandated activities.

Government Code section 17556(d) provides that the Commission shall not find costs mandated by the state, as defined in section 17514, if the local government claimant "has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service." The California Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), in *County of Fresno v. State of California.*[356] The Court, in holding that the term "costs" in article XIII B, section 6 excludes expenses recoverable from sources other than taxes, stated:

> Section 6 was included in article XIII B in recognition that article XIII A of the Constitution severely restricted the taxing powers of local governments. (See *County of Los Angeles I, supra,* 43 Cal.3d at p. 61.) The provision was intended to preclude the state from shifting financial responsibility for carrying out governmental functions onto local entities that were ill equipped to handle the task. (*Ibid.*; see *Lucia Mar Unified School Dist. v. Honig* (1988) 44 Cal.3d 830, 836, fn. 6 [244 Cal.Rptr. 677, 750 P.2d 318].) Specifically, it was designed to protect the tax revenues of local governments from state mandates that would require expenditure of such revenues. Thus, although its language broadly declares that the "state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse ... local government for the costs [of a state-mandated new] program or higher level of service," read in its textual and historical context section 6 of article XIII B requires subvention only when the costs in question can be recovered *solely from tax revenues.*[357]

Accordingly, in *Connell v. Superior Court of Sacramento County,*[358] the Santa Margarita Water District, among others, was denied reimbursement based on its authority to impose fees on water users. The water districts submitted evidence that funding the mandated costs with fees was not practical: "rates necessary to cover the increased costs [of pollution control regulations] would render the reclaimed water unmarketable and would encourage users to switch to potable water."[359] The court concluded that "[t]he question is whether the Districts have authority, i.e., the right or power, to levy fees sufficient to cover the costs." Water Code section 35470 authorized the levy of fees to "correspond to the cost and value of the service," and "to defray the ordinary operation or maintenance expenses of the district and for any other lawful district purpose."[360] The court held that the Districts had not demonstrated "that anything in Water Code section 35470 limits the authority of the Districts to levy fees 'sufficient' to cover their costs,"

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[356] *County of Fresno v. State of California, supra,* 53 Cal.3d 482.

[357] *Id,* at p. 487 [emphasis added].

[358] (Cal. Ct. App. 3d Dist. 1997) 59 Cal.App.4th 382.

[359] *Id,* at p. 399.

[360] *Ibid.*

and that therefore "the economic evidence presented by SMWD to the Board [of Control] was irrelevant and injected improper factual questions into the inquiry."[361]

Likewise, in *Clovis Unified School District v. Chiang*, the court found that the SCO was not acting in excess of its authority in reducing reimbursement claims to the full extent of the districts' authority to impose fees, even if there existed practical impediments to collecting the fees. In making its decision the court noted that the concept underlying Government Code sections 17514 and 17556(d) is that "[t]o the extent a local agency or school district 'has the authority' to charge for the mandated program or increased level of service, that charge cannot be recovered as a state-mandated cost."[362] The court further noted that, "this basic principle flows from common sense as well." The court reasoned: "As the Controller succinctly puts it, 'Claimants can choose not to require these fees, but not at the state's expense.'"[363]

1. The claimants have statutory authority to levy fees or charges for the provision of water.

Both Finance and DWR asserted, in comments on the test claim, that the test claim statutes are not reimbursable pursuant to section 17556(d). Finance argued that the claimants are "statutorily authorized to charge a fee for the delivery of water," and thus "each of these water agencies has the ability to cover any potential initial and ongoing costs related to the Act and Regulations with fee revenue."[364] DWR asserted that "Senate Bill 1017, which amended the [Urban Water Management Act] in 1994," provides authority for an urban water supplier "to recover the costs of preparing its [urban water management plan] and implementing the reasonable water conservation measures included in the plan in its water rates."[365]

For the following reasons, the Commission finds that the claimants have statutory authority to establish and increase fees or assessments for the provision of water services.

Water Code section 35470 provides generally that "[a]ny [water] district formed on or after July 30, 1917, may, in lieu in whole or in part of raising money for district purposes by assessment, make water available to the holders of title to land or the occupants thereon, and may fix and collect charges therefor." Section 35470 further provides that "[t]he charges may vary in different months and in different localities of the district to correspond to the cost and value of the service, and the district *may use so much of the proceeds of the charges as may be necessary to defray the ordinary operation or maintenance expenses of the district and for any other lawful purpose.*"[366] In addition, section 50911 provides that an irrigation district may "[a]dopt a schedule of rates to be charged by the district for furnishing water for the irrigation of district lands."[367]

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[361] *Connell, supra*, (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th at p. 401.

[362] *Clovis Unified School Dist. v. Chiang* (2010) 188 Cal.App.4th 794, at p. 812.

[363] *Ibid.*

[364] Exhibit C, Finance Comments on Test Claim, page 1.

[365] Exhibit D, DWR Comments on Test Claim, pages 8-9 [citing Water Code section 10654].

[366] Water Code section 35470 (Stats. 2007, ch. 27 (SB 444)) [emphasis added].

[367] Water Code section 50911 (Stats. 2007, ch. 27 (SB 444)).

More specifically, and pertaining to the requirements of the test claim statutes, Water Code section 10654 permits an urban water supplier to "recover in its rates" for the costs incurred in preparing and implementing water conservation measures.[368] And, section 10608.48 expressly requires agricultural water suppliers to "[a]dopt a pricing structure for water customers based at least in part on quantity delivered."[369] This provision indicates that the Legislature intended user fees to be an essential component of the water conservation practices called for by the Act. And finally, Water Code section 10608.32, as added *within the test claim statute*, provides that all costs incurred pursuant to this part may be recoverable in rates subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Commission.[370]

Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds that both agricultural and urban water suppliers have statutory authority to impose or increase fees to cover the costs of new state-mandated activities.

2. Nothing in Proposition 218, case law, or any prior Commission Decision, alters the analysis of the claimants' statutory fee authority.

The claimants argue that both Finance and DWR cite *Connell v. Superior Court* and "ignore the most recent rulings on the subject of Proposition 218 where their exact arguments were considered and overruled by the Commission in *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09." The claimants argue that "under Proposition 218, Claimants' customers could reject the Board's action to establish or increase fees or assessments, yet Claimants would still be obligated to implement the mandates."[371] In comments on the draft proposed decision, the claimants reiterate, more urgently:

> The Commission should not accept its staff's invitation to ignore a prior Commission decision that is directly on point, and which was based on a plain reading of the California Constitution, all in order to reject the test claim here. To do so would undermine the Commission' s credibility, eviscerate the Commission's Constitutional duty to reimburse agencies for new state mandates, and have far-reaching negative effects.[372]

For the following reasons, the claimant's argument is unsound. In *Connell v. Superior Court, supra* the court held that "[t]he question is whether the Districts have authority, i.e., the right or power, to levy fees sufficient to cover the costs," and that the economic viability of the necessary rate increases "was irrelevant and injected improper factual questions into the inquiry."[373] *Connell* did not address the possible impact of Proposition 218 on the districts' fee authority, because the districts did not "contend that the services at issue...are among the 'many services'

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[368] Water Code section 10654 (Stats. 1994, ch. 609 (SB 1017)).

[369] Water Code section 10608.48 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[370] Water Code section 10608.32 (Stats. 2009-2010, 7th Ex. Sess. ch. 4 (SBX7 7)).

[371] Exhibit E, Claimant Rebuttal Comments, pages 11-12 [citing *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 107].

[372] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 14.

[373] *Connell, supra*, (1997) 59 Cal.App.4th at p. 401.

impacted by Proposition 218."[374] The claimants here argue that *Connell* is no longer good authority, because Proposition 218 has changed the landscape of special districts' legal authority to impose fees or charges.

Proposition 218, adopted by the voters in 1996, also known as the "Right to Vote on Taxes Act," declared its purpose to protect taxpayers "by limiting the methods by which local governments exact revenue from taxpayers without their consent." Proposition 218 added articles XIII C and XIII D to the Constitution;[375] article XIII C addresses assessments, while article XIII D addresses user fees and charges. The claimants allege that article XIII D, section 6, specifically, imposes a legal or constitutional hurdle to imposing or increasing fees, which undermines any analysis of statutory fee authority under Government Code section 17556(d).

The requirements of article XIII D, section 6 to which claimants refer provide as follows:

> Property Related Fees and Charges. (a) Procedures for New or Increased Fees and Charges. An agency shall follow the procedures pursuant to this section in imposing or increasing any fee or charge as defined pursuant to this article, including, but not limited to, the following:
>
> (1) The parcels upon which a fee or charge is proposed for imposition shall be identified. The amount of the fee or charge proposed to be imposed upon each parcel shall be calculated. The agency shall provide written notice by mail of the proposed fee or charge to the record owner of each identified parcel upon which the fee or charge is proposed for imposition, the amount of the fee or charge proposed to be imposed upon each, the basis upon which the amount of the proposed fee or charge was calculated, the reason for the fee or charge, together with the date, time, and location of a public hearing on the proposed fee or charge.
>
> (2) The agency shall conduct a public hearing upon the proposed fee or charge not less than 45 days after mailing the notice of the proposed fee or charge to the record owners of each identified parcel upon which the fee or charge is proposed for imposition. At the public hearing, the agency shall consider all protests against the proposed fee or charge. *If written protests against the proposed fee or charge are presented by a majority of owners of the identified parcels, the agency shall not impose the fee or charge.*
>
> [¶...¶]
>
> (c) Voter Approval for New or Increased Fees and Charges. *Except for fees or charges for sewer, water, and refuse collection services*, no property related fee or charge shall be imposed or increased unless and until that fee or charge is submitted and approved by a majority vote of the property owners of the property subject to the fee or charge or, at the option of the agency, by a two-thirds vote of the electorate residing in the affected area. The election shall be conducted not less than 45 days after the public hearing. An agency may adopt procedures

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[374] 59 Cal.App.4th at p. 403.

[375] Exhibit X, Text of Proposition 218.

similar to those for increases in assessments in the conduct of elections under this subdivision.[376]

The claimants have acknowledged that they have fee authority, absent the restrictions of articles XIII C and XIII D: "Claimants do not deny that, before the passage Proposition 218, the Water Code would have provided Claimants sufficient authority, pursuant to their governing bodies' discretion, to unilaterally establish or increase fees or charges for the provision of water services."[377] After Proposition 218, the claimants argue they are now "authorized to do no more than *propose* a fee increase that can be rejected" by majority protest.[378] Furthermore, the claimants maintain that the Commission's decision in *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff* recognized the limitations imposed by article XIII D, section 6, and the effect on local governments' fee authority: "[f]inding *Connell* inapposite, the Commission observed that 'The voting requirement of Proposition 218 does not impose a mere practical or economic hurdle, as in *Connell*, but a legal and constitutional one.'"[379]

However, claimants' reliance on the Commission's prior action is misplaced, and claimants' assertions about the effect of Proposition 218 on the law of *Connell* are overstated. Commission decisions are not precedential, and in any event the current test claim is distinguishable from the analysis in *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*. The Commission, in *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, deviated from the rule of *Connell*, and found that Proposition 218, as *applied to the claimants* and *the mandated activities in that test claim*, constituted a legal and constitutional barrier to increasing fees. The test claim was brought by the County of San Diego and a number of cities, and alleged various mandated activities and costs related to reducing stormwater pollution.[380] The Commission found that although the County and the Cities had a generalized fee authority based on regulatory and police powers,[381] "[w]ith some exceptions, local government fees or assessments that are incident to property ownership are subject to voter approval under article XIII D of the California Constitution, as added by Proposition 218 in 1996."[382] The Commission reasoned that "it is possible that the local agency's voters or property owners may never adopt the proposed fee or assessment, but the local agency would still be required to comply with the state mandate,"[383] and that "[a]bsent compliance with the Proposition 218 election and other procedures, there is no legal authority to impose or raise fees within the meaning of Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d)."[384] Thus, the

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[376] California Constitution, article XIII D, section 6 (added, November 5, 1996, by Proposition 218) [emphasis added].

[377] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 11.

[378] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 15.

[379] Exhibit E, Claimant Rebuttal Comments, page 12 [citing *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 107].

[380] Exhibit X, Statement of Decision, *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 1.

[381] Exhibit X, Statement of Decision, *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 103.

[382] Exhibit X, Statement of Decision, *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 105.

[383] Exhibit X, Statement of Decision, *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 106.

[384] Exhibit X, Statement of Decision, *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 107.

Commission concluded that "[t]he voting requirement of Proposition 218 does not impose a mere practical or economic hurdle, as in *Connell*, but a legal and constitutional one."[385]

Here, Proposition 218 does not impose a legal and constitutional hurdle, because fees for the provision of water services are expressly exempt from the voter approval requirements of Proposition 218.[386] The Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act, enacted specifically to construe Proposition 218, defines "water" as "any system of public improvements intended to provide for the production, storage, supply, treatment, or distribution of water."[387] Thus, an urban or agricultural water supplier that undertakes measures to ensure the conservation of water, to produce more water, and enhance the quality and reliability of its supply, is providing water service, within the meaning of the Omnibus Act. The statutory and regulatory metering and other conservation practices required of the claimants therefore describe "water service." Unlike the test claimants in *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff* (cities and counties), the services for which fees or charges would be increased are expressly exempt from the voter approval requirements in article XIII D, section 6(c), and the decision and reasoning of the Commission in *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff* is not relevant. Therefore, the Commission's earlier decision is distinguishable on the very same ground that renders *Connell* significantly poignant. The claimants cannot rely on the unwillingness of voters to raise fees, because the fees in question fall, based on the plain language of the Constitution, outside voter-approval requirement of article XIII D, section 6(c).

Claimants acknowledge that fees for water service "are excused from the formal election requirement under article XIII D section 6(c), [but] the majority protest provision in subdivision (a)(2) still applies and constitutes a legal barrier to Claimants' fee authority."[388] Claimants therefore argue that they "find themselves required to implement and pay for the newly mandated activities, yet are authorized to do no more than *propose* a fee increase that can be rejected by a simple majority of affected customers."[389]

However, the so-called "majority protest provision," which claimants allege constitutes a legal barrier to claimants' fee authority, presents either a mixed question of fact and law, which has not been demonstrated based on the evidence in the record, or a legal issue that is incumbent on the courts first to resolve. In order for the Commission to make findings that the claimants' fee authority has been diminished, or negated, pursuant to article XIII D, section 6(a), the claimants would have to provide evidence that they tried and failed to impose or increase the necessary fees,[390] or provide evidence that a court determined that Proposition 218 represents a

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[385] Exhibit X, Statement of Decision, *Discharge of Stormwater Runoff*, 07-TC-09, page 107 [citing *Connell v. Superior Court*, *supra*, 59 Cal.App.4th 382, at p. 401].

[386] See California Constitution, article XIII D, section 6(c).

[387] Government Code section 53750(m) (Stats. 2002, ch. 395).

[388] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 14.

[389] Exhibit R, Claimant Comments on Draft Proposed Decision, page 15.

[390] If a claimant were to provide evidence that it had tried and failed to impose or increase fees, that evidence could constitute costs "first incurred," within the meaning of Government Code section 17551, and a claimant otherwise barred from reimbursement under section 17556(d) could thus potentially demonstrate that it had incurred costs mandated by the state, as defined in

constitutional hurdle to fee authority as a matter of law. The Commission cannot now say, as a matter of law, that the claimants' fee authority is insufficient based on the speculative and uncertain threat of a "written protests against the proposed fee or charge [being] presented by a majority of owners of the identified parcels..."[391]

Based on the foregoing analysis, the Commission cannot find costs mandated by the state, within the meaning of Government Code section 17514, because the claimants have sufficient fee authority, as a matter of law, to establish or increase fees or charges to cover the costs of any new required activities.

V. Conclusion

Based on the foregoing analysis, the Commission finds that the Water Conservation Act of 2009, enacted as Statutes 2009-2010, 7th Extraordinary Session, chapter 4 (SBX7 7), and the Agricultural Water Measurement Regulations issued by the Department of Water Resources, found at Code of Regulations, title 23, section 597 et seq., do not impose a reimbursable state-mandated program on urban retail water suppliers or agricultural water suppliers within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution and Government Code section 17514. The Commission therefore denies this test claim.

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section 17514. The Commission does not make findings on this issue, but merely observes the potentiality.

[391] See article XIII D, section 6(a)(2).

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RE: **Decision**

Water Conservation, 10-TC-12 and 12-TC-01
Water Conservation Act of 2009 et al.
South Feather Water and Power Agency, Paradise Irrigation District,
Oakdale Irrigation District, and Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Claimants

On December 5, 2014, the foregoing decision of the Commission on State Mandates was adopted in the above-entitled matter.

Heather Halsey, Executive Director

Dated: December 12, 2014

Tab 21

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

SAN DIEGO REGION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2013

ITEM 9, VOLUME I

WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

BOARD MEETING ROOM

9174 SKY PARK COURT

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

but we won't be in violation tomorrow; and that would be a wonderful thing.

I want to applaud the staff and Mr. Gibson. I think they did a wonderful job of coming up with this Option 2. It came a little late in the game; but, boy, we are happy to have it on the table. We want to make sure that we understand, that everybody understands how much we appreciate this, and that we really do endorse Option 2. I do apologize if we didn't make it clear the last time how much we want this, but we really do want this.

CHAIRMAN MORALES: You made it clear, you thought.

MR. GIBSON: Mr. Chairman, if I can. Thank you, Mr. Brown. I sincerely appreciate your comments. I do want to offer, though, I think, one important clarification in disagreement with this statement.

Option 2 is only operative if the Board adopts that Water Quality Improvement Plan and makes those specific findings. And so, adoption of this tentative order today with or without that option, the receiving water limitations obligation is already in place. The receiving water quality objectives are already being exceeded. That condition of vulnerability exists today, even without this tentative order, and that condition

will most likely continue for some time. It is really a question of how do we address those pollutants of concern.

I do think we should hear additional testimony before we go on with this discussion much farther. I think that that will help round out our discussion. But I just wanted to offer that one quick clarification.

MR. BROWN: I agree, but I do think this: As you have heard from all of the people who have come up here and talked about this recently, this is a much better option, and we really endorse it.

MS. WITTE: Excuse me, Chairman. Can we take a short break so we can switch out reporters, please.

CHAIRMAN MORALES: Yes, we can.

(Whereupon, at 4:53 p.m., a recess was taken to change reporters.)

DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY EMAIL

I, the undersigned, declare as follows:

I am a resident of the County of Sacramento and I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action. My place of employment is 980 Ninth Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, California 95814.

On May 22, 2017, I served the:

- **Claimants' Rebuttal Comments filed May 19, 2017**

San Diego Region Order No. R9-2015-0100 and Order No. R9-2015-0001,
15-TC-02
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region,
Order No. R9-2015-0100, an Order Amending Order No. R9-2013-0001,
NPDES No. CAS0109266, as Amended by Order No. R9-2015-0001,
Adopted on November 18, 2015
County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District, and the Cities of
Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Lake Forest,
Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano,
Claimants

by making it available on the Commission's website and providing notice of how to locate it to the email addresses provided on the attached mailing list.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on May 22, 2017 at Sacramento, California.

Jill L. Magee
Commission on State Mandates
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COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

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Matter: San Diego Region Order No. R9-2015-0100 and Order No. R9-2015-0001

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City of Laguna Beach
City of Laguna Hills
City of Laguna Niguel
City of Lake Forest
City of Mission Viejo
City of Rancho Santa Margarita
City of San Clemente
City of San Juan Capistrano
County of Orange
Orange County Flood Control District

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