

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LOS ANGELES REGION**

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, California 90013
(213) 576-6600

Public Notice No. 14-032
NPDES No. CA0053176

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**PROPOSED REISSUANCE
OF
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
(National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit)**

DISCHARGER	DISCHARGE LOCATION	RECEIVING WATERS
Joint Outfall System (Whittier Narrows Water Reclamation Plant)	301 North Rosemead Boulevard El Monte, California	San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo

The Joint Outfall System (ownership and operation of the Joint Outfall System is proportionally shared among the signatory parties to the amended Joint Outfall Agreement effective July 1, 1995. These parties include County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, and 34, and South Bay Cities Sanitation District of Los Angeles County), formerly referred to as the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County and hereinafter Permittee, Discharger or Districts, is the owner and operator of the Whittier Narrows Water Reclamation Plant and its associated wastewater collection system and outfalls (hereinafter Facility), a Publicly-Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

The Facility discharges wastewater to the San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo, waters of the United States. The Permittee was previously regulated by Order No. R4-2009-0077 and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0053716 adopted on June 4, 2009, and expired on May 10, 2014. The terms and conditions of the current Order have been automatically continued and remain in effect until new Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES permit are adopted pursuant to this Order.

The Permittee submitted Report of Waste Discharge dated November 5, 2013, and applied for an NPDES permit renewal to discharge up to 15.0 mgd of tertiary-treated wastewater from the Facility. The application was deemed complete on December 3, 2013.

The treatment consists of primary sedimentation, activated sludge biological treatment with nitrification and denitrification, secondary sedimentation, inert media filtration, chlorination, and dechlorination. Treated wastewater discharged to San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo is dechlorinated but the effluent delivered for reuse is not dechlorinated.

JOS has constructed a biological nutrient removal system with nitrogen de-nitrification process (NDN) in order to achieve compliance with the ammonia Basin Plan objectives. The system was completed and has been in operation since September 2003. JOS has also installed an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system as a primary disinfection process. To further improve the disinfection process treatment scheme, and achieve an objective of no detectable virus in the plant effluent, the Permittee incorporated the UV disinfection system into a dual barrier disinfection system. The dual barrier approach is considered to result in optimum system

effectiveness and achieves a high level of disinfection of the recycled water for indirect potable use.

The Facility serves an estimated population of 107,000 people, and receives wastewater from the Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Bradbury, City of Industry, Duarte, El Monte, Glendale, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, Los Angeles, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Pasadena, and Temple City. The wastewater is a mixture of domestic and industrial wastewater that is pre-treated pursuant to 40 CFR part 403.

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, tentatively proposes to issue waste discharge requirements, including effluent limitations and special conditions.

PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

The Regional Water Board will hold a public hearing on the tentative WDRs during its regular Board meeting on the following date and time and at the following location:

Date: **November 6, 2014**
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board Room
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, California

Interested persons are invited to attend. At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will hear testimony, if any, pertinent to the discharge, WDRs, and permit. Oral testimony will be heard; however, for accuracy of the record, important testimony should be in writing.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. Our Web address is <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/> where you can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD), other documents relied upon, tentative effluent limitations and special provisions, comments received, and other information are on file are available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by appointment at the following address:

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of the documents may be made by calling the Regional Water Board at (213) 576-6600. Additionally, the agenda, the fact sheet, and the draft order will be available online at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/> under the "Tentative Permits" heading.

The entire file will become a part of the administrative record of this proceeding, irrespective of whether individual documents are specifically referenced during the hearing or contained in the

agenda packet. The entire file will not be present in the hearing room. In addition to the materials generated for this proceeding, the file includes the administrative records for the applicable Basin Plan amendments. Should any interested persons desire staff to bring to the hearing any particular documents that are not included in the agenda packet, they must submit a written or electronic request to staff during business hours, not later than five business days before the hearing. The request must identify the documents with enough specificity for staff to locate them.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on, or object to, the tentative waste discharge requirements, or submit evidence for the Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing to Raul Medina at the above address, or send them electronically to raul.medina@waterboards.ca.gov. To be evaluated and responded to by Regional Water Board staff, included in the Board's agenda folder, and fully considered by the Board, written comments or testimony regarding the tentative must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. on October 10, 2014**. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for the Regional Water Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or exhibit into evidence pursuant to section 648.4, title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

NATURE OF HEARING

This proceeding will be a formal adjudicatory proceeding. For such proceedings, the Regional Water Board follows procedures established by the State Water Resources Control Board. These procedures are set forth in regulations commencing with section 647 of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations, in particular, Article 2, commencing with section 648.

PARTIES TO THE HEARING

The following are the parties to this proceeding:

- Joint Outfall System/permittee

Any other persons requesting party status must submit a written or electronic request to staff not later than 20 business days before the hearing. All parties will be notified if other persons are so designated.

HEARING PROCEDURE

The Board meeting, of which this hearing is a part, will start at 9:00 a.m. Interested persons are invited to attend. When the agenda item is called, staff will present the matter under consideration, after which oral statements from parties or interested persons will be heard. For accuracy of the record, all important testimony should be in writing. The Board will include in the administrative record written transcriptions of oral testimony that is actually presented at the hearing. Oral testimony may be limited to five minutes or less for each interested person, depending on the number of interested persons wishing to be heard.

Parties or interested persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak and are encouraged to coordinate their presentations with each other. Parties will be advised after the receipt of public comments, but prior to the date of the hearing, of the amount of time each is allocated for presentations. That decision will be based upon the complexity and number of issues under consideration, the extent to which the parties have coordinated, the number of parties and interested persons anticipated, and the time available for

the hearing. The parties are invited to contact staff not later than **October 23, 2014**, (two weeks prior to the hearing) to discuss how much time they believe is necessary for their presentations, and staff will endeavor to accommodate reasonable requests. At the conclusion of testimony, the Board will deliberate in open or close session, and render a decision.

The Board does not generally require the prior identification of witnesses, the cross examination of witnesses, or other procedures not specified in this notice. Parties or persons with special procedural requests or requests for alternative hearing procedures should contact staff, who will endeavor to accommodate reasonable requests. Objections to any procedure to be used during this hearing must be submitted in writing no later than close of business 15 business days prior to the date of the hearing. (Any objections related to the amount of time allocated for parties' presentations must be submitted within two business days of notice thereof, if that date is less than 15 business days before the hearing.) Absent such objections, any procedure not specified in this hearing notice will be waived pursuant to section 648(d) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. Procedural objections will not be entertained at the hearing.

If there should not be a quorum on the scheduled date of this meeting, all cases will be automatically continued to the next scheduled meeting in **December 2014 or February 2015**. A continuance will not extend any time set forth herein.

STAFF CONTACTS

If you have any question regarding this proposed action, please contact Raul Medina at (213) 620-2160 or via email at raul.medina@waterboards.ca.gov or Cris Morris, Unit Chief of the Municipal Permitting (POTW) Unit at (213) 620-2083 or via email at cris.morris@waterboards.ca.gov.

Date: September 10, 2014