



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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May 2, 2012

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **FM-0**

Ms. L.B. Nye, Chief
Section 401 Water Quality Certification
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Dear Ms. Nye:

**MARCH 27, 2012, MEETING SUMMARY AND REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION
ADDITIONAL HYDRAULIC REQUIREMENTS
LOS ANGELES RIVER WATERSHED FEASIBILITY STUDY
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (FILE NUMBER 99-011 2010 RENEWAL)**

We appreciate your time meeting with our staff on March 27, 2012, to discuss and clarify our January 24, 2012, response comments to the Board's September 10, 2011, additional hydraulic conditions to our Los Angeles River Watershed's (LAR) Feasibility Study (FS) Work Plan.

This letter summarizes the results of the meeting and requests additional clarification on specific items. Please use the enclosed copy of our January 24, 2012, response to reference the original hydraulic conditions and our comments.

Attendees: Regional Water Quality Control Board (Board): Ms. L.B. Nye,
Ms. Valerie Carrillo, Mr. C.P. Lai
Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD): Mr. Steven Ross,
Ms. Jemellee Cruz, Mr. Iraj Nasser, and Mr. Martin Araiza
BonTerra Consulting: Mr. Brian Daniels

A. Additional Hydraulic Conditions on the LAR FS Work Plan

Condition 1: The Board requested that LACFCD conduct studies on all soft-bottom channels (SBC). Due to the prohibitive cost of these studies, LACFCD proposed approaching our management to offer a Pilot Study using one (1) specific SBC reach. The pilot study would include the development of a 100-year hydrograph using a few selected flow rates in terms of the percentage of peak flow; and a hydraulic analysis using the HEC-RAS model to provide flow depths corresponding to the selected flow

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rates from the 100-year hydrograph. LACFCD was to discuss the feasibility of this additional request with our management.

Our management has reservations about conducting such an exhaustive report without knowing what the nexus is to the Waste Discharge Requirements.

Please clarify as to why such a pilot study is needed, how it is related to flood protection within our SBC, and how it is related to the approval of our Waste Discharge Requirements permit.

Condition 2: The Board requested LACFCD to use a statement in the Technical Assessments/Recommendations as to the qualitative percentage effect of the sediment on vegetation. These statements or narratives can be based on available references and literature. *LACFCD will provide these statements.*

Condition 3: No additional clarification is needed.

Condition 4: No additional clarification is needed.

Condition 5: The pilot study needs to run hydraulic analysis using a few selected flow rates from the 100-year hydrograph for the proposed SBC reach. Flow depths and profiles corresponding to different flow rates will be provided.

Condition 6: No additional clarification is needed.

Condition 7: No additional clarification is needed.

B. FS SCHEDULE UPDATE

The LAR Watershed FS is delayed for one year. In order to comply with the WDR to complete all six (6) watersheds by 2016 and to avoid the need to send the WDR for Board Hearing approval, the following recommendations were proposed:

1. Effective March 27, 2012, LACFCD shall proceed immediately to prepare the LAR Watershed's required Technical Assessments and Recommendations. The studies will be based on LACFCD's originally submitted proposed FS Work Plan for LAR Watershed, dated July 1, 2010. Submittal of these reports will be accepted by the RWQCB once it has been completed.

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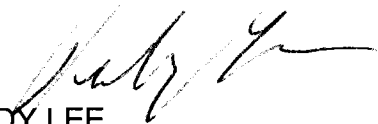
2. Additional discussions between the two agencies may be necessary to negotiate the requested Pilot Study. Depending on the outcome, the LACFCD shall propose a timeline to submit the requested Pilot Study. This timeline will be separate from the submittal date of the completed LAR Watershed FS.
3. LACFCD shall propose the order and names of the remaining five (5) watersheds for FS analysis for RWQCB's approval. This proposal is necessary to ensure compliance with the WDR's completion of all FS analyses for six (6) watersheds by 2016. The RWQCB will approve, in writing, this new FS schedule.

We look forward to receiving your clarification and confirming the aforementioned items.

If you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Jemellee Cruz at (626) 458-4170.

Very truly yours,

GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works



RUDY LEE
Assistant Deputy Director
Flood Maintenance Division

JQC:sg
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Enc.

cc: Regional Water Quality Control Board (Valerie Carrillo, C.P. Lai)
Watershed Management (Hildebrand)
Water Resources (Stone, Nasser)