



CITY OF FILLMORE
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April 7, 2009

Ms. Tracy Egoscue
Executive Officer
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
320 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON THE 4th DRAFT VENTURA COUNTY MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM PERMIT (NPDES No. CAS004002) FOR THE VENTURA COUNTY WATERSHED PROTECTION DISTRICT, COUNTY OF VENTURA AND THE INCORPORATED CITIES

Dear Ms. Egoscue:

With this permit the LA Board is making a major change in the storm water program by establishing Municipal Action Levels (MALs). We appreciate the changes in the 4th draft of the permit to change MALs from being "numeric limits" to making them "triggers" for action. However the precedence of using MALs is significant and we are concerned about their inclusion.

We are grateful for the RWQCB staff effort to meet with us and improve many parts of this permit. After two years of stalemate it was a relief to make some progress in these last few months.

Part 2 Municipal Action Levels:

Although the Tentative Order revises the use of MALs from being a determination of Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) to being an assessment tool, please be assured that the revised MALs will require us to address discharges that exceed the MALs through the implementation of an MAL Action Plan. The requirements and cost of the MAL Action Plan are unknown and may be quite significant. As far as we know, this Tentative Order is the first of its kind in the nation to establish numeric metrics for assessing the storm water flowing from an older existing community with no installed treatment devices.

Storm water pollution comes from public and private properties with about an equal pollutant load coming from each. Retrofitting private properties and public streets is very expensive and will take over 20 years to accomplish. Therefore we expect MAL Action Plans will include appropriate implementation schedules that reflect the maximum extent practicable.

There are other issues of concern to Fillmore but they have been addressed in prior comment letters and in the joint comment letter by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District on

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behalf of the Co-Permittees. We look forward to working with the RWQCB to implement the new requirements in this permit and further improve water quality in the Santa Clara River and Sespe Creek.

Very Truly Yours,

CITY OF FILLMORE

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patti Walker".

Patti Walker, Mayor

Cc: Ventura County Board of Supervisors
Mayors of Ventura County Cities
State Senators
State Assembly Members