



August 5, 2016

Ms. Emel G. Wadhvani
State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Chief Counsel
1001 I Street, 22nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100
emel.wadhvani@waterboards.ca.gov

Via Electronic Mail

Re: *SWRCB/OCC File No. A-2477—Request for Abeyance of Petition of Los Angeles Waterkeeper and the Natural Resources Defense Council for Review of Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board Executive Officer’s Approval of North Santa Monica Bay Enhanced Watershed Management Program Pursuant to Los Angeles County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit (Order R4-2012-0175; NPDES Permit No. CAS004001)*

Dear Ms. Wadhvani:

On behalf of Los Angeles Waterkeeper and the Natural Resources Defense Council (collectively, “Petitioners”), we are writing with regard to our petition filed May 19, 2016 on the approval of the North Santa Monica Bay Enhanced Watershed Management Program (Petition SWRCB/OCC File No. A-2477).

On July 19, 2015, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a Notice that it would consider at its September 8, 2016 meeting whether to review the merits of the petition. The Regional Board has also indicated that if it decides to review the petition on its merits, it will do so at a subsequent meeting following public notice.

On July 28, 2016, Petitioners received an e-mail from you asking if Petitioners would consider placing the petition submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in abeyance, so that the SWRCB would have the benefit of any review of the petition by the Regional Board before it makes its decision. Absent such a request for abeyance, the SWRCB faces an August 18, 2016 deadline pursuant to 23 Cal. Code Regs. Section 2050.5(e) to determine whether the petition is complete or deemed dismissed by operation of law.

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Petitioners agree that it would be beneficial for the SWRCB to have the benefit of the outcome of the Regional Board meeting on September 8th or at a subsequent meeting prior to making its own decision whether to review the merits of the petition. Therefore, Petitioners hereby request that the SWRCB place *SWRCB/OCC File No. A-2477* into abeyance, pursuant to 23 Cal. Code Regs. Section 2050.5(d), effective as of the date of this letter. Petitioners' request is for an indefinite period, but Petitioners reserve the right to remove *SWRCB/OCC File No. A-2477* from abeyance at their discretion. Petitioners will make any future decisions on the SWRCB abeyance based on the progress and outcome of any proceedings on the petition before the Regional Board.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Arthur S. Pugsley
Staff Attorney
Los Angeles Waterkeeper
(Counsel for Los Angeles Waterkeeper)



Becky Hayat
Staff Attorney
Natural Resources Defense Council

CC: Phil Wyels (phil.wyels@waterboards.ca.gov)
Jennifer Fordyce (jennifer.fordyce@waterboards.ca.gov)
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