

---

## Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

### Meeting Minutes In-person/Hybrid Meeting

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Office

Carmel Room  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

October 19, 2023

*Chair Camacho called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.*

She explained the process for participation in the virtual meeting and that the Board has Spanish interpretation services available through the Zoom platform. She announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Aldo Renteria, one of the Spanish interpreters, provided instructions on how to participate in the meeting in Spanish.

### ***Item 1 – Roll Call***

Board Members Present: Sabrina Ashjian (Remote), Norma Camacho, Marissa Christiansen, Michael Méndez (Remote) and David Nahai

**Note:** Sabrina Ashjian did not participate in Item 12. Marissa Christiansen recused herself from Item 11.

Staff Present: Susana Arredondo, Jenny Newman, Hugh Marley, Amber Bolanos, Stephanie Yu, Amelia Carder, Adriana Nuñez, Aurel Agarin, Khalid Abdullah, Alfredo Duran, LB Nye, Russ Colby, Jeong-Hee Lim, Susana Lagudis, Brian Anderson, Bronwyn Kelly, Veronica Cuevas, and Steven Webb

### ***Item 2 – Order of Agenda***

Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer asked that Item 12 be heard after Public Forum. There were no objections to the recommended change.

***Item 3 – Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for the September 28, 2023, Meeting.***

Board Member Ashjian requested a correction to the draft Minutes to replace “Senator Blanca Rubio” with “Assemblymember Blanca Rubio.”

MOTION: Board Member Ashjian made a motion to approve the September 28, 2023, draft meeting minutes with the corrected title.

Seconded by: Board Member Vice Chair Nahai  
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea  
Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen – Abstained  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea

***Item 4 – Approval of Tentative 2024 Los Angeles Water Board Meeting Schedule.***

MOTION: Vice Chair Nahai made a motion to approve the tentative 2024 Los Angeles Water Board meeting schedule.

Seconded by: Board Member Christiansen.  
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea  
Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen – Yea  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea

***Item 5 – Board Member Communications***

- a. Ex Parte Disclosure (Board Members will identify any discussions they may have had requiring disclosure pursuant to Government Code section 11430.40.)

*Chair Camacho asked Board members for any non-Santa Susana Field Lab (SSFL) ex parte communications.*

There were no non-SSFL communications reported by the Board members.

- b. Board Member Reports (The Board Members may discuss communications, correspondence, or other items of general interest relating to matters within the Board’s jurisdiction.)

**Board Member Méndez** reported on the following: On Tuesday, October 17, 2023, the National Academies of Sciences Engineering and Medicine released a new report on the decarbonization of the energy sector. He was one of the 23 co-authors on the report. The report includes discussion on water and land use and centers on issues of justice and equity in the decarbonization process.

### **Item 6 – Executive Officer’s Report**

Susana Arredondo, Executive Officer, provided updates of the following items:

- 1) Update on the former Waymire Drum Company site in the Florence-Firestone area of the unincorporated area south of downtown Los Angeles.
  - a. On October 4, 2023, the Regional Board staff met with staffers with the Office Representative Robert Garcia of the 42nd Congressional District of California. Regional Water Board staff briefed the representative’s office on the site history, ongoing assessment, cleanup activities, and on our attempts to secure funding and possible future regulatory activities.
  - b. On October 20, 2023, Regional Water Board staff will hold a meeting with representatives of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice and Juntos Florence-Firestone to provide updates on ongoing activities at the site.
- 2) Hispanic Servicing Institutions Virtual Career Expo. On October 12, 2023, the State Water Board Resource Control Board’s Talent Acquisition Unit invited Regional Water Board staff to the Hispanic Servicing Institution’s (HSI) Virtual Career Expo. The expo is a collaborative partnership between 14 of the leading HSI in the country with at least 51% Hispanic student population. The Regional Water Board offered a workshop that introduced students to agency programs and the opportunity to ask questions about the agency.

*Chair Camacho opened the floor for Board member questions.*

Board Member Méndez asked one question. The Executive Officer, Susana Arredondo responded to his question.

### **Item 7 – Update from State Water Board [Board Member Laurel Firestone]**

The State Water Board Liaison provided an update of the following items:

- 1) Update on the annual Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC). The WQCC meeting will be held on Monday and Tuesday, October 23 and 24, 2023 at headquarters.
- 2) Update on the one-year anniversary of the release of the Governor’s office water supply strategy.

- 3) On October 4, 2023, was the first public hearing on Making Conservation a Way of Life – Water Use Efficiency. Public comments will be open until October 17, 2023.
- 4) On September 28, 2023, an update on the public process for Bay-Delta Plan was released.
- 5) 5) On October 3, 2023, the State Water Board extended the Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program.

*Chair Camacho opened the floor for Board members' questions.*

There were no questions asked by the Board members.

*Chair Camacho introduced Item 8*

***Item 8 – Resolution of Recognition for Cindy Montañez (the Board will present a Resolution honoring Cindy Montañez's pioneering work in public service and environmental justice.***

Board Member Méndez read the resolution into the record. Vice Chair Nahai made comments. The representative for Cindy Montañez, Mr. Manny Gonez, Director of Policy Initiatives from the TreePeople organization made comments and accepted the resolution on Cindy Montañez's behalf.

***Item 8 – Public Forum***

**Speakers:**

- Ray Tahir, TECS Environmental
- Margot Griswold, Los Angeles Audubon Society
- Walter Lamb, Wetlands Land Trust

*Chair Camacho asked the Executive Officer, Susana Arredondo to respond to the upcoming SCCWRP meeting.*

The Assistant Executive Officer, Jenny Newman responded to the question from Chair Camacho.

**Break: 9:56 a.m. to 10:08 a.m.**

*Chair Camacho: Announced agenda Item 12*

***Item 12 – Consideration of Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit Renewal for The Boeing Company, Santa Susana Field Laboratory, Canoga Park, CA. This item is a continuation of Item 9 from Thursday, September 28, 2023, which was devoted to the staff presentation and public comment. This item will continue public comments, limited to those persons identified during the September 28, 2023, meeting who were unable to present their comments at that time, and includes staff and board discussion.***

*Chair Camacho made an opening statement for the continuation of the hearing. She first addressed a procedural matter. On October 17th, Boeing submitted a letter seeking to admit a large volume of documents into the administrative record for this proceeding. Chair Camacho declined to admit the letter or associated documents into the record, except to the extent that they were already in the record, because Boeing's letter was untimely. Chair Camacho ruled that admission of the letter and the associated documents into the record would prejudice the Board and the other Parties. Chair Camacho then explained the order of proceedings and asked the Board members if they had any questions about the proceedings.*

There were no questions from the Board members.

*Chair Camacho asked Board members if they had any new ex parte disclosures related to SSFL.*

**Chair Camacho** reported on one communication.

She read the PEER comments in The Guardian article and the Thousand Oaks Acorn article related to SSFL.

Vice Chair Nahai and Board Members Christiansen and Méndez reported they did not read the articles mentioned by Chair Camacho.

*Chair Camacho administered the oath and then began with the first presentation.*

**Staff Recap of the September Board meeting:** Bronwyn Kelly, Supervisor of the Industrial Permitting Unit

**Speakers: (Conclusion of Public Comment)**

- Lavonne Klea
- Michale Stenstrom, Civil Environmental Engineering Dept., UCLA

**Boeing Rebuttal Testimony,** Steve Shestag, Senior Director, Environmental Sustainability

*Chair Camacho opened the floor for Board members' questions and deliberations.*

Chair Camacho, Vice Chair Nahai, and Board Members Christiansen and Méndez asked questions, made comments, and proposed changes to the tentative renewal permit. Bronwyn Kelly, Mindy Mathias (DTSC), Jenny Newman, and Adriana Nuñez responded to comments and questions from the Board members. Vice Chair Nahai made a motion to add monitoring requirements and to restore certain effluent limitations. Board members Christiansen and Méndez made friendly amendments to Vice Chair Nahai's motion. Vice Chair Nahai accepted these amendments. The Board took a recess so that staff could

propose language consistent with the motion as amended.

**Lunch Break/Closed Session**

***Item 13 – Closed Session***

*Legal counsel, Adriana Nuñez, announced the Board was going into closed session to discuss Items g., i., and j. Legal counsel, Stephanie Yu, subsequently announced at approximately 12:36 p.m. that item r would be discussed during closed session.*

*(The Board adjourned to closed session at 11:38 a.m. and reconvened in open session at 1:33 p.m.)*

***Item 12 – (Cont.)***

Jenny Newman, Assistant Executive Officer read for the record proposed permit language to implement the changes to the NPDES permit requested by Vice Chair Nahai's motion.

*Chair Camacho opened the floor for comments on the proposed changes from Steve Shestag, representative for the Boeing Company. No comments were made by Steve Shestag*

*Chair Camacho opened the floor for additional comments on the proposed changes from the designated parties. Comments were made by Melissa Bumstead.*

MOTION: Vice Chair Nahai made a motion to approve the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit Renewal for The Boeing Company, Santa Susana Field Laboratory, Canoga Park, CA as proposed by staff and as modified by the change sheet.

Seconded by: Board Member Christiansen.  
Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Absent  
Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen – Yea  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea

*Chair Camacho announced item 10 and administered the oath.*

***Item 10 – Consideration of Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Reclamation Requirements for the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Hyperion Advanced Water Purification Facility, Playa del Rey, CA***

**Staff Presentation:** Steven Webb, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer for the Municipal Permitting unit

**Speakers:**

- Ava Faraday, Heal the Bay

*Chair Camacho opened the floor for Board members' questions.*

Vice Chair Nahai and Board member Christiansen asked questions and made comments. Christina Jones, Water Recycling Implementation Division, LA SAN, and Steven Webb responded to their comments and questions.

MOTION: Board Member Christiansen made a motion to approve the tentative Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Hyperion Advanced Water Purification Facility

Seconded by: Vice Chair Nahai

Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea  
Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen – Yea  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea

Board Member Christiansen made a statement and recused herself from Item 11.

*Chair Camacho: Announced agenda Item 11 and administered the oath.*

***Item 11 – Consideration of Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and NPDES Permit Renewal for the City of Burbank Public Works Department, Burbank Water Reclamation Plant, Burbank, CA***

**Staff Presentation:** Steven Webb, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer for the Municipal Permitting unit

**Speakers:**

- Steven Walker, City of Burbank
- Christ Minton, Larry Walker & Associates
- Annelisa Moe, Heal the Bay

*Chair Camacho opened the floor for Board members' comments and questions.*

Vice Chair Nahai and Chair Camacho made comments and asked questions. Steven Webb, Legal counsel, Stephanie Yu, Jenny Newman, Veronica Cuevas, and Dr. Andrew Mai responded to their comments and questions.

**Board Recess 3:37 p.m. to 3:42 p.m.**

Board recess for the Regional Water Board staff and the City of Burbank to craft language for the proposed requested permit changes for the permit renewal.

Jeong-Hee Lim, Section Manager, Watershed Regulatory Section read the proposed Board members recommended changes made to the permit renewal for the record.

MOTION: Vice Chair Nahai made a motion to approve the tentative Waste Discharge and NPDES Permit Renewal for the City of Burbank Public Works Department, Burbank Water Reclamation Plant with the changes read into the record.

Seconded by: Board Member Ashjian

Motion carried: Approved by roll call vote.

Sabrina Ashjian - Yea  
Norma Camacho – Yea  
Marissa Christiansen – Recused  
Michael Méndez – Yea  
David Nahai – Yea

*The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m. (For more detailed information on any matter at our meetings, you may contact Helen Rowe at (213) 576-6612 or email at: [Helen.Rowe@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Helen.Rowe@waterboards.ca.gov) and she will provide an electronic copy of the transcript or audio, when available.)*

**Written and submitted by Amber Bolanos, Acting Board Clerk on: 11/17/23.**

Signature On File