AES Comprehensive Demonstration Study
Discussion/Consideration of Reopening the AES Permit
Regional Board Meeting on April 18, 2008

As you may know, AES Huntington Beach has submitted a Comprehensive Demonstration Study (CDS) that assesses measures necessary for them to comply with Clean Water Act Section 316(b) regulations, which address cooling water intake structures. The CDS is available for review on our web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/pdf/AES/AES%20HB%20CDS%201-4-08.pdf. The NPDES permit for AES (Order No. R8-2006-0011, NPDES No. CA0001163) states that the Order will be reopened to include requirements necessary to address the findings of the CDS.

You may also be aware that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is in the process of developing a statewide policy regarding conformance with the federal 316(b) regulations by power plants, such as AES Huntington Beach. This policy is scheduled for consideration by the State Water Board later this year.

An informational item will be placed on the Regional Board's April 18, 2008, meeting agenda to discuss the AES CDS and alternatives and recommendations regarding reopening the AES permit. In light of the schedule for statewide 316(b) policy development by the State Water Board, Regional Board staff will recommend that the Regional Board delay reopening the AES permit to address the findings of the CDS until the statewide policy is approved. The intent is to assure that the Regional Board's action is consistent with statewide policy. You are encouraged to attend the meeting and participate in this discussion. The agenda announcement and additional information regarding this item will be e-mailed to you at a later date.

If you have any questions, please contact Jun Martirez at (951) 782-3258 (jmartirez@waterboards.ca.gov) or Gary Stewart at (951) 782-4379 (gstewart@waterboards.ca.gov).