

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
December 13, 2017

- ITEM: 10
- SUBJECT: NPDES Permit Amendment: An Order to amend Order No. R9-2013-0006 as amended by Order No. R9-2014-0071, NPDES No. CA0109045, Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of San Diego, South Bay Water Reclamation Plant Discharge to the Pacific Ocean via the South Bay Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2017-0023). (*Joann Lim*)
- PURPOSE: To receive public testimony and consider adoption of Tentative Order No. R9-2017-0023 Amending Order No. R9-2013-0006 (Tentative Order).
- RECOMMENDATION: Adoption of the Tentative Order (**Supporting Document 1**) is recommended.
- KEY ISSUES: The receiving water monitoring program for the South Bay Ocean Outfall (SBOO) is conducted jointly by the City of San Diego (City) and the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC). The City also conducts the receiving water monitoring for the Point Loma Ocean Outfall (PLOO). The Tentative Order will modify the receiving water monitoring requirements in Order No. R9-2013-0006¹ (regulating the City's South Bay Water Reclamation Plant discharge to SBOO) to align with the receiving water monitoring program in Order No. R9-2017-0007² (regulating the City's PLOO discharge) to provide consistency and efficiency in the management of the two receiving water monitoring programs. The proposed revisions to the receiving water monitoring requirements are also consistent with the proposed revisions described in Item 9 of today's agenda for the USIBWC SBOO monitoring program.

¹ On February 13, 2013, the San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2013-0006, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) No. CA0109045, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of San Diego South Bay Water Reclamation Plant Discharge to the Pacific Ocean via the South Bay Ocean Outfall*.

² Discharges from the Point Loma Ocean Outfall are regulated by Order No. R9-2017-0007, NPDES No. CA0107409, *Waste Discharge Requirements and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for the City of San Diego E.W. Blom Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the Point Loma Ocean Outfall*, adopted by the San Diego Water Board on April 12, 2017 and effective on October 1, 2017.

PRACTICAL VISION: The proposed alignment between the SBOO and PLOO receiving water monitoring programs described in the Tentative Order is consistent with the principles of coordinated monitoring described in the *Monitoring and Assessment* chapter of the Practical Vision and the Board adopted *Framework for Monitoring and Assessment in the San Diego Region*. These principles provide that the San Diego Water Board should work with dischargers collaboratively to ensure that monitoring and assessment programs in the same water body, are coordinated and produce comparable and useful results.

DISCUSSION: The effluents from the City's South Bay Water Reclamation Plant and the USIBWC South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant³ co-mingle as they discharge through the SBOO to the Pacific Ocean. The City is required to conduct receiving water monitoring from Mission Bay to south of the U.S./Mexico international border as required by Order No. R9-2013-0006 (regulating the South Bay Water Reclamation Plant discharge through the SBOO) and Order No. R9-2017-0007 (regulating the City's PLOO discharge). If adopted, the Tentative Order will align the sampling frequencies and analysis methods for the two adjacent ocean outfall monitoring programs as requested by USIBWC and the City.

In addition to aligning the two receiving water monitoring programs, the City also requested that the San Diego Water Board allow the City to monitor for total chromium in lieu of total chromium (III), in line with current available approved analytical methods.

On October 6, 2017, the Tentative Order was released for public comments. The San Diego Water Board received one comment letter from the City requesting one minor technical change regarding the units for the total lipids in the sediment samples (**Supporting Document 3**). As noted in the Response to Comments Report (**Supporting Document 4**), the San Diego Water Board revised the Tentative Order (to make the requested change).

LEGAL CONCERNS: None

³ On June 26, 2014, the San Diego Water Board adopted Order No. R9-2014-0009, NPDES No. CA0108928, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge to the Pacific Ocean via the South Bay Ocean Outfall*.

SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS:

1. Revised Tentative Order
2. Site Map
3. Comment Letter from the City dated November 6, 2017
4. Response to Comments Report

PUBLIC NOTICE:

The Tentative Order was noticed and released for formal public review on October 6, 2017. On October 6, 2017, a public notice was published in the San Diego Union Tribune newspaper. Notice was also provided in the meeting notice and agenda for the December 13, 2017 Board meeting, which is posted on the San Diego Water Board's website. The release for public review and comment was also included in an October 6, 2017 email sent to all known interested parties and posted on the San Diego Water Board's website.