



# ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA

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December 12, 2012

Wayne Chiu, P.E.  
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100  
San Diego, California 92123-4340

Re: Comment – Tentative Order No. R9-2013-001 – Regional MS4  
Permit - Place ID: 786088Wchiu

Dear Mr. Chiu:

This letter is written in response to the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board's Tentative Order R9-2012-0011 ("Permit") dated October 31, 2012. We have reviewed the draft of the Permit; there is no question if the Permit, as now proposed, goes into effect, it will impose excessively expensive and onerous regulations not only on local governments but on regional businesses and the public at large. The regulations, as written, are untested with no proof of improved water quality.

The Associated General Contractors of America ("AGC"), San Diego Chapter, represents over 1,000 firms that build the region's industrial, commercial, institutional, heavy highway and general engineering construction projects. We understand the importance of a clean, safe water supply; we want that for our region and for our families. However, it is imperative the regulations put in place to achieve this goal are reasonable, tested and known, to the extent possible, to produce the outcome of improving water quality.

The use of Water Quality Improvement Plans ("WQIP") is an excellent way to develop a cost-effective approach to improved water quality. We would encourage the Board to allow the WQIPs to be developed, ensuring public

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participation, and implemented before moving forward with enforcement of new regulatory requirements.

Other serious concerns are the stringent new proposal for stormwater retention and discharge and the non-existing source of funding to execute the proposed changes.

Our request is for the Regional Water Quality Control Board to allow the current Permit to remain in effect until WQIPs are developed for the 10 watersheds in District 9. This District needs to develop a Regional Permit that is based on rules and regulations known to be sustainable and effective. The development and use of WQIP's will give our communities that opportunity without the imposition of impossible regulation at horrendous economic cost to our regional cities, local businesses and the residents of our communities.

Thank you for hearing our concerns. If you have questions, please contact me at 858.558.7444.

Sincerely,

  
Debbie Day  
Vice President,  
Engineering Construction and Industry Relations