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San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) is releasing Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0004, NPDES No. CA0107239, *Waste Discharge Requirements for University of California San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Discharge to the Pacific Ocean* (Tentative Order) for public review and comment. The San Diego Water Board will consider adoption of the Tentative Order at its regularly scheduled meeting on **March 8, 2023**. The Tentative Order, if adopted, will reissue the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and waste discharge requirements for the discharge of waste seawater and stormwater from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) to the Pacific Ocean.

The University of California, San Diego (UCSD or Discharger) owns and operates the SIO, a research and teaching institution located off the coast of La Jolla, San Diego County. The Discharger maintains an open seawater system that pumps in seawater from the Pacific Ocean. Before being used to fill aquaria and tanks located within the SIO, the seawater is treated by settling tanks and filters. Some of the facilities within the SIO treat waste seawater from aquaria and tanks housing non-indigenous and/or genetically modified aquatic species. Waste seawater (including treated or untreated waste seawater, filter backwash, and filtered or unfiltered raw seawater) and stormwater is discharged from the SIO to the Pacific Ocean.

**Document Availability**

The Tentative Order and related documents are available online at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_decisions/tentative_orders/)

Interested persons may receive copies of the Tentative Order by contacting Fisayo Osibodu at (619) 521-8036, by email at [Fisayo.Osibodu@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Fisayo.Osibodu@waterboards.ca.gov), or by visiting the San Diego Water Board office at 2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100, San Diego, California 92108-2700, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

**Submission of Written Comments**

Notice is hereby given that the San Diego Water Board will accept written comments regarding the Tentative Order.

The written comment period provides an opportunity for interested persons to comment on the Tentative Order. All written comments regarding the Tentative Order must be received no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, 2023**, to be considered by the San Diego Water Board.

Comments submitted by email should be sent to [sandiego@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sandiego@waterboards.ca.gov). The subject line of all written comments via email must include "Comment – Tentative Order No. R9-2023-0004."

Written comments sent by mail must be addressed to the following:

ATTN: Fisayo Osibodu  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board – San Diego Region  
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100  
San Diego, California 92108-2700

The early submission of written comments on the Tentative Order is encouraged. Written comments received by **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, 2023**, will be provided to the San Diego Water Board members for their review in advance of the public hearing to consider adoption of the Tentative Order. The San Diego Water Board will prepare written responses to significant comments that are timely received. Consistent with State Water Resources Control Board regulations that apply to this proceeding, written comments received after **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 21, 2023**, will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.

### **Public Hearing for Consideration of the Tentative Order**

The San Diego Water Board will conduct the public hearing on the proposed adoption of the Tentative Order during the San Diego Water Board meeting scheduled at the following time and location:

**Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 9:00 a.m.**  
**San Diego Water Board Meeting Room**  
**2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100**  
**San Diego, California 92108**

The *Meeting Notice and Agenda*, which will indicate any changes in the meeting location and may provide other specific information concerning this hearing, will be posted at least two weeks prior to the meeting date at the following webpage:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board\\_info/agendas/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_info/agendas/)

The procedures governing San Diego Water Board meetings are found in California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 647, et seq., and are available upon request.

The *Meeting Notice and Agenda* for this meeting will provide contact information for persons requesting special accommodations.

### **Contact for Further Information**

Please contact Mr. Fisayo Osibodu at (619) 521-8036, or by email at [Fisayo.Osibodu@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Fisayo.Osibodu@waterboards.ca.gov) for information regarding the above proposed action. Please share this information with any person who would be interested in this matter.

Date of Notice: January 19, 2023