

**REGIONAL BOARD PROPOSES \$125,000 FINE  
FOR WATER QUALITY VIOLATIONS AT  
FRANK. R. BOWERMAN LANDFILL**

**Riverside** – A proposed fine of \$125,000 by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board against the Orange County Integrated Waste Management Department may be the subject of a hearing Friday, May 19, before the Regional Board. The Board meeting will be held at the Loma Linda City Council Chambers, 25541 Barton Road, Loma Linda, beginning at 9 a.m. If a hearing is held, Department representatives will have the opportunity to address and contest the fine. However, the Department Director has indicated to Board staff that the fine will be paid without opposition.

The Regional Board issued the proposed fine to the Department on April 17 for allegedly failing to provide adequate drainage and erosion controls, which resulted in severe erosion and washout of a temporary refuse slope at the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill. The Department also failed to notify the Regional Board of the washout within the required 24-hour time period. As a result of the washout, an undetermined amount of refuse- and sediment-laden storm water was discharged into drainage channels tributary to Bee Canyon Wash, San Diego Creek, and Upper Newport Bay.

"We are committed to the protection of all surface and groundwaters of this Region and we will use appropriate enforcement tools against all violators," said Gerard Thibeault, Executive Officer of the Regional Board. " Because Newport Bay is an impaired water body, any discharge to the Bay or its tributaries is a serious concern to us."

The Santa Ana Regional Board is part of the California Environmental Protection Agency and is responsible for protecting water quality in the Santa Ana River Basin.

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