



Memo

DATE: March 30, 2009
TO: Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee
FROM: Julia R. Bueren, Public Works Director/ex officio Chief Engineer
SUBJECT: Impacts of Proposed Municipal Regional Permit

Approximately one year ago, the Public Works Department came before the Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee (TWIC) with a report outlining specific comments and concerns with the proposed Tentative Order for a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. This new NPDES permit will be the same permit for the majority of the San Francisco Bay Region and is therefore referred to as the Municipal Regional Permit (MRP). As a result of a "flood" of comments and protests (including a letter from the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and testimony from Supervisor Gayle B. Uilkema), the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (SFRWQCB) rewrote many provisions of the MRP. This updated version of the MRP was released on February 11, 2009, with comments due to the SFRWQCB by April 3rd.

The current version of the MRP is definitely more workable than previous versions, but there are still several provisions that are overly burdensome and will be difficult and costly to implement. The attached Board Order highlights major concerns we have with the new MRP and includes two letters from the Board of Supervisors to the SFRWQCB. One letter highlights concerns affecting the unincorporated County, and the other highlights major concerns with the MRP from the Contra Costa County Flood Control District.

Please accept this Board Order and refer it to the Board of Supervisors for action.

RL:jj

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Attachments

c: M. Avalon, Public Works, Deputy Director
P. McNamee, Public Works, Deputy Director
S. Kowalewski, Public Works, Deputy Director
B. Balbas, Public Works, Deputy Director
G. Connaughton, Flood Control Division
Don Freitas, Clean Water Program
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