

STORMWATER QUALITY STANDARDS TASK FORCE

MEETING SUMMARY

March 3, 2011

PARTICIPANTS

Joanne Schneider
Dave Woelfel
Dan Bounds (via conference call)
Richard Meyerhof
Amanda Carr
Susan Paulson
Marsha Westropp
Chris Crompton
Tim Moore
Jason Uhley
Albert Martinez
Kevin Street
Mike Roberts
Nancy Sansonetti
Valerie Housel
Jennifer Shepardson
Jessica Chin
Larry McKenney
Jeff Beehler
Dawna Munson

REPRESENTING

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board
CDM
CDM
County of Orange
Flow Science
Orange County Water District
Orange County
Risk Sciences
Riverside County Flood Control and WCD
Riverside County Flood Control and WCD
City of Riverside
City of Riverside
San Bernardino County
City of San Bernardino MWD
City of San Bernardino MWD
Consultant
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

1. Introductions / Opening Comments

The Stormwater Quality Standards Task Force meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by Larry McKenney at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Riverside, California. Brief introductions were made.

2. Task Force Updates

- **State Board REC Use Proposal Update:** Dave Woelfel said that for the State Board policy for REC use, they anticipate having a CEQA document out in the next few months, but they do have a summary/introductory document. He briefly reviewed the unofficial document. Discussion ensued about the need to get a packet ready for the State Board as soon as possible, before they begin proposing policy.
- **Status of Remaining Deliverables:** Tim Moore quickly reviewed the list of deliverables, including:
 - Administrative Record – will be ready within the next month, paper and electronic.
 - Summary of EPA Criteria – will be done next week.
 - Task Force Process Summary – will be done next week.
 - 13241 Analysis – will be done by mid-April.
 - Implementation Plan – will be ready by the end of April.
 - Prepare a write-up/rationale to defend the deletion of MUN objective – this will be discussed today.
 - Antidegradation Calculations – CDM's task; it's a part of the UAA analysis.
 - Text to define engineered and modified channels to which high flow suspensions will apply – Tim Moore will draft up that language quickly.
 - Alternatives Analysis – most of this has been done. Joanne Schneider will review it.

--Staff Report – This is a huge task and we'll need to provide succinct summaries in the staff report, with the opportunity to review more detail in the administrative record. The plan is to hyperlink presentations in the staff report to the corresponding detailed document.

Joanne Schneider noted that the justification for the high-flow suspension needs to be done in the context of a UAA, and treated as a temporary measure.

Tim Moore reviewed a few tasks of minor clean-up items/finalized text write-ups that need to be completed. He also said that we'll also need to prepare a write-up about the applicability of Title 22 not being changed. It's in the Basin Plan language, but a write up must be prepared in support of it.

- **Schedule and Agreements:** All the documents should be ready for the Regional Board by the end of April. Joanne Schneider said they contemplate a September 16, 2011 hearing date at the Board. Procedurally for the Basin Plan amendment, the package should go out in sufficient time to allow three weeks for comments to be provided, and then give ourselves three weeks prior to the hearing to respond to comments and make any revisions. Therefore, the package and notice would be sent out on July 12. The Task Force also will want the opportunity to review it before it goes out. The notice would specify a comment deadline of August 25. Having all the pieces ready by the end of April should work well. It's essential to give the peer reviewers sufficient time.

As for Agreements, the Task Force Agreement expires June 30, 2011 and the Task Force needs to decide if that will be sufficient time to complete its goal. A revised agreement may be needed to continue. Larry McKenney stated that a meeting with the Task Force partners will be set up to work out the administrative issues.

3. MUN Uses

Dave Woelfel shared some feedback he received at the basin planning roundtable meeting regarding the MUN objective, noting that there could be an issue if some clarifications aren't made in the amendment. Discussion ensued.

Tim Moore reviewed the handout *Bacteria Objectives to Protect Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) Uses*. Discussion ensued as to the specificity of where the objective applies; which tributaries are and are not exempt within the new rules; which ones are of concern to this Task Force as to making the case for exemption requirements; the process by which other counties have exempted MUN; the tributaries that will be MUN*; the need for technical support data to justify exemption from MUN; and narrowing it down to the critical channels. CDM will prepare a scope and Tim Moore will prepare the first cut of the rationale for the Task Force to review.

Joanne Schneider suggested going back through our records to pull out the MUN documentation, and make sure that what we do is consistent with what we said. Dave Woelfel will do this task.

4. Monitoring Plan Revisions

Joanne Schneider said they've focused on looking through the UAA documents and will get a model out for the Task Force's comment. They also have initiated the peer review process. The draft is ready and they will get the monitoring plan recommendations out as soon as possible.

5. Implementation Strategies of Other Task Force Efforts: Relationship to Stormwater

Richard Meyerhoff said that the CBRP currently is being reviewed by the Regional Board, but there's been no information yet as to the status. They expect comments around March 31. The permittees have 90 days to respond with a final document, which the Board then takes back, and then issues a public process with 120 days to approve the document. That takes it to about November for completion, approval, and implementation.

The focus of the dry weather plan is heavily on source evaluation, and on identifying where there are dry-weather flows that can be mitigated, and whether or not those flows have bacterial concerns. It emphasizes elimination/reduction of flow more so than elimination/reduction of bacteria. It's tied tightly to the MS4 permits for each county to address pathogen-type control activity. The biggest issue is regional treatment. Each program, San Bernardino and Riverside, had been working on retrofit studies and that information had been brought into the plans, so we at least show the status of understanding where regional treatment is possible.

Larry McKenney commented that SAWPA is facilitating discussions about a watershed-wide monitoring program, and we should think about how that all fits together with this Task Force.

6. Peer Review

Joanne Schneider referred to the handouts – the RWQCB's request for peer review letter, and the proposed amendments (prepared in September 2010), which are documents put together to initiate the peer review process. She briefly reviewed the two issues that were key in determining which items require peer review. To the extent that we identify these issues and ask peer reviewers to comment on them, the peer reviewers should find that what this Task Force is proposing is scientifically defensible and consistent with EPA's criteria; and to the extent that we get those viewpoints expressed, it should be beneficial to our goal to get these amendments through the adoption process.

Dave Woelfel and Joanne Schneider are the points of contact with the peer reviewers. She emphasized that we're not asking questions of the reviewers in an advisory manner, but will ask for any clarifications as necessary. So far, the peer reviewers can accommodate the September due date. We need to get them the documentation by July 12. She noted that within this review task, the peer reviewers have the opportunity to comment on other things as well.

7. Set Next Meeting Dates Until Regional Board Hearing

The next Task Force meeting dates were set for April 21 and June 2 from 9:30 – 12:30. A meeting date of June 30 was tentatively set also, and will be held only if necessary.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Handout Materials

- Bacteria Objectives to Protect Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN)
- Letter – Request for Peer Review of Proposed Basin Plan Amendments Modifying Recreational Water Quality Standards for Freshwaters in the Santa Ana Region
- Draft – Proposed Basin Plan Amendments Modifying Recreational Water Quality Standards for Freshwaters in the Santa Ana Region
- Draft – Scientific Issues for Peer Reviewer Comment (Attachment No. 2)
- Stormwater Quality Standards Study Task Force Participant List
- SWRCB Resolution No. 88-63; Adoption of Policy Entitled “Sources of Drinking Water”
- SWRCB Resolution No. 2006-2008; Revision to Sources of Drinking Water Policy to Establish a Site-Specific Exception for Old Alamo Creek