

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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July 13, 2011

Ms. Norma Camacho, Director Ventura County Watershed Protection District 800 South Victoria Ave., L#1600 Ventura, CA 93009-1600

APPROVAL OF VENTURA COUNTY LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL GUIDANCE MANUAL FOR REGIONAL BOARD ORDER NO. R4-2010-0108 (NPDES PERMIT NO. CAS004002)

Ms. Camacho:

The Ventura County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit requires that the Permittees update the Ventura County Technical Guidance Manual for Storm Water Quality Control Measures (TGM) per Part 4.E.IV.4. The Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program submitted the draft TGM to the Regional Board on November 5, 2010.

Pursuant to Part 7.C.2 of the Ventura County (MS4) Permit a 30-day public comment period was required prior to the Executive Officer's final approval of the TGM. The public comment period closed on December 30, 2010 at 5:00 PM. Regional Board staff considered comments received prior to the close of the comment period and met with Ventura County staff and other Ventura County MS4 Co-Permittees regarding revisions to the TGM necessary to address comments before Executive Officer approval of the TGM. Staff met with County of Ventura staff and their consultant on several occasions, including the dates of October 14, 2010, December 6, 2010, and March 11, 2011 among others, to ensure the TGM was consistent with the Ventura County MS4 Permit provisions and contained all the necessary information to implement the recently adopted Ventura County MS4 Permit's New Development and Redevelopment Program.

Regional Board staff requested that the following items be addressed in the TGM in response to comments/concerns:

• Requirements for visual demonstration of the impervious area disconnect. Addressed in Section 2-6, with a graphic illustration shown in Example 2-1.

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- Demonstration of equivalent pollutant load reduction using Biofiltration BMPs sized to treat 1.5 times the required retention volume in compliance with applicable requirements. Addressed in the revised Appendix D.
- The inclusion of a Biofiltration BMP section for enhanced nitrogen removal BMPs. Section 6 includes specific design requirements for Bioretention with Underdrain BMPs (BIO-1), including design criteria for underdrains to achieve enhanced nitrogen removal. Appendix D includes a planning level analysis of anticipated nitrogen removal when an anaerobic zone is included in the design of Bioretention BMPs.
- The inclusion of a detailed BMP design section. Section 6 of the TGM is a comprehensive BMP Design section, which includes revisions requested by Regional Board staff.
- The inclusion of a detailed offsite mitigation section. Addressed in Section 2-7.
- The development of appropriate guidelines for rainwater harvesting and usage. Addressed in Section 6, RWH-1.

Regional Board staff has reviewed the revised draft TGM (underline/strikeout version dated March 8, 2011) and concludes it includes all requested revisions. The County of Ventura shall ensure the final version of the TGM contains all of the requested revisions. The TGM is hereby approved, as revised.

Accordingly, the New Development and Redevelopment requirements contained in Section E of Part 4 of the Order shall apply to all applicable Development/Redevelopment within the County of Ventura beginning on October 11, 2011 (90 calendar days after Regional Board Executive Officer approval of the TGM). After that date, all discretionary projects or project phases that have not been deemed complete for processing, or discretionary projects without vesting tentative maps that have not requested and received an extension of previously granted approvals must comply with the requirements in Part 4.E, Planning and Land Development Program.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to call me at (213) 576-6605 or your staff may contact Ivar Ridgeway, Chief, Stormwater Permitting Unit, at (213) 620-2150.

Sincerely,

Samuel Unger, P.E.

Samuel Vapon

Executive Officer

cc: Ventura County MS4 Co-Permittees