



# bay restoration foundation

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

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September 6, 2011

Enrique Zaldivar  
Bureau of Sanitation - City of Los Angeles  
1149 South Broadway, 9th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Re: Support for Clean Water Program

Dear Enrique:

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation (SMBRF) supports the proposed rate increases described in the March 24, 2011 STATUS REPORT – CLEANWATER (WASTEWATER) PROGRAM. The SMBRF implements a Bay Restoration Plan that will “improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources and protect the [Santa Monica] Bay’s values.” The proposed actions and their related costs described in the *Cleanwater Program* will maintain the performance of systems that have directly and indirectly aided our mission.

Efforts to maintain, repair and improve the City of Los Angeles’ sewer collection system and wastewater treatment have resulted in a 400% reduction of sewer spills in the past ten years.<sup>1</sup> Improvements to the Hyperion Wastewater Treatment Plant have resulted in a 90% reduction in suspended solids discharged to the Bay<sup>2</sup>.

These actions have helped reduce beach closures, improve beach water quality, and create a better quality of life for residents and neighborhoods affected by spills. Billions of dollars have been committed to this system in the past. These investments should be maintained as proposed in the STATUS REPORT – CLEANWATER PROGRAM.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue; if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Shelley Luce, D.Env.  
Executive Director

<sup>1</sup> State of the Bay Report 2010, pg. 6 Figure 2-4 (a) and (b). Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission. Sources: CLA EMD, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services and National Weather Service.

<sup>2</sup> State of the Bay Report 2010, pg. 4; Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

