

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
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June 29, 2007

Ms. Dorothy Rice  
Executive Director  
State Water Resources Control Board  
P.O. Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

RE: Implementation of 2007 Stormwater Management Plan

Dear Ms. Rice:

This letter is to inform you of the Department of Transportation's (Department) implementation of the enclosed 2007 update to the Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) effective July 1, 2007. As you know, our statewide Permit includes the following provision:

The revised SWMP shall be submitted to the SWRCB's Executive Director by April 1 as part of the Annual Report (40 CFR 122.26 (d)(vi)) each year.  
[*General Requirement E.1.*]

Program Overview requirement F.3. also specifies that the SWMP be updated each year as part of the Annual Report.

The Department is currently implementing the SWMP version that was prepared and submitted in May 2003. The Department submitted a revised SWMP on January 15, 2004 in support of re-application for the statewide permit. The 2004 draft SWMP has been the subject of ongoing negotiations since that date. While there has been agreement on many additional commitments, there are some issues that remain unresolved. Our understanding is that your staff is planning to propose a draft permit in the near future, but a final permit is not anticipated for many months.

The Department, as well as the stormwater community as a whole, has learned much regarding stormwater pollution control and program improvement since the SWMP was last formally revised in 2003. Our Districts have been asking for guidance regarding program improvements, but we have remained tied to the 2003 SWMP due to the re-permitting delay. Implementing the 2007 SWMP will mean that program improvements to our plan (SWMP) and program can now be implemented.

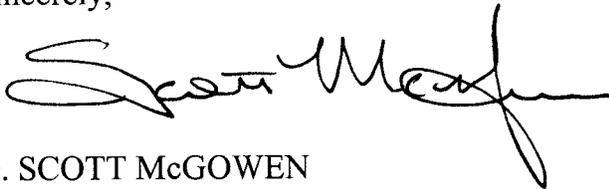
The Department will begin administering the program using the *measurable objectives* listed in Section 15 of the June 2007 SWMP (enclosed), on July 1 2007. Please note that additional measurable objectives were added during the last three years of discussion. We believe that immediate implementation of our revised SWMP will provide substantial benefits to our stormwater program and to water quality as a whole. The following is a summary of SWMP improvements:

- Management Structure – A more thorough discussion and identification of positions in the Department with responsibility for the stormwater quality. This includes an identification of the duly authorized individuals with signatory responsibility.
- Change of Regional Work Plans to District Work Plans – Each District will provide a single work plan to the Regional Boards with jurisdiction over them. This reduces the expended resources and maintains all information in a single document.
- Treatment BMP Process – A description of the process used by the Department to implement treatment BMPs to the MEP for capital projects, including triggers based on new impervious surface area.
- Improvements to Department MS4 Oversight Responsibility - The plan improves policy and guidance regarding non-departmental activities, such as encroachment permits construction and leased properties within the Department right-of-way.
- Facility Pollution Prevention Plans (FPPPs) -The Department will review all its facilities and determine whether FPPPs are needed.
- Characterization Monitoring –Monitoring will focus on environmental outcomes such as pollutant load reduction and address regional concerns such as TMDLs and numeric limits.
- Self-Audit – The Department will implement a broad-based evaluation of stormwater activities, including field compliance evaluations, programmatic evaluations and targeted program components.
- Measurable Objectives – The SWMP identifies specific measurable objectives, including timelines for implementing activities. Each Annual Report will include the status of these efforts.
- Annual Reporting – Improvement to the Annual Reporting process; including comprehensive data collection system and increased coordination with State and Regional Board staff.

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The 2007 Revised SWMP will function as an interim document until a new permit is issued. Additionally, the document will be posted on the Department's website for the general public to review. We believe the aforementioned strategy is in conformance with the permit and will provide for a substantially improved stormwater program. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 653-4446.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Scott McGowen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

G. SCOTT McGOWEN  
Chief Environmental Engineer

c: Tam Doduc, Chair SWRCB  
SWRCB Members  
Darrin Polhemus, Deputy Director, DWQ, SWRCB  
Bruce Fujimoto, DWQ, SWRCB  
Liz Haven, Assistant Deputy Director, DWQ, SWRCB