

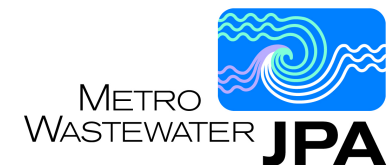
# Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant Modified NPDES Permit

- **Basis of the Application**

Greg Humora, City of La Mesa, Director of Public Works  
Metro TAC, Chair

**City of Chula Vista City Council Meeting**

September 23, 2014



# Metro Wastewater Joint Powers Authority

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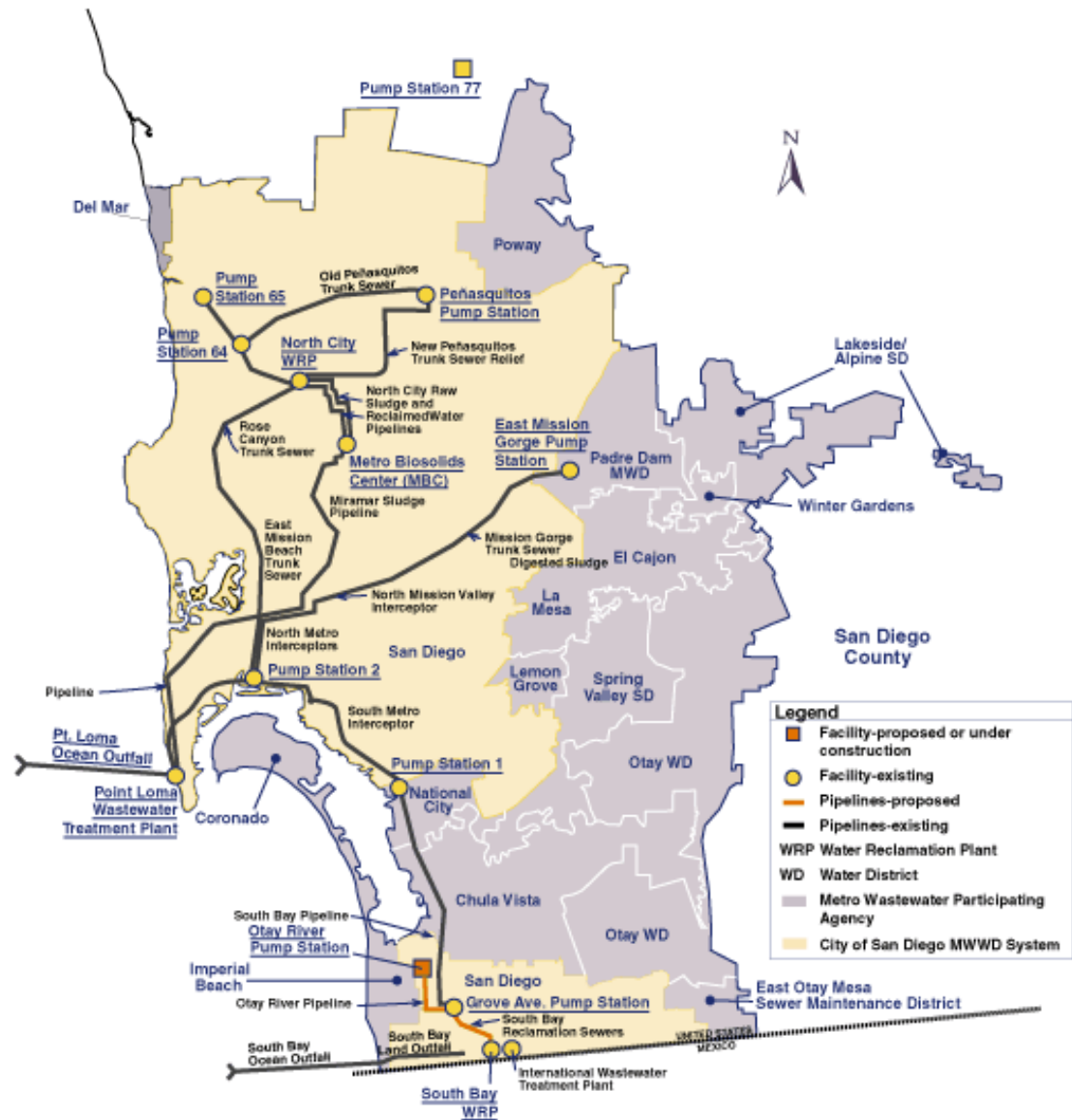
- Twelve Member Agencies
- 35% of Flow & Cost of SD Metro WW System

County of San Diego  
City of Chula Vista  
City of Coronado  
City of Del Mar  
City of El Cajon  
City of Imperial Beach

City of La Mesa  
City of National City  
City of Poway  
Lemon Grove Sanitation District  
Otay Water District  
Padre Dam Municipal Water District

# San Diego Metropolitan Sewerage System

- PLWTP: 240 MGD
- North City Water Reclamation Plant (NCWRP): 30 MGD
- South Bay Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP): 15 MGD
- Metro Biosolids Center (MBC)
- Point Loma Ocean Outfall
- South Bay Ocean Outfall
- Metro Wastewater Pump Stations/Pipelines





## Pt Loma Modified Permit

# Current Status

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- Pt. Loma WWTP is the backbone of the sewerage system
- Pt. Loma WWTP is a chemically enhanced advanced primary treatment plant
- Pt. Loma WWTP has a 4.5 mile long deep ocean outfall (310 feet in depth)
- Outfall provides superior dispersion and a high degree of dilution



## Pt Loma Modified Permit

# Current Status

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- Extensive ocean monitoring has not identified any negative impact to marine organisms surrounding the outfall
- Operates with a modified 301(h) permit or waiver from secondary standards
- The current permits expires on July 31, 2015

# Problem #1

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- Last wastewater plant not to convert to secondary
- Legal challenges from environmental community
- Pressure from regulatory staff
- Political pressure
- Ratepayer instability
- Infrastructure planning instability

# Problem #2

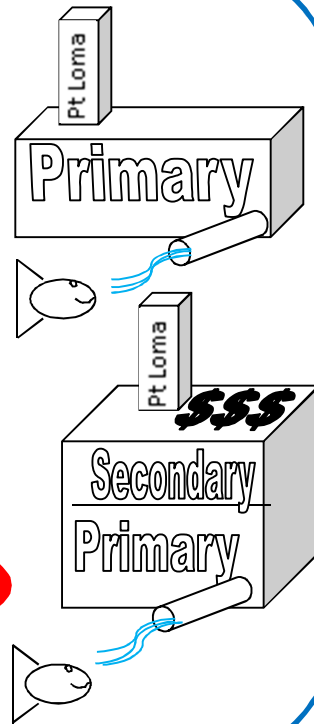
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- Most of our water is imported
- San Diego is at the end of the water supply pipeline
- Little control over imported water
- Significant cost increases
- Bay Delta (has the worlds thirstiest fish)
- Natural disasters and climate change
- Drought emergency

### Problem #1:

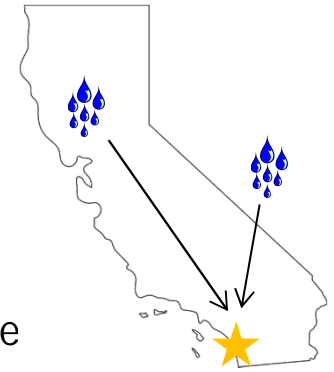
- Permit expires 2015
- Science says no environmental harm
- Therefore Modified Permit granted
- Modified permit allows Advanced Primary

~~= \$2.1 Billion~~



### Problem #2:

- San Diego at end of water supply pipeline
- Imported water at risk as competition for the resource rises
- Imported water expensive and prices continue to rise
- New, local, diversified water supply is the best solution



## SOLUTION

### *Use Problem #1 To Fix Problem #2*

- Secondary Equivalency: Offloading 100 mgd flow = 240 mgd treated to secondary level
- Potable Reuse: Offloads Point Loma AND increases local, diversified water supply





# 2012 Recycled Water Study

## Provided a path

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- 83 MGD of Indirect Potable Reuse
- Places water in San Vicente and Otay Water Reservoirs
- Significantly reduces planned wastewater flows to Point Loma
- Basis for secondary equivalency
- Pure Water San Diego



# Secondary Equivalency

## What it is and how to get there

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- By constructing facilities within Metro System reduce flows from Pt Loma
- Emissions equivalent to Pt Loma at secondary treatment and 240 mgd
- Legislative guarantee-OPRA II
- Agreement with enviro stakeholders to support permit and OPRA II



# Pt Loma NPDES Modified Permit

## Enforceable provisions

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- Point Loma to remain at advanced primary treatment
- Cap TSS at 12,000 metric tons/year December 31, 2015
- Prepare Pure Water environmental docs
- Complete design for at least 15 mgd of potable reuse



# Pt Loma NPDES Modified Permit Goals subject to approval of OPRA II

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- Produce at least 15 mgd of potable reuse water by December 31, 2023
- Cap TSS at 11,500 metric tons/year by December 31, 2025
- Produce at least 30 mgd of potable reuse water by December 31, 2027
- Cap TSS at 9,942 (secondary equivalency) metric tons/year by December 31, 2027
- Produce at least 83 mgd of potable reuse water by December 31, 2035



## Next Steps

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- Metro Commission to consider a resolution of support of Pt Loma Permit application on October 2 or 16, 2014
- Provide direction to Metro Commission representative
- San Diego City Council to consider Pt Loma permit application on October 28, 2014



## Next Steps

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- San Diego recent trip to Washington, DC
- Met with entire legislative delegation
- Met with EPA staff
- Still need to meet with local Regional Water Quality Control Board

*Thank you!*  
*Questions?*

