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CLW/Kamie D

PHILIPPA KLESSIG  
Mayor

ROBERT SLAVIN  
Mayor Pro Tem

MARK RUTHERFORD  
Councilmember

NED E DAVIS  
Councilmember

SUSAN McSWEENEY  
Councilmember

January 24, 2013

Cindy Lin (WTR-2)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Southern California Field Office  
600 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1460  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Subject: Malibu Creek and Lagoon TMDL's for  
Sedimentation and Nutrients

Dear Ms. Lin:

The City of Westlake Village wishes to express its opposition to the proposed revision of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) in the Malibu Creek Watershed for sediments and nutrients. Cities, homeowners and businesses in the region stand to be adversely affected if the proposed new standards are rushed into place without a proper scientific vetting.

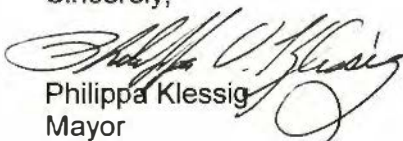
As a community and watershed, we have made extensive investments in improving conditions in Malibu Creek and its tributaries. Through changes in building codes to control runoff, trash filtering and oil capture up through more weekly street sweeping, we continue to fulfill the mission of a community engaged in the stewardship of the watershed. Many of these activities are being done as a result of the 2003 Malibu Creek Nutrient TMDL and actions of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Given the significant investments in these measures, along with others such as the recently adopted Los Angeles County MS4 permit, we request that the EPA take a more deliberate approach to the placement of any more stringent standards for the creek.

If adopted as proposed, the TMDLs may result in additional financial and administrative burdens to this City and to the constituents we mutually serve, with no assurances that these measures will be effective. At a time when the economy challenges each governmental entity to be prudent users of public funds, we believe this proposal carries great risk with no guarantee of a tangible public benefit.

For these reasons and others, we respectfully request that EPA forego the placement of the proposed TMDLs, allow the 2003 standard to demonstrate its effects, and that fully vetted scientific standards be applied to the unique traits of Malibu Creek before any additional corrective measures are adopted.

Sincerely,

  
Philippa Klessig  
Mayor