



Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority
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For Immediate Release

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EPA Malibu Creek Workshop Set for May 1

JPA Urges Public to Attend

Calabasas, CA – April 22, 2013 – The Las Virgenes – Triunfo Joint Powers Authority (JPA), is requesting area residents to attend a Public Workshop being conducted by U.S. EPA Region IX at Agoura Hills City Hall on Wednesday, May 1 at 6:30 pm.

“If implemented as proposed, the water quality standards for Malibu Creek and Lagoon will become very stringent,” said Michael McReynolds, Chair of the JPA. “From Oak Park and Thousand Oaks to Malibu, compliance with the proposed standards will become the responsibility of the cities, counties and the Joint Powers Authority that provide important public services. The cost impacts are substantial and likely to be permanent.”

The JPA has expressed strong concerns with the science and methodology chosen to assess conditions in the watershed, citing studies that show Malibu Creek as naturally brackish, with background levels of nutrients that foster the growth of algae, a key impairment identified by the U.S. EPA. “We are concerned that U.S. EPA seems dismissive of Malibu Creek’s unique traits, when other independent sources identify its salinity and natural chemistry as factors that must be considered,” said David W. Pedersen, Administering Agent and General Manager for the JPA.

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Michael McReynolds
Chair, Las Virgenes-Triunfo
Joint Powers Authority
Chair, Triunfo Sanitation District
Board of Directors

Charles Caspary
Vice Chair, Las Virgenes-Triunfo
Joint Powers Authority
President, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Board of Directors

Charles Caspary, Vice Chair of the JPA added, “We are, and have been, committed to the responsible environmental stewardship of Malibu Creek. We are also responsible to the ratepayers. We must be sure their money will only be used for solutions that are supported by sound science with certain results. When one considers the potential costs, a failed experiment is not an option.”

Implementation of the new standards would be in addition to measures already underway by city and county governments to comply with requirements adopted in December 2012 for storm water systems.

The Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority is comprised of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Triunfo Sanitation District. The JPA provides wastewater treatment, recycled water and composting services to some 100,000 people in the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village, portions of Thousand Oaks, Oak Park, North Ranch and surrounding unincorporated areas of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

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EDITOR – See attached announcement from U.S. EPA Region IX