



Tracy Egoscue and David Bacharowski
California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90013 (via e-mail and U.S. Mail)

11/24/2008

cc. Susan Callery & Tom Seckington DTSC, Paul J. Davis City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation
Shelly Backlar Friends of the Los Angeles River, David Beckman NRDC, Christina Walsh Cleanuprocketdyne dot org,
Los Angeles City Council and District 12 Councilmember Greig Smith.

Dear Ms. Egoscue,

In your letter to Mr. Darrell Maxey, Director of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority dated November 19th, 2008 you write... "Our determination that your discharge is subject to Section 13260* of the CWC** is based on the assumption that your discharge does not reach surface water. Should this not be correct, your discharge may also be subject to a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit."

Below is a photo of the effluent pipe coming from Chatsworth Train Tunnel no. 26 discharging approximately 4300 daily gallons of untreated groundwater into a creek that feeds the elaborate storm drainage system that underlies Chatsworth Park South.



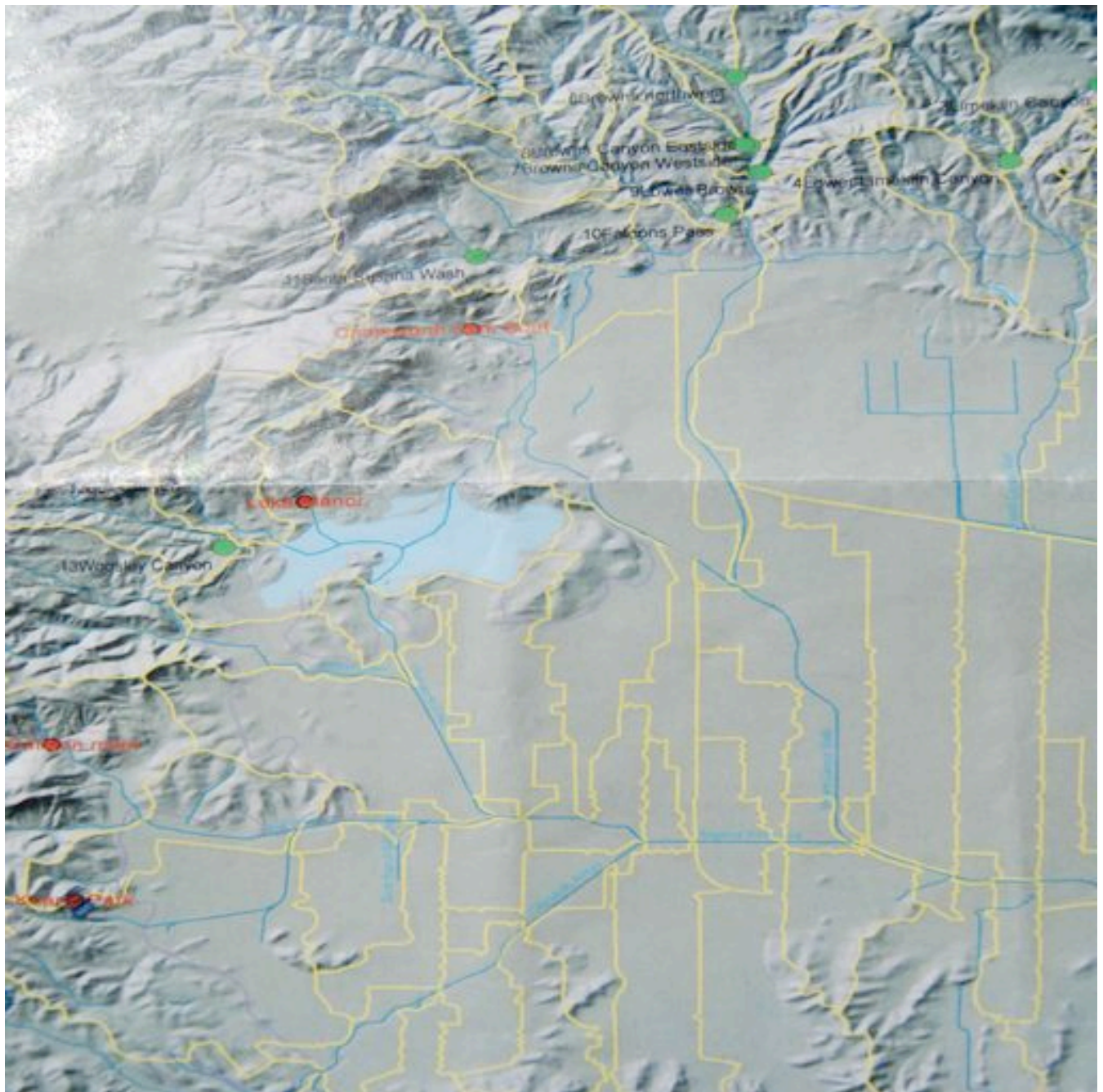
Left photo shows the 4300 untreated daily gallons flood this park even on the hottest of days. Right photo is an above ground access point for the storm drainage system.



The below photo shows that the surface water from Chatsworth Park South drains into the inlet to the Santa Susana Creek draining into the L.A. River from under the Rockpointe Town-home Community. This inlet is also fed by the elaborate underground storm drainage system found underneath this public park fed mainly by the train tunnel effluent.



The below illustration is the Upper Los Angeles River Area Groundwater Basin and Surface Drainage Map. The area in question is located just above the now dry Chatsworth Reservoir (Indicated by the Red Dot at Lake Manor also the location of ACME). Prior to 1969 in addition to the L.A. River, the effluent from Chatsworth Park South fed the Chatsworth Reservoir. According to the Department of Water and Power (DWP) document titled Chatsworth Reservoir Improvements Project 1969-1973 (document number AX-185-35 April 15th, 1974 NAA) it states the reservoir was drained to "Improve the Quality of Water" by designing diversion tunnels to "Intercept and bypass all storm water runoff from the watershed (2700 Acres) around the reservoir in order to prevent contamination of the water within the reservoir." as it was used for domestic and agricultural purposes. The DWP currently own and maintain the fenced and dry reservoir and the areas immediately surrounding.



We request a layout of the Chatsworth Park South storm drainage system and its associated access and discharge points from Tunnel no. 26 to the effluent release point into the L.A. River via Santa Susana Creek shown below.



We hope that our provided illustrations could possibly help you in your investigations into the determination if the Chatsworth Train Tunnel no. 26 discharge is subject to a NPDES permit. Radionuclides and Chemicals such as Trichloroethylene (TCE) and other related Aerospace Toxins are of great concern to the Health of the surrounding Communities and should most definitely be on your list in testing collected water samples.

Thank you in advance for all your work on these issues, keeping us informed on associated correspondence and request you continue to do so.

Take care,

William Preston Bowling - Founder/Director
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*Section 13260 of the California Water Code (CWC) provides the Regional Board with the authority to require a discharger to furnish information about that discharge.

**California Water Code.

