

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

January 20, 2013

Ms. Cindy Lin
U.S. EPA
Southern California Field Office
600 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1460
LA, CA 90017

Dear Ms. Lin,

As long time residents of Malibu Lake, we want to express our concern for the TMD Loads that are being proposed for the Malibu Creek Watershed. Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, our vendor, has suggested we express our concerns regarding the stringent new operating guidelines for the facility that serves our region (Tapia Reclamation) since it is the homeowners who will bear the costs for adhering to these new standards.

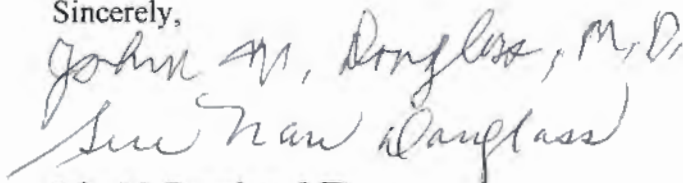
Why are these regulations being hurried into place? The public has been given less than thirty business days to review an abundance of material at a time when most homeowner associations and local governments do not meet.

We also wonder why Malibu Creek is being compared to other fresh water coastal creek systems? Freshwater standards should not be applied to a brackish creek---one that has NO water at all over 25% of its length in dry periods. In fact the salt impact of the Monterey Formation in the watershed was a primary reason that the water district that serves our area was formed.

While we admire the passion of advocacy groups working to protect our environment, why should we residents shoulder the burden of funding the compliance measures they promote? Their recently gathered data (that supports their positions) ignores the scientific data collected by government agencies of the past four decades. These agencies have followed strict EPA standards for sample collection, lab testing and personnel certification---all funded by rate payers!!!

So it is for these reasons that we call on the EPA to conduct a scientifically sound evaluation of the Malibu Creek watershed, with opportunities given to the region's homeowners and businesses to examine and comment on the data's findings. EPA should not proceed with adopting new, revised or additional TMDLs until that evaluation is complete.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of John M. Douglass, MD and Sue Nan Douglass. The signature for John M. Douglass, MD is written in a cursive style, and the signature for Sue Nan Douglass is written in a similar cursive style below it.

John M. Douglass, MD
Sue Nan Douglass