

5/4/10 Board Meeting
Once Through Cooling
Deadline: 4/13/10 by 12 noon

From: Michael Marriner <scooteroak@gmail.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Monday, April 12, 2010 11:19 AM
Subject: Comment Letter - OTC Policy

Apr 12, 2010

Chairman Charlie R. Hoppin
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairman Hoppin,

Power plants using "once-through cooling" (OTC) are currently allowed to withdraw more than 16 billion gallons of ocean and Delta water every day, killing aquatic life from all levels of the food chain.

The Clean Water Act called for the phase-out of this destructive practice almost four decades ago.

I urge the State Water Board to reject recently-proposed OTC policy amendments that move the state away from a path to phase out once-through cooling systems.

Prior, stronger versions of the policy were described by the state's top three power agencies as providing a "workable schedule" that "maintain[s] reliable operation of the electric grid."

A protective OTC policy that meets the letter and intent of the law is essential to maintain these ongoing investments in healthy ecosystems.

Please reject proposed amendments that move us backwards from this goal.

Sincerely,

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