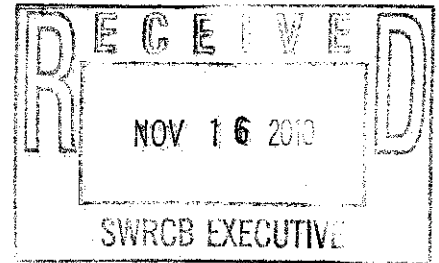


Jeanine Townsend - Fwd: Uphold and implement the current policy on coastal power plants

From: OPA Water Boards Public Affairs
To: Townsend, Jeanine
Date: Thursday, November 18, 2010 6:30 AM
Subject: Fwd: Uphold and implement the current policy on coastal power plants

State Water Resources Control Board
Office of Public Affairs
Phone: 916.341.5254
Fax: 916.341.5252
Email: info@waterboards.ca.gov



>>> Chris Lish <lishchris@yahoo.com> 11/16/2010 10:13 AM >>>
State Water Resources Control Board

P.O. Box 100

Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Dear Chairman Charlie Hoppin,

I am writing as a Californian with deep concerns about the health of our marine life and coastal habitats. Our precious ocean is under numerous and growing threats. Ensuring healthy and robust bays, estuaries, coasts, and ocean will mean reducing or eliminating each of those multiple threats.

Your recent adoption of the "Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling" was an important and critical step towards restoring and protecting our marine environment, protecting the integrity of California's electrical grid, and encouraging clean energy for the future.

However, I adamantly oppose the recently proposed amendments to the policy and request you immediately begin the task of enforcing the current policy's goals and time lines with no changes to the policy.

"Our duty to the whole, including to the unborn generations, bids us to restrain an unprincipled present-day minority from wasting the heritage of these unborn generations. The movement for the conservation of wildlife and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose and method."

-- Theodore Roosevelt

I applaud the Board for your five years of exhaustive independent research, coordination of multiple environmental and energy agencies, and extensive public outreach that resulted in a policy that was fair and balanced.

The final policy met the difficult multiple goals of:

- eliminating unnecessary marine life mortality,
- fully protecting the state against disruption of electrical supply, and
- providing sufficient time and flexibility for power plant owners to prepare and transition to the "best available technology" for minimizing the ongoing destruction to marine life and habitats.

The path that would be set by the amendments under current consideration was carefully and fully considered in the five years of thorough, exhaustive research and debate process that resulted in the adoption of the final policy. The Clean Water Act mandated the changes incorporated in the final policy almost four decades ago. The current amendments are nothing more than a thinly veiled effort by a powerful industry and their lobbyists to create even more loopholes and delays efforts that were already heard and properly rejected by this Board.

"Every man who appreciates the majesty and beauty of the wilderness and of wild life, should strike hands with the farsighted men who wish to preserve our material resources, in the effort to keep our forests and our game beasts, game-birds, and game-fish-indeed, all the living creatures of prairie and woodland and seashore-from wanton destruction. Above all, we should realize that the effort toward this end is essentially a democratic movement."

-- Theodore Roosevelt

Enough is enough. You should be commended for carrying out your duty under the Clean Water Act to thoroughly study and vet publicly a reasonable and balanced transition to avoid unnecessary marine life mortality through employing the "best technology" available for power plant cooling. This decision

should stand.

By upholding the current language in the adopted policy, you will have the deep gratitude and respect of the millions of Californians who care about our coast and ocean, and the generations of Californians to come who will surely reap the benefits of your work.

“A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.”

-- Aldo Leopold

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,

Christopher Lish

PO Box 113

Olema, CA 94950

lishchris@yahoo.com