Public Comment Malibu Septic Prohibition Deadline: 6/29/10 by 12 noon

## commentletters - Comment letter - Malibu Septic Prohibition

From:

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To:

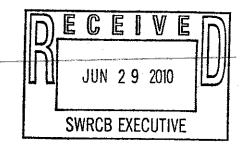
<commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>

Date:

6/29/2010 9:41 AM

Subject: Comment letter -- Malibu Septic Prohibition

Mr. Charles R. Hoppin, Chair c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board State Water Resources Control Board PO Box 1000 Sacramento, CA 95812



Dear Mr. Hoppin:

We are writing to oppose Resolution No. R4-2009-007 adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board on November 5, 2009.

The resolution as currently written effectively says "some are polluting, so line up the whole village and shoot them all". That's not right. Please reject the current resolution and work with the people and government of Malibu to solve the problem by accurately targeting the sources of pollution.

We support efforts to clean our local ocean waters and we are willing to pay taxes to do so, however we oppose resolution R4-2009-007 because it is radically one-sided.

- The LARWQCB has uniformly rejected any evidence or point of view that does not agree with its own.
- The resolution includes absolutely none of the discussion and problem-solving that has occurred during that last 10 months.
- The resolution is tragically premature as several scientific studies are nearing completion that will better define the sources of pollution.
- The resolution ignores the rain water runoff system under construction.
- The resolution includes the approximately 60 families of the outlying Malibu Knolls area simply because they fall within a hydrological boundary, not because there is firm evidence that they are contributing to the pollution. In fact, most Malibu Knolls properties are 2,000 feet from the ocean and 200 to 400 feet above sea level. By some estimates, these 60 families will bear roughly one-third of the financial burden of building a \$30 50 million waste water treatment plant (i.e., at \$12,000 per family per year).

Please reject and send the resolution back to the LARWQCB with instructions to:

- Await the completion the current scientific studies and then to integrate them with their own findings.
- Review the neighborhoods within the Malibu civic center area and include neighborhoods in the prohibition based only on scientific evidence of their pollution, and not based on whether the properties can be used to

## build a tax base for an assessment district.

- Include outlying residential neighborhoods in a prohibition only after a solution has been implemented for the core civic center and only if there is still significant pollution being produced. It is common sense that restaurants at sea level near PCH that daily wash thousands of dishes and have hundreds of customers flushing toilets are a much greater source of pollution than homeowners 2,000 feet from the ocean and 200 to 400 feet above sea level.
- Work with the City of Malibu which is building a solution to actively target polluters with the highest impact on water quality.

Sincerely,

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