Public Comment

Malibu Septic Prohibition

Deadline: 7/12/10 by 12 noon

From:

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To: Date: <jtownsend@waterboards.ca.gov>
Sunday, July 11, 2010 9:17 PM

Subject:

Comment letter - Malibu Septic Prohibition

TO: Mr. Charles R. Hoppin, Chair

State Water Resources Control Board

Attn: Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board

Mr. Hoppin and Board members;

Based on results of recent studies, which DO NOT show any connection between existing residential septic systems and the Lagoon water contamination, I am opposed to the LA Reg. Water Control Board's prohibition of on-site wastewater systems in the Malibu Civic Center.

The City is continuing to conduct additional studies and the State Board's hearing should not be held until all the scientific evidence is available for consideration. I attended the Regional hearing and reviewed their technical memos which were used as a basis for the prohibition. There was no data that showed that the residential septic systems were contaminating the Lagoon. Water Code 13280 requires that if such systems are to be prohibited, there must be substantial evidence in the record supporting that decision. There is none. There is evidence that the water is polluted - but there is no evidence as to the cause. First the cause(s) must be identified before action is taken and money spent to "cure" that condition. If whatever funds are available to solve this problem are spent on a "solution" which does NOT solve that problem because the cause was not properly identified, funds will not be available to provide a real solution.

Prohibiting on-site systems ties the hands of the city to consider anything other than the age-old sewer fix. Sewers have been used - and have failed - for centuries. This is hardly a high tech solution.

Please delay the hearing until all data is in - and make sure the solution chosen will actually produce clean water in the Lagoon.

Dr. Walter F. Keller

