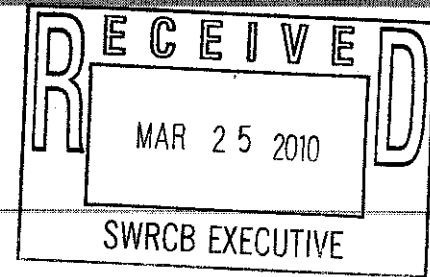


commentletters - Comment Letter - AP2121 Policy

From: Peter Youtz <peter@youtz.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 3/25/2010 2:58 PM
Subject: Comment Letter - AP2121 Policy



To: State Water Resources Control Board:
Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board

Re: Comment Letter - AP2121 Policy ; Request for Extension of Time based on Notice and Impact.

Dear Administrators:

I'm writing in response to AB2121, the SWRCB proposed policy for maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Coastal Streams.

Please include my response in the administrative record for this policy.

I request an extension of the comment period to address and explain the impact that this policy will have on coastal communities like mine.

I live and work in an area where our water supply will fall under this new policy. I was first notified about this policy less than a week ago. I have had no notification of meetings or discussions related to the impact of the proposed policy. I'm told by consultants (Brown and Caldwell Assoc) hired by our Water Company, that the proposed policy will mean that there will be days of no water service in normal years and weeks to months of no water service in drought years. This would have a huge impact on my home, my work, and my life. Can it be that individuals and families will be subject to these changes without adequate time to comment and review the proposed policy? Is SWRCB aware of these impacts?

I spent much of yesterday reading the proposed policy and have been unable to determine how terms referenced in document are defined. For example I can't determine how "new diversions" are defined, or what exactly constitutes a "site specific study".

So with only one week's notice and apparently no formal notice of impact at all from the State, we've had no opportunity to explain the impact of the SWRCB policy on our community. I'm told that my water will not be available for weeks to months every year. Is the SWRCB aware that this will effect the ability of people to live in their homes? that it will effect our community's ability to fight wildfires; that it will impact our community's economic viability; and even that it will reduce the value of our homes if we must move? It seems very likely that the SWRCB is unaware of the dramatic impact their policy will have, because there has been no notice or outreach meeting in our area for homeowners to explain how they are impacted.

Surely you can see why the comment period should be extended so that the residents of our community can be fully informed and given an opportunity to explain the policy's impact on their lives.

Thank you,
Peter Youtz
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