

State Building and Construction Trades Council of California

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BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES
DEPARTMENT
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May 20, 2011

Ms. Jeanine Townsend
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I St., 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: State Water Board Action on Wetlands Definition

Dear Ms. Townsend:

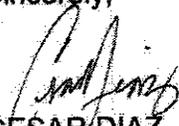
I write on behalf of the State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, to express our concern about a recent proposal by the State Water Board to change the state definition of "wetlands."

Our concern is that this change is preemptive of the federal discussions on wetlands and could have significant impacts on transportation and other infrastructure development projects throughout California. With 35% unemployment among the building and construction trades, it is critical for the state to create employment opportunities through infrastructure investment.

We respectfully urge the State Water Board to await the outcome of the federal action on the definition of "wetlands" prior to creating a statewide standard. Moving forward preemptively may place transportation and building projects at risk of delay causing a greater burden on the economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact me at (916) 443-3302 if I can provide any further information.

Sincerely,


CESAR DIAZ
Legislative Director

CD:cmh
opeiu#29/afl-cio