

State Water Resources Control Board

May 28, 2014

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Dear Professor Barnes,

REQUEST FOR EXTERNAL SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD STAFF REPORT FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO STATEWIDE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLANS FOR TRASH

My letter today is intended to initiate the next phase of the external review – the actual review itself.

The State Water Board will receive reviewers' comments and curriculum vitae from me after the review has concluded, and not be a party to the process.

The following documents are provided through a secure FTP site. Access instructions are given at the end of this letter.

- a) **March 10, 2014 memorandum signed by Victoria Whitney: "Request for External Peer Review of Proposed Amendments to Statewide Water Quality Control Plans for Trash".**

Three attachments are included in the memorandum:

Attachment 1: Summary of the Proposed Amendments to Statewide Water Quality Control Plans for Trash.

Attachment 2: Description of Scientific Conclusions to be addressed by Peer Reviewers. Clear guidance for the review is provided in the preamble. **Please address all conclusions, as expertise allows, in the order listed.** Once conclusions have been addressed, as necessary respond to latitude given reviewers in preamble (a) and (b).

Through this (May 28) letter, I am updating Attachment 2, specifically for locations in the Draft Staff Report where supporting text can be found for the three Conclusions to be addressed by reviewers.

Conclusion 1 : Revised Directive : **See Section 1.4, Section 1.5, and Appendix A**
Conclusion 2 : Revised Directive : **See Section 1.5 and Appendix A**

Conclusion 3 : Revised Directive : **See Chapter 5**

Attachment 3: Names of Participants Involved in Developing the Proposed Trash Amendments

b) Draft Staff Report for Draft Amendments to Statewide Water Quality Control Plans for Trash

c) References. Draft Staff Report

d) January 7, 2009 Supplement to the Cal/EPA Peer Review Guidelines.

In part, this provides guidance to ensure the review is kept confidential through its course. The Supplement notes reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third-parties after reviews have been submitted. **We recommend they do not.** All outside parties are provided opportunities to address a proposed regulatory action through a well-defined regulatory process. Please direct enquiring parties to me.

Please download all information within one week of receiving this letter. It will no longer be available after one week's time. The URL, username and password are as follows:

username:

password:

Return your comments directly to me, on Monday, June 30, 2014, and not before. Questions about the review should be for clarification, in writing – email is fine, and addressed to me. My responses will be in writing also. I subsequently will forward all reviews together to Ms. Victoria Whitney with reviewers' Curriculum Vitae. All this information will be posted at the appropriate State Water Board program web site, and at the State and Regional Water Boards' Scientific Peer Review web site.

Your acceptance of this review assignment is most appreciated.

Sincerely,



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