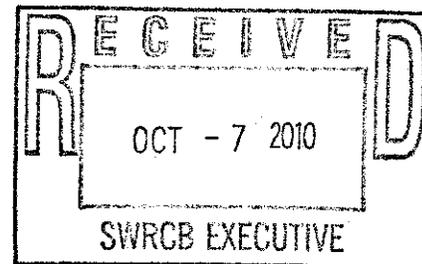


CEQA Scoping Mtgs (10/7 & 14/10)  
 Policy for Controlling Trash  
 Deadline: 11/3/10 by 12 noon



**From:** Glenn Robertson  
**To:** commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov  
**CC:** Adackapara, Michael; Adelson, Mark  
**Date:** Thursday, October 07, 2010 5:03 PM  
**Subject:** To Janine Townsend- Comments on Statewide Trash Policy  
**Attachments:** Robertson, Glenn.vcf

Hello Janine, I am our Region 8 CEQA Coordinator with some concepts that could be considered for additions to the Statewide Trash Policy and for next week's October 14 CEQA Scoping Meeting in Chino. The following ideas were derived from very recent articles in the *Los Angeles Times*; these could be written up appropriately and included in the policy:

- o The City of Long Beach is installing screens across the inlets of stormwater catch basins, with sieve openings no more than approximately one-half inch wide. Generally, only the notorious pellet-sized plastic pieces would get through to the ocean and the arrested trash can be scraped out. When flows build up trash against the screen, to the extent that water can poorly enter and backs up, the screens have the capability of being mechanically lowered (which defeats the purpose unless they were vigilantly cleaned off). Conversely, I think if such screens could be raised with an outward curved footing that pulls the trash with it, then the trash could be removed over the concrete top of the catch basin.

As a secondary measure, screen "boxes" are often being retrofitted into the same catch basins. From complaints and personal observation, I know that such retrofits are needed in our coastal cities. I have heard over many years, from staff of various inland/coastal cities in Region 8, how they are under constraint to only follow minimum construction code regarding the common, endless use of merely two slender bars crossed over a catch basin inlet, instead of being able to install grates or screens that fit upon the inlet.

Potential Policy statement: "Cities and Counties must to the greatest extent possible, explore and if feasible install/retrofit screens or grates across stormdrain inlets. The screens/grates would be of a design that will more effectively block refuse than do contemporary bars. The design must allow for trash removal and water flow into the stormdrain inlet."

- o The amount of fishing equipment and refuse that piles up at the ends and sides of piers is disgusting pollution, and few realize, self-incriminating enough to warrant serious consideration of the cancellation or suspension of fishing in most locations. Lures, hooks, weights, and test lines cut or broken away from fishing rods continue endless cycles of "catch and destroy" on the sea bottom, to the many animals that consume these articles, or are wrapped up in them, then perish, and decompose. Local divers recently collected much of this garbage from around the pier bottoms on Coastal Cleanup Day. (Those who frequent piers as I do really observe a lot of beneficial uses violated through direct losses to WILD, MAR, and COMM: ripped creatures thrown back alive, small fish taken illegally, all manner of junk and liquids getting off the pier into the water.) The trash policy could be the first step in California "pier reform."

Potential Policy statement: "Piers must have widely extended netting, screens, or suitable traps for catching dropped equipment and other items (other mechanisms?). The extent and nature of litter and refuse noted in the surface waters and on the sea floor around piers, as reported by divers and cleaning crews, should be commensurate with time periods during which popular pier fishing is suspended to allow the sea floor to recover."

Our people can add to my email also. Thank you Janine.  
 Glenn Robertson

Glenn Robertson, Engineering Geologist  
 CEQA Coordinator

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