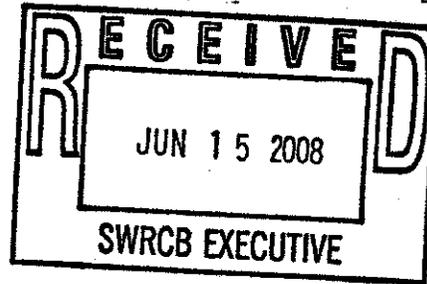


June 15, 2008

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



Subject: Comment Letter-Landscape Irrigation General Permit

For approximately 20 years the USGS, EPA and other government agencies have funded various studies by universities and other scientific groups pertaining to the constituents of Emerging Contaminates found in treated wastewater. All have indicated that Emerging Contaminates (prescription drugs and endocrine disruptors) found in treated wastewater are currently having detrimental effects on fish, wildlife, the environment as well as a great potential for adverse effects on humans as they continue to accumulate in the environments. Results of all studies have one thing in common – they caution for more study prior to the continued widespread use of treated wastewater.

Estrogens are but one class of endocrine disruptors commonly found in ever tertiary recycled water. Studies have shown that even trace amounts of estrogens (5 parts per trillion) are causing mutations in fish, has also been identified in earthworms as well as water fowl and their eggs and affect their abilities to reproduce normally leading to an abnormal rise in female populations.

Currently thousands of individual Emerging Contaminates have been identified and their individual effects documented or under investigation. Now the question is becoming, what effects are being caused by the combined effects of all the Emerging Contaminates in the witches' brew of chemicals and substances currently unregulated and found in treated wastewater? Nobody knows yet because the studies are just now beginning.

The fact is that currently there are no water treatment processes designed to eliminate Emerging Contaminates largely because there simply are no State or Federal regulations that address Emerging Contaminates.

I strongly urge this board to heed the recommendations of the scientific community and the studies funded and documented by USGS and EPA - delay further consideration for the use of recycled water for landscape irrigation or any other uses until it can be treated properly and proven safe to humans and the environment beyond a reasonable doubt.

Respectfully,
Dan Fowlks
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