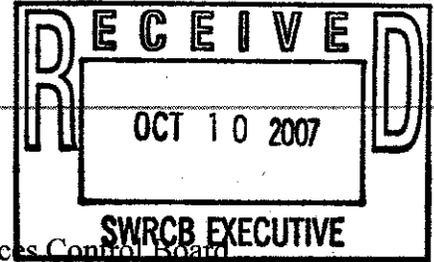


**commentletters - Comment Letter – proposed Water Recycling Policy**

12/4/07 Bd. Mtg.  
**Water Recycling Policy**  
 Deadline: 10/26/07 by Noon

**From:** Dan Fowlks <hardware@earthlink.net>  
**To:** <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 10, 2007 4:32 PM  
**Subject:** Comment Letter – proposed Water Recycling Policy



October 10, 2007

Jeanine Rownsend, Acting Clerk to the Board, Executive Office, State Water Resources Control Board  
 P.O. Box 100  
 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

**Subject:** Comment Letter – proposed Water Recycling Policy

This letter will serve to point out a very important omission in both the proposed Water Recycling Policy and the Draft Staff Report. While the development and use of recycled water from sewage may become necessary in the future little or no attention has been given to the emerging contaminants that have been identified since the establishment of the Clean Water Act of 1976.

Areas of current study which must be addressed are the biodegradation, bioformation and bioaccumulation of man-made substances currently found to be contaminating rivers, streams and lakes as identified by USGS, EPA, FDA and a host of universities and widely published in many scientific journals.

One major effect is from endocrine disruptors and their effect on fish. Mutations in male fish studied downstream from wastewater treatment facilities caused by minuscule quantities of endocrine disruptors causing the fish to develop ovaries and eggs.

Another substance is triclocarban, unaffected by known wastewater treatment processes, passes directly into the environment. This compound is used as an antimicrobial additive in the majority of household and industrial soaps and is found in great abundance across the state.

Prescription medications like Plavix, Prozac, Viagra, estrogen and literally thousands of others are passing unaltered into our waterways today. While these items are being studied, experts from federal, state and local agencies have done little more than acknowledge their presence ... with one exception ...

... This year the Navajo Nation sued the U.S. Forest Service in a case involving the use of treated wastewater and won. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals found that, among other things, there was "lack of analysis regarding birth control drugs, Viagra, Prozac, Valium, Claritin, and other pharmaceuticals ..." Further the court found that there was evidence relating to the use of recycled water and the potential collapse of plant ecosystems due to hormone disruption. All of the facts pertaining to this case must be addressed and brought up for serious consideration pertaining to the proposed Water Recycling Policy.

Respectfully,  
 Dan Fowlks  
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 Fawnskin, CA 92333