

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 81-28

REMANDING TO THE NORTH COAST REGIONAL BOARD AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLANS FOR THE KLAMATH RIVER BASIN (1A) AND THE NORTH COASTAL BASIN (1B) - PROHIBITIONS FOR WASTE DISCHARGES FROM BY-PRODUCT, AND WASTE STORAGE AND HANDLING AREAS AT FOREST PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING FACILITIES

WHEREAS:

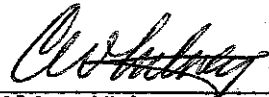
1. On October 23, 1980, the Regional Board, by Resolution No. 80-13, adopted the amendment to the Water Quality Control Plans for the Klamath River Basin (1A) and the North Coast Basin (1B) to include prohibitions for stormwater discharges from timber processing mills.
2. Copies of Resolution No. 80-13, pertinent information, and the record before the Regional Board were forwarded to the State Board for review and approval of the proposed amendment.
3. At the February 4, 1981 State Board workshop, questions were raised about using this amendment to control discharges which could be regulated under NPDES permits program and the lack of flexibility of a prohibition in regulating mills at widely varying locations relative to receiving waters. Concern was voiced by the Department of Fish and Game regarding the propriety of the Regional Board allowing toxic releases for a specified time. The absence of a specific definition of "rainfall" was also a source of confusion which would complicate implementation of the proposed prohibition.
4. Concerned parties were asked to submit written comments regarding the proposed amendment.
5. Pursuant to Section 13245 of the Water Code, the State Board has reviewed the proposed amendment and considered comments from all parties regarding the proposed amendment.
6. The Regional Board record was inadequate to indicate that the prohibition, as proposed, was sufficiently flexible to adequately account for the wide range of physical factors associated with the discharges. While it may be possible to place such flexibility in a Basin Plan provision, it appears that a Basin Plan prohibition does not offer any real advantage over regulation on an individual basis.

THEREBY BE IT RESOLVED:

The State Board hereby remands this amendment to the North Coast Regional Board with a recommendation that the Regional Board consider the feasibility of regulating stormwater runoff from lumber mills on a case-by-case basis.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board on March 19, 1981.



Clint Whitney
Executive Director