

From: Scott Peterson <arkarts@gmail.com>
To: <smarks@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 4/7/2008 4:56:46 PM
Subject: R3-2008-0005 and R3-2008-0006 Comments

Attn: Sorrel Marks

Central Coast Water Board

Re: Comments for Resolution No: R3-2008-0005 and R3-2008-0006

Dear Mrs. Marks,

As a member of various citizen committees working with City and County government regarding water policy issues, and more specifically the adoption of permitting language allowing private implementation of Onsite Sanitary Systems presently codified and legal in states other than California. We cannot determine why California lags behind other states in proven OSS technologies (regarded as "alternative" to conventional septic systems and dry wells). Federal findings and the findings of other states hold some "alternative" technologies to be superior to conventional technologies in the arenas of environmental impacts, public health, and resource conservation.

No matter what support we receive on a personal level, how can our local leadership feel like they are using time and energy wisely if it means investigating or supporting technologies that our state, California, is certain to reject? Please allow at least consideration of the incorporation of permitting language that would allow a participating city or county to allow OSS technologies of present and legal use in other states for conditional use here in California on a demonstration basis. While these systems are fine for other states, we would not simply assume that they will work in California, the language for a demonstration permit could include provisions for transparency and monitoring which would not only verify performance, but provide essential data for the possible future adoption of these systems as conventional uses. Demonstration permit language could be conditional on testing and performance to at least equal conventional technologies, and further conditioned on plans provided to revert to a conventional or other allowable use in part or as a whole system, should performance not meet state or local standards.

In this revision of OSS criterion, please allow Californians who have the will and environmental ethic to play catch up with other states.

Thank you,

Scott Gustav Peterson

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