

Public Comment  
Strategic Plan Update  
Deadline: 6/20/08 by 12 p.m.

3152 Shad Court  
Simi Valley, CA 93063  
June 18, 2008

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

Re: Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012, Version Three (Draft Update)--Public Comment Letter.

Dear Members of the Board:

Yesterday, when I logged onto your Website to research a couple of items that I had covered in my June 14, 2007 and June 22, 2007 letters on the Strategic Plan Update, I came across the May 28, 2008 "Proposal to Improve Water Boards' Enforcement and Efficiency" press release. Because I have many concerns with regards to the proposed changes, this letter is in addition to my June 17, 2008 letter for the public participation process issue.

Members of the Board, in my June 14, 2007 letter to Jeff Barnickol and Zori Lozano-Friedrich, I stated on page 1 under PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS CONSISTENCY that "The Cal/EPA has an excellent public participation outreach program..." Now I feel that the opposite is the case. With the new State and Regional Water Boards Website format a lot of crucial information has been lost, or hidden away, and its is more time consuming to research the Websites--all counterproductive to the Boards' public "commitment".

Members of the Board, I was barely able to locate the Center for Collaborative Policy Public Involvement Needs Assessment April 2005 report. I have not located the Cal/EPA's May 2005 Draft Proposed Recommendations for A Public Participation Policy, nor the May 2003 USEPA's Public Participation Policy, nor the status of the SWRCB Website February 28, 2007 "Coming Soon" Public Participation Manual information.

Members of the Board, I am opposed to reducing the number of Regional Water Boards members. Since there are 2 Water Quality seats, the number serving can remain at 8.

Members of the Board, I am opposed to delegating the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting decisions to the Regional Board Executive Officers.

Members of the Board, I am opposed to the Boards reporting their progress to the Legislature and Governor "every two years". It must be every year!!!

Members of the Board, I am opposed to eliminating state reviews of Regional Boards decisions with regards to TMDLs water quality standards.

Members of the Board, I am opposed to the conflict-of-interest rules (the "ten percent rule") proposed changes.

Members of the Board, I am opposed to having the District Attorneys and City Attorneys of only cities with populations of 750,000 or more authorized to seek civil liability for water quality violations. All such law enforcement agents of any size town, city, and county must be authorized.

Members of the Board, with regards to the Regional Water Boards inconsistencies issue, begin by making their Websites consistent by including for all: biographies of their member, photographs, stating the vacancies, matching the categories wording for each seat, etceteras.

Members of the Board, I am opposed to the Full Time Chairs Paid Position proposal.

Members of the Board, the "Enclosures" submitted with the State Water Resources Control Board's May 28, 2008 letter to California Senator Don Perata from Miss Dorothy Rice, Board's Executive Director, should have been posted along with the letter on your Website.

Members of the Board, with all of these Boards' changes, it is of the utmost importance that a Public Bill of Rights and Public Participation Process definitions as outlined in my June 14, 2007 letter be approved ASAP. Otherwise, our Governor's "open government" policy is full of empty words, and are hypocritical. Governor Schwarzenegger is either committed, or not, but he cannot be both when so much is at stake for California's future, like the United States of America--either broken, or a shining example to follow.

State agencies will never restore the public's trust with just outreach, and awareness programs when politicians and government agencies personnel are bent on deceiving the people for government to get its way, and/or have us kowtow to its whims just because resources are stretched once again, and reformers are smelling blood in the waters.

Members of the Board, already my trust in the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards was shot. Now, I am seriously beginning to doubt Governor Schwarzenegger's integrity since apparently he is now taking the front door reform approach under false pretenses. About a week ago, I read that he was reprimanded for not having a fire safe home. Once he learned about it, did he set out to educate Californians? No! Instead, he wants to penalize others who are not aware, or do not have the means to have fire safe homes. Thus, I disagree with Chairman Tam Doduc's contention that "These reforms will allow the Water Boards to provide more protection with existing resources" (May 28, 2008 press release). It is quite the opposite! Thus, these improvements are not comprehensive! Thus, the result is not "better service to Californians"!

Sincerely,



Mrs. Teresa Jordan

Enclosure:

June 18, 2008, Jordan Compilation of "Regional Water Quality Control Boards' Vacant Seats", and other pertinent Websites' information.

**REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS' VACANT SEATS**  
 Compiled by Teresa Jordan  
 June 18, 2008

<u>NAME (REGION)</u>	<u>VACANT</u>	<u>CATEGORY</u>
North Coast(1)	3	Industrial Water Use Public Member Water Supply
San Francisco Bay(2)	2	County Government Municipal Government
Central Coast(3)	2	County Government Municipal Government
Los Angeles(4)	2	County Government Water Quality
Central Valley(5)	2	Industrial Water Use Municipal Government
Lahontan(6)	2	Public at Large Water Quality
Colorado River Basin(7)	2	County Government Rec. Fish & Wildlife
Santa Ana(8)	1	Municipal Government
San Diego(9)	2	Industrial Water Use Water Supply

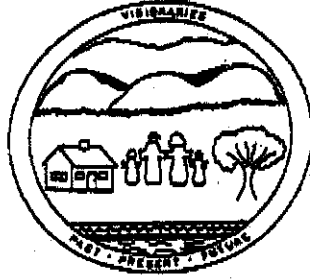
\*Regions: Some post on Websites members' biographies, and some also include members' photographs.

\*Region 1 Corbett biography is unclear about the category.

\*Regions 1, 2, 4, and 5 do not include vacant information.

\*Regions state "Undesignated(Public)", "Public at Large", "Public Member", "Public", or "Public(Undesignated)".

\*Regions for Recreation, Fish and Wildlife have "&", "and", "or"; and "Rec."; and "/"; or delete "Fish".



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RE: Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012,  
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-- Public Comment Letter.