

From: billy quealy <billyquealy@gmail.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Saturday, April 10, 2010 3:43 AM
Subject: Comment Letter - OTC Policy

Apr 10, 2010

Chairman Charlie R. Hoppin
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairman Hoppin,

Marine Sanctuary/ Clean Water/ Wise Use/ Best Management Practice

I am certain you will do the right thing as regards phasing out inferior cooling systems to positively affect (rescue) State wildlife and water resources, but I hope to hear about it on TV. Could you call CNN on the day you announce the decision. International news really, how do they do it in California? Is it government for the people and the environment, or for a fleeting # of private corporations who will still make millions doing it the right way? Explain to industry professionals and Chamber lobbyist that you are a State representative.

Many people have written or signed on to urge the California State Water Board to reject proposed OTC policy amendments that subvert the phase out of "once-through cooling systems". The OTC policy needs to be strengthened significantly to reinforce the state's commitment to ensuring that these facilities adopt the "best technology available" based on swift, certain timeframes.

Prior, stronger versions of the policy were described by the state's top 3 power agencies as providing a "workable schedule" that "maintain[s] reliable operation of the electric grid." The electrical grid oversight agency itself found that many older power plants also have "higher greenhouse gas emission rates and other pollutants than new generation sources." Once-through cooling enables inefficient power plants to operate at the expense of the environment and undermines state goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

California has spent millions of dollars restoring and maintaining marine, coastal and Delta habitats. There are also Federal mandates with funding to encourage CSWB to implement this common sense science for the people and the environment of California. A protective OTC policy that meets the letter and intent of the law is essential to maintain these ongoing investments in healthy ecosystems. Reject proposed amendments.

Sincerely,

Mr. billy quealy
PO Box 7059
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-7059

