



## City of Encinitas

Public Comment  
Trash Amendments  
Deadline: 8/5/14 by 12:00 noon



August 5, 2014

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

VIA E-MAIL To: [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)

Subject: COMMENTS ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR INLAND SURFACE WATERS, ENCLOSED BAYS AND ESTUARIES OF CALIFORNIA AND THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR OCEAN WATERS OF CALIFORNIA.

Ms. Townsend:

The City of Encinitas appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Proposed Trash Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California (ISWEBE Plan) and the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters in California (Ocean Plan). The City is encouraged by the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Board) public engagement in the adoption process, as this provides an opportunity to incorporate stakeholder perspectives into the final amendments and develop a sound approach to controlling trash.

The City of Encinitas shares the State Board's concern for clean water and fully appreciates the important role a Trash Policy would play in ensuring healthy waterways in our communities. After careful review of the Proposed Trash Amendments, the following predominant concerns have been identified by the City of Encinitas, warranting further consideration and revisions to the Proposed Trash Amendments by the State Board prior to formal adoption proceedings.

1. The Proposed Trash Amendments would impose new State requirements on local agencies without identifying a funding reimbursement source. Prior to adoption of the proposed policy, the State Water Resources Control Board must first identify a reliable funding source to reimburse local jurisdictions for the cost of the new requirements, as mandated by the California Constitution.
2. The Proposed Trash Amendments are premised upon a postulation that trash is an acute problem in all waters, and requires specific actions by all municipalities that discharge to those waters. Alternatively, the Proposed Trash Amendments should address trash in a manner similar to other pollutants in which actions would be required only after

impairment has been documented or a water quality objective has been exceeded and the regulated entity has contributed to that impairment or objective exceedance.

3. The rigid implementation requirements expressed in the Proposed Trash Amendments do not allow flexibility for local resources to be used efficiently and to address “real world” problems. Alternatively, if a problem (as defined by a documented impairment, *see comment #2 above*) is identified, regulated entities should be allowed to address trash issues consistent with their local planning and implementation strategies to meet the defined narrative water quality objective. A narrative water quality objective for trash is supportive of the State Water Resources Control Board’s goal of statewide consistency, and as such, should be fully developed for incorporation into the Proposed Trash Amendments.

Thank you in advance for giving full consideration to the comments and recommendations provided above by the City of Encinitas, as well as those provided by stakeholders throughout the San Diego Region and statewide. We look forward to a comprehensive public process, and to meeting our mutual water quality goals through sound policy and efficient implementation strategies.

Sincerely,



Glenn Pruim  
Director of Public Works  
City of Encinitas