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Dr. Robert Cohen  
17649 Arnold Drive  
Sonoma, CA 95476

STATE WATER RESOURCES  
CONTROL BOARD

2008 MAY -2 AM 11: 09

DIV. OF WATER RIGHTS  
SACRAMENTO

**Karen Niiya, Senior Engineer**  
Division of Water Rights  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Dorothy R. Rice**, Executive Director, SWRCB  
**Charles R. Hoppin**, Board Member, SWRCB  
**Arthur G. Baggett, Jr.**, Board Member, SWRCB  
**Frances Spivy-Weber**, Board Member, SWRCB  
**Tam M. Doduc**, Board Member, SWRCB  
**Gary Wolff**, Vice Chair, SWRCB

**SUBJECT: Comment Letter – AB 2121 Policy**

Dear Ms. Niiya and the Board,

Firstly, Ms. Niiya, I would like this letter to be delivered to all the addressees listed above.

Over dinner, our friends who own a pond explained the SWRCB's new proposed water policy. In my wildest dreams, I cannot imagine what will come of them if this policy is implemented. **Perhaps unintended, these Orwellian proposals, when implemented, will certainly cause the distress sale of our friends' land.**

**Can you as individuals and citizens, not Senior Engineers or Board members, imagine a government requiring you to provide documentation, physical bypass, and monitoring at a price greater than your mortgage?** Furthermore, if you could not afford the aforementioned, you would be forced to remove the pond, at equally devastating expense.

You would lose your home, just as my friends will.

Now consider my wife and I running pumps for months on end during the winter to keep our Sonoma home above the rising torrents of our neighborhood creek! There is seldom, if ever, a shortage of winter flows in our Sonoma creeks.

**Do the right thing, and allow our friends and neighbors to keep their homes and small ponds. As proposed, the new water rights policy is unbalanced and immoral. The SWRCB should implement a balanced policy, considering citizens and fish alike.**

Sincerely,



Dr. Robert Cohen