

Paul Herzoff

1420 - 45th St. #37, Emeryville, CA 94608

March 17, 2009

John Muller, Chair
S.F. Bay Regional Water Board
1515 Clay Street, Ste 1400
Oakland, CA 94612



Dear Mr. Muller,

As a regular walker on the beaches of San Francisco Bay I am grieved at the levels of trash and litter that I always see. I'm aware that this is just the visible portion of a blight that hurts every aspect of the marine environment.

The Water Board is our best hope to slow and eventually stop the flow of garbage into the bay, and a stronger regulation is required to do the job.

The current proposed regulation seems like an attempt to mitigate the problem, but not to solve it. I think that Michealangelo's saying holds true here: "The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."

Offering cities the "right" to pollute the bay at lower levels is a step in the wrong direction. The proposed permit level is too incremental to offer much relief to marine wildlife or to improve the bay's water quality.

I'd rather see the board striving for a higher level of environmental protection. Zero trash might be difficult to attain, but it's a worthy and necessary goal.

Please direct the Board's efforts to minimize the flow of trash, not merely lower it from the obscene levels we see today.

Thanks for your attention in this matter, and for your efforts on behalf of our greatest natural treasure.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Herzoff,
Emeryville