

Ben Neill - Public Comment MS4 Permit Orange County

From: jinger wallace <jingerw@hotmail.com>
To: <bneill@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 5/29/09 2:31 PM
Subject: Public Comment MS4 Permit Orange County
CC: verna rollinger <vernarollinger@cox.net>, toni iseman <seeguls@aol.com>, Jane and Paul Egly <jhegly@aol.com>, Kelly Boyd City Council <kellyboyd2006@gmail.com>, Elizabeth Pearson LBCC <elizabethpearson2@cox.net>

May 29, 2009
John Robertus, Executive Director
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
9174 Sky Park Ct., Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

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San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
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SUBJECT: MS4 Permit

I am writing to give my complete support to approval of the proposed MS4 permit.

Inland cities have for far too long ignored their responsibilities and continue to allow urban runoff to pollute our ocean and coastal zones. Excuses such as "people like to wash their cars" or "People will be upset" are sad attempts by inland cities to avoid taking necessary and corrective action. At a recent public workshop I heard testimony from one city representative complaining how hard it is for people who live on hills to stop the runoff. This is a poor excuse. A simple remedy like a small grate with U-pipe below or low speed bump would send the water to plants on the side of a driveway rather than running off to the street, creeks and ocean. But, until SDRWQCB adopts the new MS4 permit, these solutions will be ignored.

There is broad public support for cleaning up our runoff and waste. This includes people who live in inland counties who are tired of their lakes and creeks being polluted as well residents of beach communities. Many inland residents go to the beach for weekends and holidays. The volume of urban runoff reaching and polluting the ocean appalls them as well as tourists and locals.

We now have laws requiring bicycle and motorcycle helmets, seat belts and the proper disposal of trash. This, too, is an issue whose time has come.

It is time that SDRWQCB took real, forceful action to stop cities from polluting. Cities have been out of compliance for the past 7 years. We need immediate relief.

Please insist that runoff be stopped or diverted to catchments/dissipaters or for filtration and beneficial reuse. Levy fines against offending violators. Until SDRWQCB uses their regulatory power to stop these polluting discharges, nothing will be done. Please do not postpone the inevitable and leave us with polluted creeks and coastal shores.

Please confirm receipt.

Sincerely,

Jinger Wallace

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cc Laguna Beach City Council

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