

reissuance, mrp@Waterboards

From: Karen Ginsberg <kareng1123@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2015 5:23 PM
To: reissuance, mrp@Waterboards
Subject: a request for action
Attachments: To.docx

To: The Regional Water Quality Control Board

Regional Water Quality Control Board members and staff:

Please adopt a stronger Municipal Stormwater Permit for 76 cities and counties in the Bay Area. As a resident of the Bay Area, I urge you to create stronger policy and regulation that will get our region to zero trash by 2022.

The Municipal Stormwater Permit should be rewritten to include enforceable mandates, create measurable targets, and produce clear data to accurately track trash in the Bay. Please include these specific, crucial changes in the revised permit:

- Get serious about getting to ZERO TRASH. If cities or counties fail to achieve a 70% trash reduction by 2017 and a 100% reduction by 2022, they should be required to install additional full-trash-capture devices in storm drains so that trash is intercepted before flowing into creeks.
- Track trash over time. Require cities to collect trash data from our urban areas no less than twice per quarter. Data collected from the same locations multiple times is necessary to understand how trash conditions change over time and whether cities are effectively moving toward zero trash.
- The proof is in the water. Support the addition of monitoring trash conditions in waterways, in addition to monitoring trash in our urban areas.
- Keep focusing on “hot spots.” Continue to require reporting of the dominant types of trash at trash hot spots. Bay Area cities banned plastic bags and Styrofoam food-ware because cleanup data showed that these were some of the most common types of litter. The more information we have about the trash polluting our creeks, the more effectively our cities can prioritize solutions.
- Prioritize stopping trash at the source. Eliminating single-use, throwaway materials is a growing trend that we should support. We urge you to incentivize source control efforts by offering more than 5% trash load reduction credit to cities that submit strong implementation plans.

Please make the most of this opportunity to learn from the challenges of the past four years and to create a permit that produces clear data to accurately track trash in the Bay, placing cities on a stronger path to achieving zero trash. My community expects to see zero trash in stormwater by 2022. Please, stick to the timeline and issue a permit that ensures city compliance.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Thank you for taking action,

Karen Beroldo