commentletters - Water Quality Enforcement Policy Draft-July 14, 2009

From: "michael bailey" <michaelebailey@cox.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Saturday, July 25, 2009 11:51 PM
Subject: Water Quality Enforcement Policy Draft-July 14, 2009

This looks like a good policy. It spells out in some detail how fines will be calculated and the different types of enforcement options. One of the good things about this policy is that it does not rely on the fine option alone to bring violators into compliance. They can come into compliance by doing projects that will cleanup the water they polluted and that will keep them from polluting mohre in the future. According to the policy proposal, the violator can do things like build new facilities, upgrade or repair existing ones, do water testing and investigations, develop and operate cleanup systems, and do things like staff training all of which are important. But it is also important that the fine option is also there. The proposal seems balanced and fair and should be adopted. The only recommendation I would make is that something needs to be included that would get enforcement done in cases like a phone utility has a conduit pipeline running under a bridge deck across a creek, the pipe has a hole in it and has been leaking into the creek for 4 years or so but the phone company won't repair the pipe so it won't leak any more. Something in the enforcement policy needs to be significant enough to get the phone company's attention. The fines option maybe necessary here and the fines may need to be large. I am a member of the Casa Loma Condominiums Homeowner's Association Board of Directors and water policy is very important for us because Oso Creek runs right outside my front door almost and we are planning to install a recycled water system with the help of our water district. Thank you. Michael E. Bailey, 25801 Marguerite Parkway, No. 103, Mission Viejo, CA 92692.

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