

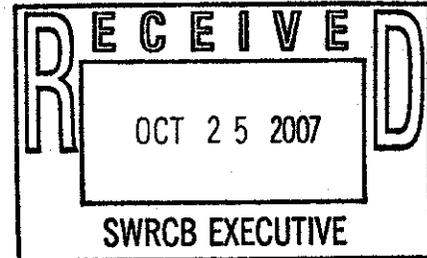


NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

October 25, 2007

Via Electronic Mail

Chair Tam Doduc and Members of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814



Re: Statewide Water Recycling Policy

Dear Chair Doduc and State Board Members:

On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Statewide Water Recycling Policy ("Policy"). NRDC joins in the comments of the California Coastkeeper Alliance.

While the Policy needs important modifications before it is finalized, and while it also needs a stronger foundation in the form of a full anti-degradation analysis, as required by the Clean Water Act, these issues need not be insurmountable obstacles to timely issuance of a final policy. Judging by the Board's workshop in Los Angeles earlier this month, all stakeholders appear to share the perspective that water recycling is an important part of California's effort to secure an adequate and safe water supply and to redress surface water pollution. Therefore, by fully addressing comments such as those provided by the environmental community, and by carefully guiding the process in the months to come, the Board should be able to issue a policy that all parties can support—and, at minimum, that all can live with.

Given the often fractious debate on this important subject, the success or failure of this Policy rests now mostly in how the Board addresses the comments it has received. For our part, NRDC is ready and willing to sit down with other stakeholders to address matters of possible disagreement and to help shape a Policy that facilitates water recycling in a manner fully protective of the State's water resources.

Sincerely,

David S. Beckman
Senior Attorney & Director,
Coastal Water Quality Program

cc: Ms. Dorothy Rice, Executive Director