

Public Comment
Malibu Septic Prohibition
Deadline: 7/12/10 by 12 noon

From: Rhonda Diamond <diamond2dance@aol.com>
To: <jtownsend@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Monday, June 28, 2010 9:10 AM
Subject: "Comment Letter Malibu Septic Prohibition"

Dear Ms. Townsend,

I am writing you to comment on the issue of septic tank prohibition.

It has been over ten years since I became quite ill after a September day of surfing at Malibu Surfrider Beach.

My doctor's comment after viewing the lab reports a few days later were, "You have more bacteria inside of you than you find inside of an Andy Gump chemical toilet!"

It was a serious bacterial infection that has left my immune system compromised to this day.

My friends commented at the time that I couldn't have gotten ill from Malibu's water in September, because the lagoon had not been breached yet, and that is the time for bacteria infections.

My suspicions were that the infection was caused by the leeching of older septic tanks, that were located on properties adjacent to Malibu Surfrider Beach.

On June 30th, 2009, I gave an interview on KNBC News about my experience with pollution in the oceans off Malibu. I mentioned, in the report, "The Jaws Syndrome", which refers to a scene in the movie, Jaws, where the mayor of the local town repressed information that there had been shark attacks at his beaches, in order to keep the needed tourists visiting his town.

I feel that the city of Malibu is practicing that same "repression" of information, in this case, the information that there were, and still are, old leaky septic tanks leeching their contents into the waters of Malibu Surfrider Beach.

Please prohibit septic tanks from being used in Malibu. I do not want to have anyone else have to suffer the results of bacterial infections like I have.

Thank you for your time,

Paul Jay Diamond, a Malibu surfer for over 40 years.

