

From: "Norman La Force" <n.laforce@comcast.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Sun, Apr 8, 2007 9:59 PM
Subject: Comment Letter--Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy

Wetland/Riparian Policy
Deadline: 4/19/07, 12 noon

Dear Song Her, Clerk of the Board,

I am President of SPRAWLDEF, Sustainability, Parks Recycling and Wildlife Legal Defense Fund. SPRAWLDEF was created to focus efforts on issues of solid waste disposal, especially the siting or expansion of landfills sites. Many landfills are sited in or adjacent to wetlands, marshes, riparian areas, or in key watershed areas. In the past, people viewed such locations as ideal for landfills because these lands were less desirable for other kinds of development. Consequently, SPRAWLDEF has a major interest in protecting wetlands.

The State Board has initiated a process for developing regulations to protect wetlands and riparian areas. This process includes the preparation of a Draft EIR on the proposed wetland and riparian area protection policy. SPRAWLDEF urges the Board to adopt Alternative 4 in the DEIR as the preferred alternative because it will do the most to protect wetlands and streams. The other alternatives are simply not adequate or sufficient to ensure proper protection.

SPRAWLDEF also urges the Board to complete the process as soon as possible in order to ensure protection of wetlands and riparian habitats and to have the strongest policy for protecting wetlands and riparian areas in place by the end of 2007.

Sincerely yours,

Norman La Force, President SPRAWLDEF

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