

Chlorine Policy
Deadline: 7/14/06 5pm

From: kristen <kristen510@gmail.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Fri, Jul 14, 2006 11:22 AM
Subject: Comment letter-chlorine policy

It has recently come to my attention that the State water board is attempting to revise its policy on chloramines to weaken the regulations on water agencies for controlling and neutralizing breaks which release chloramines into our creeks, by taking away the power of regional Water Boards to require Water Agencies to use BMPs in the event of water main breaks. Chloramine is fatal to aquatic organisms such as fish, frogs and aquatic insects and I have myself witnessed fish kills occurring as a result of EBMUD water main breaks in Strawberry Creek.

We cannot allow Water Agencies to indiscriminately release toxic chemicals into our creeks. You may be aware that threatened Steelhead Trout were observed this spring in Codornices Creek in Berkeley. A water main break of the size and duration that occurred in Strawberry Creek could wipe out the entire population of this threatened species. We cannot take that chance.

Please do not adopt the proposed "Total Chlorine and Chlorine-Produced Oxidants Policy of California". The Sf Bay Regional Water Board is in the middle of a highly successful collaborative process with EBMUD to develop plans to control chloramines discharges beyond the nominally successful current use of BMPs.

Regional Boards should retain the power to require water agencies to monitor releases and require an effective set of BMPs to prevent the damage that chloramine releases cause.

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