

Public Comment
Draft Construction Permit
Deadline: 6/11/08 by 12 p.m.

From: Deric Weis <daweis@juno.com>
To: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov
Date: Mon, Jun 9, 2008 11:12 PM
Subject: Comment Letter: Draft Construction Permit

June 9, 2008

RE: Comment Letter: Draft Construction Permit

I am writing to express concerns regarding the proposed Draft General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activities ("the Permit") now being considered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

I am troubled, therefore, by the drastic changes in stormwater runoff management called for in the Permit. The extremes of those changes seem unnecessary given the track record of homebuilders' "best management practices". Instead of improving the best management practice approach, the permit will simply create confusion and uncertainty and lead to increased housing costs.

Some of the Permit's new requirements make no sense. For example, the Permit adopts complicated and costly new sediment-content standards (numeric effluent limits) that the SWRCB's own blue-ribbon panel rejected due to the current lack of data and necessary technology. This and other new requirements are proposed without any demonstration that they will produce any marked improvement water quality.

While I join with Bay Area homebuilders in supporting improvements to the management of stormwater runoff, those changes should be practicable, workable and should lead to certain improvements in water quality.

Regrettably, the Permit in its present form appears to fail at meeting those reasonable tests. Accordingly, I urge the SWRCB to resolve the Permit's defects and inconsistencies before moving forward on its adoption.

Sincerely,

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