

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Bill Johnson)
MEETING DATE: November 12, 2014

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: **2014 Dr. Teng-chung Wu Pollution Prevention Award** – Presentation of Award to Phil Bobel for Lifetime Achievement

CHRONOLOGY: 2007– Awarded to the Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group for mercury reduction education and to the East Bay Municipal Utility District for collaboration with local groups
2008 – Awarded to the San Francisco PUC for fats, oil, and grease to fuel program
2009 – Awarded to the Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group for “No Drugs Down the Drain” campaign
2010 – Awarded to the Wastewater Treatment Agencies of Marin County for collaborative public education program
2011 – Awarded to the Millbrae Water Pollution Prevention Program for outstanding public outreach
2012 – Awarded to Alameda County for the Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance and to Thomas Barron for lifetime achievement
2013 – Awarded to Palo Alto for research and outreach efforts on contaminants of emerging concern

DISCUSSION: The item is the presentation of the 2014 Dr. Teng-chung Wu Pollution Prevention Award to Phil Bobel in recognition of his lifetime achievements in pollution prevention. Phil is the Assistant Director of Public Works for the City of Palo Alto and a pollution prevention pioneer. After working at U.S. EPA in the early days of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, the Clean Air Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and the Superfund program, he moved on to the City of Palo Alto, where he developed the City’s first pollution prevention program. Phil is known for his leadership in public education and documented reductions in water pollutants.

This year marks Phil’s 43rd year protecting the environment, 25 of which have been with Palo Alto. Throughout the years, he has led numerous award-winning environmental programs, including the Clean Bay Business Program, the Our World Our Water Program, and the Brake Pad Partnership. Palo Alto’s stormwater and wastewater quality reflect his exemplary pollution prevention leadership.

The Board established the Dr. Teng-chung Wu Pollution Prevention Award in 2007 to honor the legacy of Dr. Teng-chung Wu, who worked for many years at the Board and was a pollution prevention advocate long before it became popular. The annual award recognizes innovation, effectiveness, and collaboration in pollution prevention.

RECOMMEN-
DATION: No action is necessary