



Plastics Division



July 24, 2015

The Honorable Felicia Marcus  
Chair, California State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Proposal to Develop a Storm Water Program Workplan and Implementation Strategy**

Dear Chairwoman Marcus:

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on the Proposal to Develop a Storm Water Program Workplan and Implementation Strategy ("Proposal"). ACC supports the State Water Resources Control Board's ("Board") goal of reducing trash throughout California's waterways.

ACC supports the comments in the attached coalition letter, and incorporates it fully into our brief comments here. We, too, urge the Board to ensure that clean up and trash reduction efforts reflect the priorities established by the Board in the recent trash amendments adopted April 7, 2015 ("Trash Amendments").

ACC supports policies that actually reduce the amount of trash that is improperly discarded and ends up in California's waterways. For example, we support proposals that prioritize trash reduction by targeting high trash generating areas and structural controls that clearly are the most effective way to prevent forms of trash from entering the state's waterways. As noted in our comments on the draft amendments to the statewide water quality control plans to control trash in 2014 (dated August 5, 2014), the effectiveness of infrastructure controls has been demonstrated in Los Angeles.

As drafted, the Proposal could result in requirements that are inconsistent with the Trash Amendments, such as product bans, that could undermine the new trash-reduction policies enacted by the Board. The issue of "substitution litter" caused by banning one type of product or packaging is one which the Board addressed in adopting its statewide Trash Amendments earlier this year. Specifically, the Board determined that adopting local ordinances that ban specific product or packaging frequently result in a substitute taking their place, and the substitute is just as likely to be discarded by the end-user and find its way into the MS4 agencies' storm water. For this reason, the statewide Trash Amendments adopted by the Board just a few months ago *rejected* the notion of allowing credits or offsets to MS4 agencies that adopt such bans.



We recommend the Board remove Project 21, “True Source Control and Pollution Prevention,” from the list of projects in the Strategic Initiative and to revise Project 19, “Trash Control,” to make clear that the trash control measures the State Board evaluates and eventually adopts will be limited to only those that are consistent with the recently adopted Trash Amendments.

We look forward to continued work with the Board on the Proposal. Please contact me if you have any questions, [Tim\\_Shestek@americanchemistry.com](mailto:Tim_Shestek@americanchemistry.com) or 916-448-2581.

Sincerely,



Tim Shestek  
Senior Director, State Affairs  
American Chemistry Council

ATTACHMENT

