

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Please contact the State Water Resources Control Board and request that it not move forward with a proposed permit that would make marina operators responsible for the quality of the water that flows into their marinas!

The Water Board is proposing a permit for ALL coastal marinas (including many inland marinas that are in “bays” and “estuaries”) that would FORCE them to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to conduct expensive water quality testing and monitoring and to report that information to the State. It also gives the Water Board the authority to MANDATE “management practices” on the marina as the board sees fit. Such mandates could include testing the bottom paint of the boats to see if they contain copper and even DEMAND the elimination of slips to reduce the amount of copper in the water! While copper seems to be a focus, the permit calls for testing and monitoring for many other constituents in the water, even trash! In short, it forces a wide range of testing and monitoring and gives extremely broad authority to the Water Board to mandate changes at the marina based on the testing and monitoring that the marina has to pay for!

Forcing Marina operators to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to try and improve water quality will not improve water quality. The water in a coastal marina cannot be controlled by the marina so forcing them to spend this money will not be effective.

There is no evidence that the boats in marinas are causing a water quality problem. Forcing such a major expenditure without real evidence of a problem caused by the boats is unethical and extremely harmful in these tough economic times.

The authority given to the Water Board to demand changes to how the marina is operated is far too broad and could lead to abuses. This permit would allow a staff level individual to force changes at a marina, even to the point of reducing slips based on their own assessment and not based on clear criteria. This permit could put someone out of business based solely on a low-level decision-maker’s “opinion”.

The \$200,000 cost per marina of this program will put many small marinas out of business.

The “Clean Marina Program” run by the marina industry is the best approach to improving water quality in marinas. This is an excellent program that is working to enhance the marine environment through voluntary participation and should be seen as the venue to address the State’s water quality goals for marinas.

Please contact the Water Board and request that it not move forward with the marina permit proposal.  
Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street,

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip

**Please Help!** You can contact the Governor, your local legislator, and the Executive Office of the State Water Resources Control Board to express your opposition to this proposed permit. Send a copy to RBOC via fax 916-441-3520, or via mail to RBOC, 925 L Street, Suite 220, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Contact information can be found at these websites: [www.gov.ca.gov](http://www.gov.ca.gov); [www.senate.ca.gov](http://www.senate.ca.gov); [www.assembly.ca.gov](http://www.assembly.ca.gov); and [www.swrcb.ca.gov](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov) or see page two of this letter for contact information for the Governor and the State Water Resources Control Board. You must search the legislative websites for contact information for your particular legislator.

**Contact Information:**

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Dorothy Rice, Executive Director  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Recreational Boaters of California  
925 L Street, Suite 220  
Sacramento, CA 95814