



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE OF
PUBLICLY OWNED TREATMENT WORKS

MONTHLY UPDATE

A Message from the Executive Director...

October 2007

Fall, what a great time of the year! What's not to like about it? Football is back, the weather is cooling, the kids are back in school and the new TV shows are all starting. There are also a lot of new things going on here at SCAP in the way of upcoming workshops and special events. First off, the SCAP Air Quality Committee has scheduled an informational workshop to be held on Monday, November 5, 2007, at the Inland Empire Utilities Agency that will cover numerous topics related to climate change and its impacts from AB 32 on our wastewater agencies. This should be a great opportunity for our managers and senior level staff to stay abreast of the ever changing regulations associated with green house gases. Don't forget, reservations for this workshop are due by October 19th to the SCAP office.

Not to be outdone, our Water Issues Committee, at the request of SCAP's Board of Directors, is currently planning a workshop to be held early next year to discuss water recycling policy issues and emerging contaminant regulations.

On a slightly different note, SCAP is working on the development of a "Branding Manual" for the California wastewater community. For those of you who may not be aware, "branding" is the development of a powerful message that is intended to reinforce certain ideals associated with an agency or company. It is an excellent tool for agencies to promote goodwill with its customers and for sending a clear message as to what they can expect from the organization. For example, what comes to mind when you think of Lexus or Mercedes Benz? More than likely, luxury. On the other hand, affordability may come to mind when thinking of Ford or Chevrolet. In the instance of California wastewater agencies, there may be several key messages that we want to convey to our customers and, hopefully, overturn any negative branding that may have been associated with events in the past, such as sewer overflows and beach pollution.

The idea of creating a branding manual for use by the wastewater utility agencies will hopefully be an investment in the future and an opportunity for our agencies to show the public the value our agencies bring to the environment. After all, we are the true environmental stewards of the earth.

Upcoming Meetings

Biosolids Committee Mtg – Thursday, October 11th, 9 a.m. Joint meeting with Tri-TAC at Ontario Convention Center.

Water Issues Committee Mtg – Thursday, October 11th, 9 a.m. Joint meeting with Tri-TAC at Ontario Convention Center.

Collection Systems Committee Mtg – Monday, October 22nd, 10 am-2 pm at the IRWD Duck Club.

Air Quality Committee Mtg – Thursday, October 25th, 10 a.m. – 12 noon at LACSD.

SCAP 2007 Fall Board Management Workshop on AB32 Issues – Monday, November 5th, 9 a.m. -12 noon at IEUA.
Please RSVP by October 19th.

Lastly, I am pleased to announce that the long awaited roll-out of the new SCAP website has occurred. Although, not as smoothly as anticipated, I do apologize for any inconveniences our early glitches may have caused you. But barring any future hosting problems, the site is up and running and I encourage you to spend some time browsing it. You will find many valuable contacts and links as well as a resource library that we will be updating constantly. The "members only section" is intended to provide you with information of a proprietary nature that only SCAP members are privy to. You also have the ability to sign up for alert notifications on specific areas of interest where you will be notified by e-mail when new content is added to those areas. Soon to be added will be a members only reference library for each committee as well as a question and answer forum. Initially, only the Collection Systems Committee forum is operational at this time. Should you encounter any problems with the site along the way, please give either Kris or me a call at the SCAP office.

Welcome to our newest
SCAP Member:

City of Ontario

Autumnly yours,

John Pastore

Air Quality by Chair Daniel McGivney

Summary of Statewide Climate Issues and Impact on the Wastewater Industry

Since the passage of AB 32 (California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006), the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has been very rapidly developing a statewide program to achieve the Governor's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) to 1990 levels by 2020. CARB's AB 32 focus to date has been in developing an inventory to define the 1990 GHG emissions, a mandatory reporting program and early action measures to reduce GHG emissions in the short-term while CARB develops a more comprehensive Scoping Plan. Each of these components is an important part of meeting the goals of AB 32; however, the 1990 emissions inventory is one of the most critical steps in the process. As mandated by AB 32, CARB will establish the 2020 statewide GHG emissions limit equal to the 1990 emission levels. To refine the inventory, CARB has developed several work groups for sectors that represent approximately 80% of the total 1990 emissions. Examples of some sector work groups include: electrical generation, refineries, forestry, transportation and landfills. The Scoping Plan will use the statewide 1990 inventory to define the 2020 target and establish a mix of control or market measures that reduce GHG emissions to this level.

AB 32 sets very tight timelines to meet all its regulatory targets. The emissions inventory that is currently under development will be presented to the CARB Governing Board in January 2008. By March of 2008, CARB will begin workshops for the Scoping Plan, which is scheduled to go to its Governing Board by November 2008, with adoption of control measures beginning in 2009.

The wastewater industry has been very active in following and participating in state activities to enact AB 32. Early in 2007, the industry organized and formed a group called the California

Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG) composed of 40 wastewater agencies and three wastewater organizations in California. The purpose of this group is to provide a unified voice in the regulatory process, one of the most important components of which is the development of an emissions protocol that accurately reflects GHG emissions from wastewater treatment processes. An accurate emissions protocol ensures that the wastewater industry statewide inventory is correct, and the industry is treated fairly in the regulatory process. Currently, the emissions protocol is being developed under the voluntary California Climate Action Registry (CCAR). Many of the CWCCG agencies have joined the CCAR to begin the process of developing GHG inventories. In the first three years in the CCAR, inventories only need be developed for CO₂ emissions, and thereafter all six Kyoto Protocol GHGs, the most important of which for the wastewater industry are CH₄ and N₂O. The protocols will help define how to determine these emissions from wastewater processes. In addition to working with CCAR, CARB will also play a hand in reviewing and approving the protocols.

Currently, CARB is proceeding with a Mandatory Reporting program for individual facility GHG emissions. One goal of CWCCG is to work with CARB and CCAR to streamline the inventory and reporting process by merging the voluntary registry with CARB's Mandatory Reporting program to have one unified reporting program. AB 32 encourages streamlining and consistency between programs, and both CCAR and CARB have expressed a willingness to move in this direction. CARB is scheduled to bring its Mandatory Reporting program to its Governing Board this December.

CWCCG members will also closely track and participate in the development of the Scoping Plan. All indications are that the wastewater industry would not be faced with regulations to reduce GHG emissions beyond what steps we already take. However, if a market system develops to reduce GHG emissions, the wastewater industry could potentially develop offsets that can be sold in this system. CWCCG members are closely watching this possibility.

SCAQMD Proposed Amended Rule (PAR) 1110.2

On August 14, 2007, the SCAQMD released its latest proposal for amending SCAQMD Rule 1110.2 affecting the operation of internal combustion engines. On September 6, the SCAQMD held a public consultation meeting in order to take public comment on the proposed amendments. The meeting was well attended by SCAP member agencies. Testimony was provided on a number of issues including the requirement for all biogas fueled engines to meet current natural gas emission standards, the inclusion of biogas engines in the newly proposed distributed generation engine emissions standards, the difficulties associated with parameter monitoring as described in the current proposed Inspection and Monitoring requirements, the short compliance time frames to meet some of these requirements and the self-notification

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requirements when non-compliance is discovered. Since the meeting, many agencies have formalized their issues in formal comment letters that were due on September 21, 2007. The final SCAQMD proposal will be presented to the SCAQMD Governing Board on December 7, 2007. In the meantime, member agencies will continue to advocate our issues to SCAQMD staff and possible SCAQMD Board members in hopes of getting further changes in the regulation. Copies of the current regulatory documents (draft rule, staff report, environmental assessment, etc.) can be found at the following website:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/rules/proposed.html#11102>.

Heavy-Duty Diesel Vehicle and Engine Owners – Recent ARB Advisories

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) recently published the following two advisories to remind owners of important ARB requirements for heavy-duty diesel vehicles (HDDVs) and/or engines:

1. **ARB MAILOUT MSO #2007-02**, ENFORCEMENT OF CALIFORNIA'S PERIODIC SMOKE INSPECTION PROGRAM (PSIP) AND ASSEMBLY BILL 1009's ENGINE LABELING REQUIREMENTS

- **California's Periodic Smoke Inspection Program (PSIP)** – Owners of California-based fleets with two or more vehicles must perform annual smoke opacity tests on their HDDVs with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 6,000 lbs. ARB has been auditing the inspection records of the HDDVs at owner/operator designated fleet locations and may even test vehicles to verify compliance. Fleets found to be non-compliant are subject to legal action and significant civil penalties (a local utility recently received a \$208,000 fine for violations of this regulation).
- **Engine Emission Certification Labeling Requirements** – To ensure that all HDDVs (gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds) operated in California meet the federal emission standard applicable to the engine's model year at the time of manufacture, a manufacturer's emission control label (ECL) must be properly affixed to the engine. If the vehicle's engine is missing its ECL, the engine manufacturer authorized dealer should be contacted for a replacement. Vehicles determined to be non-compliant will be cited and will receive significant civil penalties. The regulation was approved 2/15/07, with a year's grace period for monetary fines.

The ARB Mailout is found at the ARB website:

http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/mailouts/mouts_07.htm#msod

2. **ARB ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY NO. 354**, HEAVY DUTY VEHICLE AND ENGINE LABELING REQUIREMENTS

The advisory identifies four labels that are or will be required on heavy-duty diesel engines and vehicles (the threshold gross vehicle rating weight varies from regulation to regulation). In addition to the engine emission certification label discussed in the ARB Mailout MSO #2007-02 above, the three other labels are as follows:

- **Low NOx REFLASH Software Labels** – Owners of HDDVs (gross vehicle rating over 6,000 pounds) operating in California with select 1993-1998 model-year heavy-duty diesel engines manufactured by Caterpillar, Cummins, Detroit Diesel, International, Mack/Renault, and Volvo are strongly encouraged to voluntarily have low NOx (nitrogen oxides) software installed prior to rebuild. At the time of engine rebuild, this software is required to be installed or a citation and penalties may result. Also, ARB recommends that a copy of the invoice of REFLASH Label installation be kept in the glove box of the vehicle. If the engine is not Reflashable, then documentation stating this should be kept in the glove box.
- **Public Agency & Utility Fleet Vehicle Labels** – Per the 2006 ARB Fleet Rule for Diesel Fueled Vehicles Owned/Operated by Public Utilities/Agencies (gross vehicle weight rating greater than 14,000 lbs), a compliance strategy label is required to be placed on each vehicle in a location visible to an inspector. Each vehicle in the fleet is required to be labeled by 12/31/07.
- **Diesel Emission Control Devices Labels** – ARB Fleet regulations require Best Available Control Technology be installed on each vehicle. Verified Diesel Emission Control Systems (DECS) are one option for compliance. Two labels are required for the installation of a verified DECS (i.e., Diesel Particulate Filters & Diesel Oxidation Catalyst), one on the device and one on the engine.

ARB Advisory 354 is found at the ARB website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/advs/advlist.htm>

SCAQMD Rule 1146

The South Coast AQMD is soliciting input on potential definitions of “remaining useful life” for gaseous fueled boilers over 5 MMBTU/H. The SCAQMD is in the process of reviewing all fuel combustion rules with the goal of upgrading the subject combustion equipment to best available control technology levels. The useful life concept will be used to determine when an existing boiler will be caused to upgrade its emissions performance or be replaced entirely. Any ideas about defining “remaining useful life” should be sent to Tom Fang of LACSD staff at tfang@lacs.org who will assemble them on behalf of SCAP. In addition, the Air Quality Committee needs inventory information on the boilers in use within the South Coast air basin among the SCAP members. This information should include:

- Size (heat input rating in MMBTU/H)
- Fuel Type (natural gas, digester gas or landfill gas)
- Type (fire tube or water tube)
- Manufacturer and Model Number
- Major Annual Maintenance Schedule (frequency of tube cleanings, water treatment system maintenance, etc.)
- Year of Installation
- Year of Last Major Modification
- Emission Control Equipment Installed (flue gas recirculation, oxygen trim, low NOx burners, selective catalytic reduction systems, etc.)
- Fuel Gas Cleanup System Installed?
- Current NOx, CO and VOC levels

Biosolids by Chair Karen Soares**Kern County – Biosolids Ordinance EIR and Proposed Manure Ban**

On September 18th, Kern County sent a “Proposed Consulting Agreement” to interested parties, stating that the county is contracting with Ecology and Environment Inc. to prepare an EIR for their Kern County Biosolids Ordinance, at a cost of \$1,909,834. Kern County was ordered to prepare this EIR by the Tulare Superior Court back in December 2005, as part of the initial lawsuit brought by the treatment plants and SCAP. The EIR will cover adoption of an ordinance prohibiting land application of both Class A and Class B biosolids. This EIR process was first initiated in February 2006, when the Kern County Planning Department issued a Notice of Preparation and held a public Scoping Meeting, but was later put on hold pending the outcome of Measure E.

In their September 11th meeting, the Kern County Board of Supervisors voted against implementing an ordinance to ban on the use of animal manure on food crops. The Supervisors instead voted to support the existing voluntary program called the Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement, which is administered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

California Research Bureau Report on Biosolids

The California Research Bureau just released a detailed, 94-page report titled, “A Brief on Biosolids: Options for Biosolids Management,” that was prepared at the request of former Senator Richard Alarcon before he left the legislature to take a seat on the Los Angeles City Council. CASA Biosolids Program Manager Greg Kester will be sending out a detailed analysis of the report, which will be forwarded to the Biosolids Committee when it comes out. For a copy of the actual 94-page report, go to: <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/crbsearch.aspx>

Upcoming Biosolids Committee Meeting at Tri-TAC October 11th

The Biosolids Committee will hold its quarterly meeting on the morning of October 11th in conjunction with Tri-TAC at the Ontario Convention Center. Biosolids Committee members are also invited to join an optional afternoon session to help plan a Spring Cal-EPA Roundtable Workshop on Cross-Media Issues. More details and an agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Update on Local Biosolids Projects

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors voted to approve a biosolids drying facility to be located at the Ventura Regional Sanitation District’s Toland Road Landfill. Various Ventura County agencies would send biosolids to the facility for drying, and the dried product would be used as Alternative Daily Cover at the landfill. The dryer would be powered by landfill gas.

As mentioned at the last Biosolids Committee meeting, the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation has added a new webpage on its Biosolids EMS website concerning the Terminal Island Renewable Energy (T.I.R.E.) Project. To view it visit:

<http://www.lacity.org/SAN/biosolidsems/TIRE.htm>

In litigation between Yakima Company and La Paz County, Arizona, a jury found that the county breached its agreement with Yakima and awarded Yakima \$9.2 million in damages. Yakima had operated a biosolids drying facility on the La Paz County landfill site until early 2006. The local Parker Pioneer newspaper article provided additional details on the litigation: <http://www.parkerpioneer.net/articles/2007/09/04/news/parker01.txt>

Collection Systems by Chair Ralph Palomares

Well, fall's upon us and that means the Santa Ana winds will soon be here and that the WEFTEC annual conference is only a few weeks away in San Diego. Word is that it won't be coming back to California as they have chosen only two locations for this event in the future. If you have not been to a WEFTEC conference, at least try to get to the exhibits hall and see all the latest technology in wastewater as the conference is in our Southern California backyard.

As the CWEA Collections Chairperson from the south, I was to go to Redding, CA last week to the Northern Regional Training Conference where I intended to bring up some important issues regarding the collections systems. But due to the FAA grounding of all Alaska Airline flights due to the wheels falling off, I sat in the airport sports grill all day, only waiting to be told at 6:00 p.m., we're not going at all. The collections committee up north thinks I have godly powers to ground an airline so that I didn't have to go to Redding but believe me people, I like all collections personnel no matter where you're from, as we all face the same issues in today's wastewater world.

As far as being the SCAP Collections Chair, I know I have a group of very talented professionals who I can depend on to submit articles of interest for this column, as I cannot personally attend all the seminars and classes that are being held on a daily basis and all the different groups that are related to wastewater such as TriTAC, CalFog, SARBS, CWEA, CASA, BACWA and many more. We are all in it for the same purpose: CLEAN WATER and a CLEANER ENVIRONMENT! Other states and the regulators look to us here in California as we continue to be the leaders in this industry and have groups like SCAP. Let's continue this and give ourselves a pat on the back as we have all done a wonderful job in the past few years. It shows by our SSO reductions, which have dropped by 90 percent and all of our programs that we have put together such as roots, fog, calcium buildup, disposable wipes, and all the millions of miles of CCTV that we have done over the last few years since the WDR order came out in 2002. As cities, sanitation districts, special districts, and water districts, we have all spent a lot of public and private funds to repair our infrastructures. We still have a long ways to go but we are facing the challenge due to the fact that we have all of you wastewater professionals out there from line-cleaners to engineers to CCTV crews to repair crews to top management who know what we need as far as funds go. As you can see, it's a team effort out there with even the secretaries a part of the team as they prepare our reports for us.

It's a group effort, and a great team to belong to is the SCAP Collection Systems Committee team (or any team for that matter), so come to our next SCAP Collection Systems Committee meeting being held on October 22nd at the Irvine Ranch Duck Club and be a part of the SCAP team. I personally invite you to come to our next meeting as we introduce the latest issues facing us today.

Committee Highlight

I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight one of our committee members – our Collection Systems Committee Vice Chair, Sam Espinoza.

For the past 3 years, Sam Espinoza has served as the Section Head of the Sewerage System Section for the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts). Mr. Espinoza's primary responsibility is to manage the Sanitation Districts' sewer collection system, which includes approximately 1,340 miles of sewers that range in size from 8 to 144 inches, and 52 active pumping plants located throughout Los Angeles County. The Sanitation Districts' service area covers approximately 800 square miles and encompasses 78 cities and unincorporated territory within the Los Angeles County. Within the Sanitation Districts' service area, there are approximately 9,500 miles of sewers that are owned and operated by the cities and county that are tributary to the Sanitation Districts' wastewater collection system.

Prior to serving as the Section Head for the Sewerage System, Mr. Espinoza was a Supervising Engineer in the Sanitation Districts' Sewer Design Section, an Assistant Resident Engineer in the Sanitation Districts' Field Engineering (Construction Management) Section, and worked as a project engineer for James M. Montgomery Consulting Engineers (Montgomery Watson Harza). Mr. Espinoza has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering and a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering, both from the University of California at Berkeley. Mr. Espinoza has worked in the water/wastewater industry for the past 17 years.

Water Issues Committee by Chair Gus Dembegiotes**Proposed Statewide Water Recycling Policy**

On September 13th, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released its proposed statewide Water Recycling Policy. The State Water Board will hold a workshop to discuss the proposed policy on October 2nd in Los Angeles at the Metropolitan Water District. Written comments on the policy are due to the State Water Board by October 26th. The State Water Board has also scheduled a hearing on December 4th in Sacramento to consider adoption of the policy and a related CEQA document.

The purpose of the statewide policy was to provide direction to the Regional Water Boards on how to interpret state statutes, regulations, plans, and policies with respect to water recycling projects, thus ensuring consistent interpretation of the requirements and encouraging the use of recycled water. At an earlier workshop in March, several SCAP members, as well as other agencies, spoke in support of the State Water Board developing a statewide water recycling policy. However, the resulting statewide policy has several troubling provisions which could discourage the use of recycled water. The resulting policy can be reviewed at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/comments/docs/water_recycling_policy.pdf

The public notice can be found at:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/comments/docs/water_recycling_policy_notice.pdf

Electronic Water Rights Informational Management System Workshops

The Division of Water Rights is holding three public workshops in Sacramento (Sept. 24), Riverside (Sept. 26) and Santa Rosa (Sept. 28) to familiarize the public with its new water rights data management system called e-WRIMS. The workshops are designed to demonstrate the system's capabilities and provide training for its use. The new system will show application, permit and license numbers, the type of water right held, the holder's name, the amount of water, the county, and a map showing the area. The public notice showing the dates of the workshops is at: <http://www.waterrights.ca.gov/html/ewrims.html>

2007 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program

The State Water Board, Division of Financial Assistance is accepting applications for the 2007 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant Program to support projects throughout the State to restore impaired surface waters through the control of nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. Applications are due on Thursday, November 1, 2007. An Applicant workshop is scheduled for September 27, 2007. This program is focused on controlling activities that impair beneficial uses and on limiting pollutant effects caused by those activities. Project proposals that address TMDL implementation and those that address problems in impaired waters are favored in the selection process. There is also a focus on implementing management activities that lead to reduction and/or prevention of pollutants that threaten or impair surface and ground waters. More information can be found at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/funding/319h.html>

Next Water Issues Committee Meeting – October 11, 2007

The next Water Issues Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with Tri-TAC on October 11th at the Ontario Convention Center. As mentioned under the Biosolids section, a special afternoon session is planned to discuss suggestions from all of the Summit Group members and Tri-TAC regarding examples of cross-media conflicts that can be presented to the Cal-EPA agencies at the upcoming spring roundtable discussion in Sacramento.

Regulatory Affairs by Regulatory Affairs Consultant Mary Jane Foley

The first half of the legislative session for 2007-2008 is over. Now, the Governor has called a special session to address healthcare and water. As you may have read in the newspapers, many of the legislators are off to check out other parts of the world; getting the above issues addressed on time for ballot measures will be challenging. The Governor has proposed a \$9 billion water bond package. Lots of haggling will go on, and it is anyone's guess if legislators can agree in time to make the deadlines for the ballot. But as my Assemblywoman told me this week, we have means of working around deadlines. One of the Orange County Assemblymen is on the water bond committee. I had the chance to visit with him and whine about the lack of resources for wastewater. He happens to understand the issue and just said, "I know."

Even though Prop 84 failed legislation, it did at least highlight our industry’s needs, and those legislators whom I have been able to talk with have heard the call for wastewater improvements in grant funding opportunities. The “fat lady hasn’t sung yet.” In January, some version of a Prop 84 bill may resurrect itself. We will keep up the fight. CASA has been our best ally.

The next arena for advocating for grant funds is the Department of Water Resources (DWR). On September 26, the DWR is holding a Scoping Session on input for revised guidelines for the Integrated Resource Water Management Plans (IRWMPs). I am attending for SCAP, advocating for keeping wastewater in the eligible category for funding under Prop 84, and raising an issue that our Air Quality Committee suggested: including support/points for projects that reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. I have worked with the DWR staff consistently on IRWMPs. I pledge POTWs will remain in the list of projects to receive funding.

Congratulations this month go to:

South Orange County Wastewater Authority

The South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) was honored by The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) with its most prestigious honor, the Platinum Peak Performance Award – a distinction given to only a few other wastewater agencies nationwide. The award recognized SOCWA’s flawless five-year record of 100 percent environmental compliance at its Aliso Creek Outfall.

On the legislative side, there are many bills that have made it to the Governor’s desk. If there is any bill you are particularly interested in, you can contact the SCAP office and we will get you the information. I have three bills that I particularly hope the Governor signs:

AB 1481 (De la Torre) – Statewide Permit for Landscaping Irrigation, which requires the State Waterboard to develop and adopt a general permit for landscape irrigation use of recycled water. This bill would help curb Regional Boards from adding requirements that result in a barrier to more recycling projects. This bill was widely supported by the legislators, so it should get signed. A related item is the State Water Board’s draft Water Recycling Policy that will be a workshop agenda item for Oct 2, 2007. The policy is good but needs some changes. The impetus of the industry will be to keep this policy for irrigation only and to change some of the de facto numeric limits on the TDS levels. There will be more to report on after the workshop.

Another bill that would be very helpful to our industry is SB 966 (Simitian) – Pharmaceutical Drug Water Disposal. This bill requires every drug retailer to provide a drug “take back” service for unused prescription drugs, enhancing the POTW “No Drugs Down the Drain” campaign. As you might imagine, powerful pharmaceutical companies don’t favor the bill. It has been modified. It requires several CalEPA agencies and the State Board of Pharmacy to establish a model disposal program. This bill would compliment the Department of Toxics “Green Chemistry” program, and it would certainly help with the emerging containment of concern issue. I think I know its fate, but I can wish for its passage.

The last bill is SB 1001 (Perata) – Composition of Regional Boards. This reduces the number of Regional Board Members from 9 to 7. It eliminates the eligible categories for appointment (water supply, county government, municipal government, industrial water, etc.), and restates the eligibility as “has a demonstrated interest in water quality.” Having been on a Regional

Water Board and the State Board, I believe the intention is to broaden the ability of the public to be appointed whether they have a direct knowledge of the water/wastewater issues or not. I am not surprised that nearly every regulated entity in the state is opposing this change for eligibility.

On a lighter side, there is an opportunity that I think our membership would find valuable: The State and Regional Waterboards forum in San Diego on Oct 29 and 30, 2007. The forum is called the Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC). The place is the Holiday Inn, 1355 North Harbor Drive, San Diego. This is a forum where the Board Members of all the Regional Boards and the State Waterboard gather together in a roundtable atmosphere to discuss various issues of importance. The public is welcome and the public member attendance has increased over the years. There is no public forum for guests to speak, but you can listen to the discussions and observe the interaction of all of these appointees and their executive officers. The first session begins at 10 am on Oct 29. For more information, go to the website www.waterboards.ca.gov and look under water quality coordinating meeting. Feel free to call me if you want to understand more about this event.

Finally, a note on the Help Desk: This month I assisted a SCAP member on an item relating to the Coastal Commission. The point in sharing this fact is that I want the members to know I not only have a working relationship with the Water, Air and Integrated Waste Boards, but also with all the federal and state agencies that deal with regulatory and permitting resource issues.

Help Desk

Remember, the HELP DESK is open 24/7 for members who need to discuss permitting issues and strategies to assist agencies in resolving problems with regulatory agencies. Please contact Mary Jane Foley at mfoley@scap1.org.

Non Sequitur

No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace
As I have seen in one autumnal face.

John Donne – Elegy 9: The Autumnal