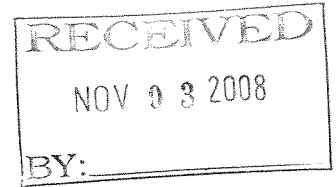




## CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources, Council Chair  
 John Chiang, State Controller, State Lands Commission Chair  
 Linda Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection  
 Susan Golding, Public Member  
 Geraldine Knatz, Public Member  
 Darrell Steinberg, State Senator  
 Pedro Nava, State Assemblymember



October 23, 2008

William Merry, General Manager  
 Sue McCloud, Vice Chair  
 Monterey Regional Waste Management District  
 14201 Del Monte Bl.  
 P.O. Box 1670  
 Marina, CA 93933-1670

Dear Mr. Merry and Ms. McCloud,

Thank you for your support of the Ocean Protection Council's (OPC) recent draft report, *An Implementation Strategy for the California Ocean Protection Council Resolution to Reduce and Prevent Ocean Litter*. We appreciate your interest in protecting California's unique marine resources and welcome all stakeholder input as this report is taken forward for final consideration by the OPC at a future meeting.

As you may know, the OPC passed a Resolution on Marine Debris at its February 2007 meeting designed to provide a foundation for future policies and legislative actions that could help reduce or eliminate the sources of ocean litter and its impacts on California's coast and ocean resources. The Council directed staff to create an interagency steering committee, composed of OPC and state agency staff, and develop an implementation plan. This committee worked for more than a year to prepare a draft Implementation Strategy based on the 13 directives established in the Resolution. This Strategy proposes key actions that, if implemented, will result in a comprehensive approach to reducing and preventing ocean litter from reaching the marine environment where it harms wildlife, attracts and concentrates toxins, and pollutes beaches.

Staff is currently revising the Strategy that, if adopted by the OPC, could help spur progressive legislation and promote innovative and effective solutions to the growing problem of marine debris in California. We expect the final Implementation Strategy will be released later this year. Thanks again for your support on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Mike Chrisman  
 Secretary, California Resources Agency  
 Ocean Protection Council Chair