

Comment of Andrew Daglas on R18-18 Regulatory Relief Mechanisms

I urge the Pollution Control Board to adopt regulations that make our waters as clean as possible as soon as possible. I am aware of the claims made by polluting entities that certain types of, or timetables for, pollution remediation present a substantial expense. But the pollution they have generated, left unchecked, will exert even greater costs.

And those costs would fall on those least able to endure them. They would come in the form of debilitated health, dramatically harming individuals, families and potentially whole communities—especially children. They would come in the form of long-term damage to ecosystems that support not only wildlife, but also a variety of local economic activity.

The costs of pollution cannot be avoided; delay will only exacerbate them. And it is only just that the costs of pollution be borne by the creators of that pollution, not by the families, communities and wildlife being endangered.

Please make sure that the final rules that come out of R18-18 prioritize cleaning our rivers, lakes and streams as soon as possible. To accede to polluters' demands for delay would be to compound a private injustice with a public one.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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