

October 2009

Dear Reader,

As I wrote in the forward of the first report we published last year, the following Consolidated Environmental Law Enforcement Report reflecting 2008 activities was created under the direction of Governor Schwarzenegger and California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Secretary Linda Adams. My staff worked with many individuals inside our allied agencies to bring together the various program reports to meet Cal/EPA's statutory obligation under Government Code section 12812.2 which requires that I report on the status of our program to ensure consistent, effective and coordinated environmental enforcement in the State of California.

Like the first edition, this report for 2008 activities is intended to be an increasingly understandable and usable yearly effort to reflect enforcement progress over time in the context of an outline that includes the varied pieces of California's decentralized environmental enforcement system. With an understanding of our progress in this larger context, productive program critiques may be made and program improvements will be achieved.

New, in this year's edition you will find an Executive Summary that provides a short synopsis of Cal/EPA's programs highlighting how their efforts have benefitted the people of California.

The Introduction explains how and why we have a decentralized environmental enforcement system in California, the mechanics of how this report came to be, and a review of the substance of the reports that each of our allied agencies provided.

Following the Introduction are the reports from the agencies with enforcement responsibilities in the areas of air, water, pesticides, solid waste and hazardous waste and materials.

Many thanks go out to the dedicated environmental professionals who worked on this effort including my staff and the Cal/EPA Enforcement Initiative Performance Measures Team. Thanks to the enforcement chiefs from each of the state agencies who worked with our staff and with their local allied agencies to bring this document together. Thanks, finally to our local and regional enforcement partners who cooperated in the effort – much of enforcement is local and without the day-to-day efforts of these environmental professionals to protect Californians, their environment and to provide a level playing field for fair business competition, California would not be the great State that it is.

Thanks finally to you the reader for taking the time to read this report. If you will, please provide me your written feedback at legalunit@calepa.ca.gov. We want to know what you think of the effort, and how we might improve it for next year.

Sincerely,

Matt Bogoshian
Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and Counsel
California Environmental Protection Agency