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CALIFORNIA BUILDING
STANDARDS COMMISSION
October 12, 2009

California Building Standards Commission
2525 Natomas Park Dr., Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Emergency Graywater Standards - California Plumbing Code--Title 24, part 5, Ch. 16A, Pt I

Dear Commissioners:

Sierra Club California strongly supports the proposed IICD Express Terms for the 2010 CA Plumbing Code, relating to exterior graywater use. We also strongly agree with the Finding of Emergency proposal to incorporate these changes into the 2007 CPC, making them effective immediately. These are appropriate and necessary water conservation measures given the current drought emergency and probable ongoing water shortages in California's future.

The streamlined graywater code that HCD has crafted with input from many stakeholder groups encourages increasing numbers of homeowners to make a simple, inexpensive modification of their plumbing that allows them to conserve water and energy by reducing potable water use for irrigation. Graywater reuse allows us to more effectively stretch already existing water supplies, reducing the potential need for new dams, pipelines, expanded treatment facilities, and without further burdening the fragile Delta ecosystem.

This change opens up potential green job opportunities for designers, builders, plumbers, and landscapers. As the new regulations become more widely implemented, they will focus greater public awareness on our individual water habits and their consequences, reaching from our backyards all the way to watersheds across the state.

Sierra Club California views the proposed Graywater Standards as one of many small but significant tools for conserving water and energy resources and for protecting the environment of our state. The proposed changes to the plumbing code should be fully approved and implemented immediately.

Sincerely,

Jim Metropulos
Senior Advocate

cc: James Rowland (Division of Codes and Standards),
Department of Housing and Community Development

