



Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

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BRANKA B. LOTHROP, Ph. D.
General Manager

California Building Standards Commission
Attn: Jim McGowan, Executive Director
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Comments on the 2013 California Plumbing Code

Dear Mr. McGowan:

The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) wishes to provide comments and support with regards to the notice of proposed action amending building standards of the Department of Housing and Community Development regarding the 2013 California Plumbing Code, California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 5, which amends and adds language to protect the public from mosquitoes, rodents and other potential vectors of disease:

Gray water

1602.9.2 Animals and Insects. *Gray water tank openings shall be protected to prevent the entrance of insects, birds, or rodents into the tank and piping systems. Screens installed on vent pipes, inlets, and overflow pipes shall have an aperture of not greater than 1/16 of an inch (1.6mm) and shall be close fitting.*

Rainwater

1702.9.5.6(A) Animals and Insects. *Rainwater tank openings shall be protected to prevent the entrance of insects, birds, or rodents into the tank and piping systems. Screens installed on vent pipes, inlets, and overflow pipes shall have an aperture of not greater than 1/16 of an inch (1.6mm) and shall be close fitting.*

The District supports the Rainwater Capture Act and other efforts to reduce the need and dependency of California's water supply, especially reusing water that otherwise would have been lost. **However, without the added amendments listed above, thousands of potential mosquito breeding sites could be installed. Every unscreened rainwater/gray water capture device has the possibility of producing hundreds of**

thousands if not millions of mosquitoes. An important mosquito responsible for transmitting West Nile virus and other mosquito borne diseases prefers to breed in man-made containers such as these. If is expected that if installed without the screens listed above, these containers would create a significant public health threat.

Thank you for your consideration and this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Branka B. Lothrop". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Branka B. Lothrop, PhD
General Manager