

Press Release:

For Immediate Release May 9, 2005

Butte Environmental Council • 116 W. Second St., Suite 3 • Chico, CA 95928 • 530/891-6424 • fax 530/891-6426 **Contact:** Barbara Vlamis

Butte Environmental Council has requested a stay of the Humboldt Road Burn Dump remediation that is expected to begin at the end of May 2005. The stay is necessary to allow the State Water Resources Control Board, the parent entity of the Redding Regional Water Quality Control Board, time to review six petitions that BEC first filed in August 2004 on behalf of the public challenging the legality of the approvals of the RWQCB. The petitions were filed for the some of the following reasons:

- a. The Regional Water Quality Control Board conducted inadequate environmental review to rush the project forward breaking state laws.
- b. The RWQCB failed to demonstrate that the level of cleanup was consistent with the existing threat.
- c. The RWQCB failed to ensure sufficient wells were in place to monitor ground water.
- d. The RWQCB required the developer to start work before obtaining federal wetland and endangered species permits.
- e. The RWQCB failed to use the most current health risk standards for the remediation.
- f. There are serious conflicts of interest between the RWQCB and the dischargers.

BEC participated over two decades in the plans to clean the HRBD and has consistently advocated for an open public process, full disclosure of the threats to current and future residents, and protection of the environment. Securing the site has remained a high priority for BEC, however, the methods approved by the RWQCB are the most costly and dangerous, and to this day, they still neglect to fully protect human health and the environment as articulated in the six petitions.

Contact

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