



September 10, 2010

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: 916 558 3177

**SUBJECT: Request for Signature on SB 346 (Kehoe and Simitian) Copper Brakepads**

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

The above-listed organizations urge your signature on SB 346 which will phase copper out of brakepads on a schedule supported by local governments, environmental groups and the automobile industry. The measure has been co-sponsored by Sustainable Conservation and City of San Diego.

Dissolved copper is a major aquatic toxin, killing phytoplankton and fatally disrupting the functioning of salmon and other fish. Extensive scientific studies have shown that the major source of copper (55% to 68%) in most of the urbanized watersheds is material worn off vehicle brake pads.

Because removal of copper through stormwater treatment is technically infeasible and financially prohibitive, local jurisdictions and other dischargers will be unable to meet stringent Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) of copper and other heavy metals used in brakes unless this source of copper is reduced or eliminated. SB 346 will phase out copper in brakepads sold in California to levels no greater than 5% by weight by 2021 and no more than .5% by 2025.

The bill represents a multi-year collaborative consensus-based approach by representatives of the auto industry, brake manufacturers, stormwater management entities, regulators and environmental interests. It will phase out brakepad copper in a structured manner and within a reasonable timeframe **without compromising motorist safety in any way.**

In addition to the environmental groups listed above, SB 346 is supported by several other environmental organizations, all the major automobile manufacturers and brake suppliers, including the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, the Association of International Automobile Manufacturers and the Motor and Equipment Manufacturers Association. Other supporters include

the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance, Industrial Environmental Association, the US Navy, CSAC, League of Cities, 47 individual local governments, and the California Stormwater Quality Association.

We respectfully urge your signature on this important water quality legislation.

For more information, contact Justin Malan at (916) 448-1015 or [justin@ecoconsult.biz](mailto:justin@ecoconsult.biz).

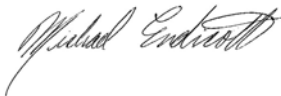
Sincerely,

*Ashley Boren*  
Ashley Boren  
Sustainable Conservation


*Alicia Glassco*  
Alicia Glassco  
San Diego Coastkeeper

  
Heidi Sanborn  
California Product Stewardship Council

*Andria Ventura*  
Andria Ventura  
Clean Water Action

  
Michael Endicott  
Sierra Club California


*Kim Delfino*  
Kim Delfino  
Defenders of Wildlife

  
Warner Chabot  
California League of Conservation Voters

*Mark Gold*  
Mark Gold  
Heal the Bay

*Bill Allayaud*  
Bill Allayaud  
Environmental Working Group

*Dan Jacobson*  
Dan Jacobson  
Environment California

  
Tina Andolina  
Planning and Conservation League

*Linda Sheehan*  
Linda Sheehan  
California Coastkeeper Alliance

cc: Senator Christine Kehoe  
Senator Joe Simitian