



March 31, 2021

The Honorable Bill Quirk, Chair  
Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 171  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Quirk:

**Subject: Oppose AB 377 (Rivas) Water Quality: Impaired Waters**

This letter is on behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Water Association (SGVWA) to respectfully oppose AB 377. The San Gabriel Water Association's 60 members provide drinking water to 2 million residents in 31 cities through special districts, municipal utilities, investor-owned utilities, and not-for-profit mutual water companies.

AB 377 includes provisions that requires that all California surface waters attain applicable beneficial uses by January 1, 2050. This is a blanket goal for the complex and nuanced issue of California's water quality objectives under the Clean Water Act. Addressing impaired waters varies from region to region in the state. In the San Gabriel Valley, the provisions would compromise our ability to replenish our groundwater basin.

While we agree with the spirit of the bill, it would create real obstacles in meeting other objectives, such as assuring reliable storage of drinking water in the Main San Gabriel Basin which is replenished with run-off from the San Gabriel mountains. Supplies are also held in reservoirs that are off-limits to the public meaning that meeting recreational standards is unnecessary given that treatment is provided downstream by water purveyors. Our situation is not unique in the sense that there are many surface waters that are not intended to uniformly be "fishable, swimmable, and drinkable" due to thoughtful local and regional planning that make them part of the system that ends in use as drinking water..

The cost to implement AB 377 would be a financial burden to local ratepayers with little to no benefit to them. It would redirect valuable resources away from projects that are proven to be financially and scientifically feasible in meeting compliance objectives as intended.

For these reasons, SGVWA opposes SB 377 and respectfully requests you to vote "NO" vote when it is heard in the Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee.

Sincerely,

Greg Galindo

President

San Gabriel Valley Water Association

Cc: The Honorable Robert Rivas, 39th Assembly District

The Honorable Blanca Rubio, 48th Assembly District

