To: Yelensky, Erica[Yelensky.Erica@epa.gov]; Louis, Gail[Louis.Gail@epa.gov]
From: Ziegler, Sam
Sent: Thur 2/1/2018 10:55:35 PM
Subject: Fwd: SMBNEP BRP Revision - Structure and Governance

Hi E & G. I'm back in on Tuesday if u want to talk about this next week.

Sam Ziegler
EPA Region 9
415-972-3399

Sent from mobile device

Begin forwarded message:

From: Walter Lamb <landtrust@ballona.org>
Date: February 1, 2018 at 2:46:58 PM PST
To: Erica Yelensky <yelensky.erica@epa.gov>, "Ziegler, Sam" <Ziegler.Sam@epa.gov>
Subject: SMBNEP BRP Revision - Structure and Governance

Hi Erica and Sam,
Numerous SMBNEP documents have indicated that the BRP revision process will include substantive discussion of the SMBNEP structure and governance, something that the Land Trust supported and looked forward to. It seems that this component of the process has been arbitrarily pushed out to the very end of the process, even as key decisions are being made about the SMBNEP without Governing Board and public stakeholder discussion and input. I'm struggling to understand why that is considered to be a good strategy. I've also raised this directly with Guangyu Wang and Tom Ford, but there doesn't seem to be any interest in expediting this important component of the BRP revision.

As just one an example of why structure and governance should be addressed sooner than later, I've seen several recent references to the Bay Foundation as the host entity of the SMBNEP, including a press release claiming that "Since 1990, TBF has played a central role in the SMBNEP as its host entity, managing and implementing the Bay Restoration Plan." [http://www.santamonicabay.org/launch-coastal-research-institute-bay-foundation-loyola-marymount-university/] This is simply inaccurate, as the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board provided the core functions of a host entity for many years and still provides many host entity functions. If an NEP changes host entities, my understanding from other NEP documents is that the Management Committee must initiate and approve such a change. There also seem to be some problems with calling TBF the host entity, given that they are hosted by Loyola Marymount University and given that the dual director and dual board nature of the SMBNEP.

These aren't trivialities to our organization because we believe that unilateral SMBNEP

decision-making by TBF without SMBRC Governing Board input or approval is what led to the Governing Board being told that all past record of their role in the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project was erroneous and to be ignored. It has been well over a year since the public was first made aware that the BRP revision would include a structure and governance review. I am hoping that you can help convince SMBRC and TBF that such a review should happen sooner than later.

Thanks.

Walter

Walter Lamb
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