



# **Local Level Coalitions**

**Val Siebal, REHS**

**Sacramento County**

**Environmental Management Department**

# The Toolbox

- Everyone has one
- Easy to depend on the favorite
- Coalitions should be in your toolbox!





## **EMD Coalitions**

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- **Sacramento Environmental Commission**
- **Food Industry Workgroup**
- **Onsite Wastewater Workgroup**
- **Public Health Advisory Board**



# Sacramento Environmental Commission

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- **Created by ordinance**
- **Pays a small stipend**
- **Appointed positions/term limited**
- **Advisory only**
- **EMD staffs the Commission**



# Sacramento Environmental Commission

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## What do they do for EMD?

- **Provide professional level input and review**
  - **written and testimonial support to all ordinances**
- **Provide public perspective for industry workgroups**
- **Appear before Board of Supervisors/City Councils to support EMD programs/positions**



## Sacramento Environmental Commission

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### What do they do for EMD? (cont.)

- **Provide written support for other County departments' ordinances and plans that indirectly elevates EMD status**
- **Serve on special committees formed by City or County officials**



## **Pros of the Sacramento Environmental Commission**

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- **Usually well connected/qualified on environmental issues**
- **Always helpful, even when we disagree**
- **Willing to pitch in to get the job done**
- **No hesitation on providing support in writing or by appearing before Councils or Boards**



## **Pros of the Sacramento Environmental Commission**

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### **Cont.**

- **Highly professional and realists**
- **Can attend workgroup meetings as public representatives**
- **Can balance industry positions with support of environmental health issues**
- **Term limits keep the Commission fresh**



## **Cons of the Sacramento Environmental Commission**

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- **Fairly high maintenance**
- **Take on some unrelated issues to fee programs in Environmental Health**
- **Attendance issues**
- **Can propose controversial issues/positions**
- **Turnover**



## **Food Industry Workgroup and Onsite Wastewater Workgroup**

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- **Open to all**
- **Advisory**
- **Broad agenda**



## **Pros for Food Industry Workgroup And Onsite Wastewater Workgroup**

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- **Diverse opinions made known**
- **Build relationships**
- **Both sides get opportunity to influence**
- **Identification of allies**
- **Candid real world discussions**
- **Bring a variety of issues we might not have considered needed to be solved**
- **Early sounding board for critical issues/ideas**
- **They expect results**



## **Cons for Food Industry Workgroup And Onsite Wastewater Workgroup**

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- **Sustainability**
- **Potential Alpha Dominance Syndrome**
- **Minority factions can unite**
- **There can be too many workgroups!**



## Public Health Advisory Board

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- **Mandate is to Advise the Public Health Officer, not EMD**
- **Natural nexus between Environmental Health and Health Officers programs**
- **Cultivated to be additional support for certain EMD program issues**



**QUESTIONS?**

