



Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary

California Environmental Protection Agency

Air Resources Board • Department of Pesticide Regulation • Department of Toxic Substances Control
Integrated Waste Management Board • Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
State Water Resources Control Board • Regional Water Quality Control Boards



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Subject: Operation Clean Sweep

Dear Fellow Californian:

We need your help with a preventable problem that is polluting our waterways and threatening the wildlife that graces California's majestic coastal areas. Plastic pellets are being lost to the environment during transportation and the manufacturing of products. While we all want to live in a California with clean water and abundant wildlife, you are in the unique position of making this happen while saving money at the same time.

The plastics industry, represented by the American Plastics Council (APC) and the Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI), in cooperation with the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, have created Operation Clean Sweep (OCS) to help businesses eliminate pellet loss. OCS is a valuable tool for businesses that contains education and best management practices (BMP) to help you eliminate pellet loss.

By simply establishing and maintaining good housekeeping and implementing BMPs, you can achieve a clean environment while providing a safe and efficient workplace that yields cost savings and increased productivity. Perhaps more importantly, you can help to clean up California's waters and keep wildlife from ingesting these plastic pellets and dying.

The release of pellets into the environment is not only a waste of money and socially wrong, it is a violation of existing State and Federal laws and regulations. Businesses that violate these laws are subject to enforcement action including, but not limited to, cleanup and abatement orders, civil liabilities (fines), and cease and desist orders.

The Cal/EPA, APC, and SPI are committed to achieving zero pellet loss into the environment. APC and SPI have committed to provide tools such as OCS and other needed resources to assist businesses in eliminating the loss of pellets. This is an important topic that affects your bottom line and the environmental health of California. Please take the time right now to visit the OCS Web site at: www.opcleansweep.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Pete Dinger of the APC at (703) 741-5597/Pete_Dinger@plastics.org, or Ms. Lori Anderson of the SPI at (202) 974-5281/l anderso@socplas.org.

We cannot do it without you. We need your help right now to eliminate this threat to California's wildlife and restore our beautiful beaches so that our children, and their children, can continue to enjoy the rich treasures of California for generations to come.

Regards,

Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary