



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 29 2014

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 812 without my signature.

This bill attempts to fix the hazardous waste facility permitting process by establishing a community oversight committee, a three-year timeline for issuing permits, and an amended regulatory process for standardizing permit decisions.

The author is seeking transparency and accountability in the Department's permitting process, and rightfully so.

The delay and complexity that has plagued the Department's permit process over the last few decades has resulted in an inadequate and unresponsive regulatory program.

Unfortunately, there are provisions in the bill that will unintentionally delay the Department's current plan to revise its program and complete its review of expired permits over the next two years. Instead of risking further delay and confusion, I would like to personally work with the author on modifications to the language, including providing the Department the necessary authority and adequate resources to fulfill our shared objectives of improving the performance of this critically important state program.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Brown Jr." with a large, stylized flourish at the end.