



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 15 2017

To the Members of the California State Assembly:


I am signing Assembly Bill 474.

This bill would exempt spent brine solutions, which are the byproduct of treating groundwater, from the state's hazardous waste laws if specified treatment conditions are met.

A condition of the bill requires the Department of Fish and Wildlife to approve mitigation measures to prevent birds from coming into contact with the impoundments containing brine solutions, specifically selenium. The Department, however, remains concerned that existing methods may be ineffective in mitigating the impact to wildlife, and thus the possibility of approval of these projects remains unclear at this time and may be very difficult.

I ask the proponents of these treatment projects and the Department to keep searching for effective mitigation measures.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.