



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

March 17, 2015

Dr. Andrew N. Cohen
Director
Center for Research on Aquatic Bioinvasions
5994 McBryde Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805

Dear Dr. Cohen,

The EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office has received your letter of March 2, 2015 to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy indicating your view that one of the conclusions in the SAB report on the efficacy of ballast water treatment systems (EPA-SAB-11-009) is incorrect. The letter, which was signed by six of the twenty-one former SAB Ballast Water Panel members, states that this finding is based on your reexamination of the test data that were provided to the Panel.

In response to your letter, I want to let you know that after an SAB Report has been submitted to the EPA Administrator, the SAB panel's work is deemed to be complete and the panel no longer exists. Therefore, the panel cannot reconsider the conclusions in a report. However, your letter has been sent to the EPA Office of Water (OW). If OW requests additional advice from the SAB on the efficacy of ballast water treatment systems, the SAB Office will work with OW to determine how best to proceed.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the attention of the agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Zarba".

Christopher S. Zarba, Director
EPA Science Advisory Board

cc: Dr. JoAnn Burkholder
Dr. Peter Chapman
Dr. Loveday Conquest
Dr. Robert Diaz
Dr. Fred Dobbs