



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 11 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1373 without my signature.

This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) to hold a public hearing at least 21 days prior to acting on an application for a water quality certification for a license to operate a hydroelectric facility.

While well-intentioned, this bill is unnecessary. The Board's certification process already includes opportunities for input by members of the public and Board members, including a mechanism for Board members to reconsider decisions initially delegated to staff. I am, however, directing the Board to work with the relevant stakeholders to explore ways to make this process more efficient, consistent with the intent of this bill.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom

