

Take-Home Midterm Exam

This is an open-book and open-note take-home exam. You are expected to answer each question in one to two pages, double spaced, and typewritten, with 1-inch margins. Do not rewrite the questions into your answer.

ANSWER ALL FOUR QUESTIONS. These are broad questions regarding some of the key concepts that we have covered in class. We are looking for explanations of these broad concepts; **be sure to use examples to illustrate your explanations.** Please note that merely copying pertinent sections of websites, books or my lecture notes into your answer does not demonstrate a high level of understanding (besides, we have school policies against that sort of thing.)

Your grade will reflect your ability to draw from a variety of sources and come up with your own original answer. Your examples may include information from the lectures, current events, textbook, case law, legislation, Executive Orders, appointments, budgets, your experiences, or anything else that you deem relevant. **Do not discuss your work with others or copy your answers from another student.** Be creative. Have fun!

- 1) Explain the basic powers of administrative agencies. What is the source of these powers? Include details and examples of the specific powers, and describe limitations on agency powers by the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Also, does the public have any role in these processes?
- 2) Describe your perceptions regarding PCL's 2011 Environmental Legislative Symposium and Awards Luncheon. What were your overall impressions of the symposium and the participants? What did you think about the general sessions in the beginning, middle, and end of the day? Provide some detail regarding the break out sessions that you attended and the discussions that were held. Were the sessions helpful and/or did they deepen your understanding/interest in the subject? Did you talk to any of the other attendees or participants? What did you learn from them? Also, think about this: We were approached by PCL staff at the end of the day and they implored us to tell you that PCL is looking for interns. These are student positions that involve joining a team that is investigating specific environmental issues. Many former PCL interns work in environmental policy and governmental positions after graduation. College credit for these internships is available. More information is available from us or on the PCL website.
- 3) OEHHA plays a unique role in California environmental regulation. **IN YOUR OWN WORDS**, describe OEHHA's work. Be sure to include a general description of OEHHA, their role in California environmental regulation (i.e., describe how OEHHA's work relates to other agencies with environmental responsibilities) and include a summary of OEHHA's primary programs. Also, is there any recent news regarding OEHHA?

- 4) The DTSC is the environmental agency tasked with protecting Californians from toxic harm. IN YOUR OWN WORDS, describe the DTSC's mission and the work that they do to address this mission. Be sure to include a general description of the DTSC, a summary of DTSC's primary programs, and any recent news regarding the DTSC.