

MONTHLY REGULATORY ROUNDUP



April 2023

UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS

ACWA 2023 SPRING CONFERENCE

ACWA will host its 2023 Spring Conference in Monterey, CA from May 9-11. Click here to [register](#) for Conference, including to attend ACWA Regulatory Committee Meetings on Tuesday May 9 (schedule below):

8:00 AM – 9:45 AM	Agriculture Committee
10:00 AM – 11:45 AM	Groundwater Committee
10:00 AM – 11:45 AM	Energy Committee
1:00 PM – 2:45 PM	Water Management Committee
1:00 PM – 2:45 PM	Water Quality Committee

POLICY UPDATES

WATER MANAGEMENT

Drought & Conservation Technical Reporting Order

- On Jan. 1, the State Water Board issued a [Drought & Conservation Technical Reporting Order](#) that requires all water systems, including those operated by urban water suppliers, to report monthly information on sources, supply and demand, supply augmentation and demand reduction actions on a quarterly frequency. The complete submittal of monthly reports in 2023 will now satisfy the Electronic Annual Report's supply and demand reporting, which is collected in 2024. The report covering January, February and March will be due April 30 and must be submitted using the new web-based reporting tool, the [SAFER Clearinghouse](#).
 - [Brownbag Q&A Session](#) on April 13 from 12:00 – 1:00 pm
 - [Brownbag Q&A Session](#) on April 25 from 12:00 – 1:00 pm

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Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners Collaborative

- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) will convene its first Drought Resilience Interagency & Partner (DRIP) Collaborative meeting. Initiated by SB 552, the DRIP Collaborative will foster partnerships between local governments, experts, community representatives and state agencies to address drought planning, emergency response and ongoing management.
 - [Meeting](#) on April 6 from 12:30 PM – 4:30 pm

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Electronic Annual Report – 2022

- Public Water Systems must complete the 2022 electronic Annual Report (eAR) by May 13. More information is available at the [eAR website](#).
 - [Brownbag 1](#) on March 22 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
 - [Brownbag 2](#) on April 5 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
 - [Brownbag 3](#) on April 19 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
 - [Brownbag 4](#) on May 3 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

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Executive Order N-5-23

- On March 24, Governor Newsom signed an [Executive Order](#) to ease drought restrictions that are no longer needed due to current water conditions. The Executive Order ends the voluntary 15% conservation target and required implementation of

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level 2 of water shortage contingency plans, while preserving current emergency orders focused on groundwater supplies.	
Fees: 2023 – ‘24 Drinking Water, Water Quality and Water Rights - The State Water Board scheduled a series of stakeholder meetings to discuss drinking water, water quality and water rights fees. - Water Quality: June 10, August 3 from 9:00 – 11:00 am - Water Rights: June 12, August 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm - Drinking Water & ELAP: June 13, August 4 from 9:00 – 11: 00 am	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life On March 15, the State Water Board released a Draft Staff Framework for Making Water Conservation a Way of Life Regulation (Proposed Regulatory Framework). The Proposed Regulatory Framework summarizes aspects of State Water Board’s staff proposed water use efficiency standards, objective, and Commercial, Industrial, Institutional (CII) Performance Measures. On March 13, the State Water Board also released the Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment of the Proposed Making Water Conservation a California way of Life Regulation. The State Water Board expects to begin the formal rulemaking process for the regulation this May and consider adoption by the end of this year.	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com 
Six-Year Drought White Paper The California Water Commission (CWC) is continuing its process to explore potential strategies for long-term management to protect communities and fish and wildlife in a six-year drought as part of Water Resilience Portfolio Action 26.3. The CWC expects to host a series of public workshops on the topic this spring. A final whitepaper will be released this summer.	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com 
Water Supply Allocations On March 24, DWR announced increased State Water Project deliveries to 75% of requested supplies – up from 35% announced in February, and the highest since 2017. On March 28, the Bureau of Reclamation announced an increase in Central Valley Project 2023 water supply allocation. Since making the initial allocations last month, with north of Delta and south of Delta irrigation water service and repayment contractors increased to 80% from 35%.	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
GROUNDWATER	
Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program Guidelines - On March 23, the State Water Board released draft guidelines for the third and final funding round of the Groundwater Grant Program funded by Proposition 1. The program provides competitive grants for projects that prevent or clean up contamination of groundwater that serves or has served as a source of drinking water. This funding round will make available \$102.2 million. Written comments due April 25 at 12:00 pm - Board consideration of draft amended guidelines on May 2 at 9:30 am	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com
State Water Board Update on SGMA Implementation On April 4, the State Water Board will hear an update on implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Agenda Item 5). DWR staff will present on DWR’s determinations and State Water Board staff will discuss how it might conduct probationary hearings and what well owners, GSAs, and other interested parties can expect.	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com 

- [Board meeting](#) on April 4 at 9:30 am

WATER QUALITY

2024 California Integrated Report: List of Impaired Waters (303(d)/305(b))

- On Feb. 16, the State Water Board released the Draft [2024 California Clean Water Act section 303\(d\) List](#) (303(d) List)). The 303(d) list includes new listing and delisting recommendations for waterbodies in the regions of the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, Santa Ana, Central Valley, Central Coast, and San Diego Regional Water Boards. Approximately 876 new listings and 92 new delistings of impaired waterbody-pollutant combinations are recommended for the 303(d) List.
 - [Written comments](#) due April 3 at 12:00 pm

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Hexavalent Chromium

- On March 27, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) requested information for consideration in completing the updated Public Health Goal (PHG) for hexavalent chromium (Cr6). A PHG is the level of a drinking water contaminant that does not pose a significant risk to health and are used as the basis to support California's primary drinking water standards established by the State Water Board. In 2011, OEHHA established a PHG of 0.02 parts per billion for Cr6.
 - [Written comments](#) due April 26

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Lead Service Line Replacement

- On Feb. 24, the State Water Board issued [notice of listening session: Lead Service Line Inventory Contracting Services](#). The listening session will discuss options to assist community water systems with completing their lead service line inventories. The inventories are needed so that community water systems can replace lead service lines and apply for the Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) funds provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) require all community water systems and non-transient, noncommunity water systems to complete their service line inventories by October 16, 2024.
 - [Public Meeting](#) on April 4 at 1:00 pm

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Water Quality Enforcement Policy

- On Feb. 10, the State Water Board released [Proposed Amendments to the Water Quality Enforcement Policy](#) that aim to ensure more transparent and consistent application of the statutory factors outlined in California Water Code that the Water Boards must consider when assessing a civil liability.
 - [Public Workshop](#) on April 18 at 9:30 am
 - [Written Comments](#) due April 28 at 12:00 pm
 - [Board Consideration](#) on August 15 at 9:30 am

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ENERGY

Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation

- On March 23, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) released the [Proposed Regulation Order](#) of the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Regulation and intent for CARB's consideration to adopt. CARB also announced the intent to adopt ACF at an upcoming CARB Board Meeting. The ACF would require California fleet owners and operators to start purchasing zero emission vehicles in 2024, with the goal to move California's medium- and heavy-duty trucks to zero emission, where feasible, by 2045.
 - [Written Comments](#) due April 7 at 5:00 pm
 - [Board Meeting](#) on April 27-28 starting at 9:00 am

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Demand Side Grid Support Program & Distributed Electricity Backup Assets Program

- The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host a public workshop to discuss draft program guidelines for both the [Demand Side Grid Support](#) (DSGS) and the [Distributed Electricity Backup Assets](#) (DEBA) programs. Both of these programs will operate to secure additional power to support the state power grid during extreme weather events and offer incentives for water agencies to use existing infrastructure to reduce power usage or provide backup power during extreme heat events (DSGS) and build cleaner energy infrastructure that can be used to supply or reduce power load during extreme heat events (DEBA).
 - [Public Workshop](#) on April 10

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nickb@acwa.com**ACWA COMMENT LETTERS**

- [Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life](#), State Water Board, March 30

To receive a monthly email of the Regulatory Roundup, please contact [Chelsea Haines](#). The Regulatory Roundup is also available on ACWA's [website](#).