



MONTHLY REGULATORY ROUNDUP



June 2022

UPCOMING ACWA REGULATORY EVENTS

ACWA QUARTERLY COMMITTEE FORUM

Save the date for ACWA's upcoming Quarterly Committee Forum. Meetings will include the Agriculture, Energy, Groundwater, Water Management and Water Quality committees. You must register separately for each committee meeting that you want to attend using the unique zoom links below. Additional details of the committee meeting format (virtual, in-person or hybrid) will be provided at a later date.

July 26, 2022	July 27, 2022
• Energy Committee 9:30 – 11:30 am • Water Management Committee 12:00 – 2:00 pm • Groundwater Committee 2:30 – 4:30 pm	• Agriculture Committee 9:00 – 11:00 am • Water Quality Committee 12:00 – 2:00 pm

ACWA BI-MONTHLY WUE MEETING

Join ACWA's Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Subcommittee on June 8 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm to discuss the state's implementation of Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life. Click here to [attend](#).

POLICY UPDATES

DROUGHT

Water Conservation Emergency Regulations

- On May 24, the State Water Board adopted an [emergency regulation for urban water conservation](#). The emergency regulation is in response to Gov. Newsom's March 28 [Executive Order N-7-22](#) directing the State Water Board to: (1) require urban water suppliers to enact Level 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans, (2) define "non-functional" turf and ban the irrigation of non-functional turf for commercial, industrial and institutional sectors, and (3) submit a preliminary Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment (AWSDA) by June 1.
 - Emergency regulations expected to take effect around June 10

Curtailments

- Curtailments remain in effect in the Delta watershed, two sub-watersheds of the Delta, and in the Shasta River watershed. On April 20, the State Water Board issued a [notice](#) of availability of refinements to the water unavailability methodology and draft emergency curtailments and reporting for the Delta watershed and a notice of staff workshop and opportunity for public comment. The methodology is being used to inform curtailment decisions as described in the emergency regulation that was approved August 2021. The State Water Board plans to consider readoption of the emergency regulation this summer.

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WATER MANAGEMENT

California Stream Gaging Prioritization Plan 2022

- On May 12, the State Water Board released the [Draft California Stream Gaging Prioritization Plan 2022](#). SB 19 (Statutes of 2019, Chapter 361, Dodd) directed the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and State Water Board to develop a

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plan to deploy a network of stream gages to help address significant gaps in information needed for water management and the conservation of freshwater species. The plan will include opportunities for modernizing stream gages, reactivating existing stream gages, deploying new gages (including reference gages), and determining funding needs.	
County Drought Plan Requirements for State Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells - DWR will hold the first of four webinars to inform and solicit input from stakeholders on the development of a guidebook to support the preparation of County Drought Plans which focus on state small water systems and domestic wells, as required under SB 552. - Webinar on June 2 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Water Rights Fees - The State Water Board will hold a stakeholder meeting to discuss FY 2022- 2023 Water Rights Fees. - Meeting on June 9 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm	Staff Contact Soren Nelson Sorenn@acwa.com
GROUNDWATER	
Groundwater Trading White Paper On May 18, the California Water Commission approved the final White Paper, A State's Role in Groundwater Trading with Safeguards for Vulnerable Users: Findings and Next Steps (White Paper). The White Paper includes State considerations around how Groundwater Sustainability Agencies might shape well-managed groundwater trading programs with appropriate safeguards for communities, farms and the environment.	Staff Contact Soren Nelson Sorenn@acwa.com 
SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE (SAFER)	
SAFER Advisory Group Meeting - The State Water Board gave notice that the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity Resilience (SAFER) Advisory Group will hold its second meeting of 2022 to discuss agenda items including: (1) drinking water needs assessment, (2) draft fund expenditure plan priorities, (3) public comment, and (4) SAFER Program updates. - Meeting on June 9 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
WATER QUALITY	
2022-23 Drinking Water & ELAP Fees - The State Water Board will hold stakeholder workshops to discuss water quality, drinking water, and Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) fees for FY 2022-23. Workshop on Water Quality and Water Rights Fees on June 9 at 9:00 am Workshop on ELAP Fees on June 10 at 9:00 am	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
Biostimulation, Cyanotoxin, and Biological Condition Provisions The State Water Board will hold a staff workshop to present information, answer questions, and solicit public input regarding the Biostimulation, Cyanotoxin, and Biological Condition Provisions (Provision), which are currently being developed. The Provisions would establish consistent statewide water quality standards to protect human health, recreation, dogs, cattle, and aquatic life from anthropogenic biostimulation, nutrients, and cyanotoxins in California's freshwater streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs.	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com

- [Workshop](#) on June 29 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

ENERGY

Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0

- On May 9, the California Public Utilities Commission released a new [Ruling](#) to revise Net Energy Metering (NEM) Tariffs in order to take comments on a limited basis regarding: (1) the “glide path” approach, (2) non-bypassable charges on gross consumption; and (3) community distributed energy resources. NEM allows customers who generate energy to serve their needs directly onsite to receive a financial credit on their electric bills for any surplus energy sent back to their electric utility.
 - Comments due June 10
 - Deadline for reply comments is June 24

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2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update

- On May 10, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) released its [Draft 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update](#) (Draft Plan) and [noticed](#) a public hearing. The Draft Plan assesses progress toward the statutory 2030 target, while laying out a path to achieving carbon neutrality no later than 2045. The Draft Plan focuses on outcomes needed to achieve carbon neutrality by assessing paths for clean technology, energy deployment, natural and working lands, and others, and is designed to meet the State’s long-term climate objectives and support a range of economic, environmental, energy security, environmental justice, and public health priorities.
 - Public Hearing on June 23 at 9:00 am
 - Written comments due June 24

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AGRICULTURE

Multibenefit Land Repurposing

- On May 25, the California Department of Conservation [announced](#) the award of more than \$40 million to regional organizations working to reduce groundwater reliance and create local environmental and economic opportunities through land-use changes. These organizations, which operate in five agricultural counties, are the first recipients of funding from the Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program.

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RECENT ACWA COMMENT LETTERS

- [Allocation for the Groundwater Cleanup and Water Recycling Projects from the Budget Act of 2021](#), SWRCB, 5/9/22
- [Emergency Conservation Regulations](#), SWRCB, 5/19/22