



MONTHLY REGULATORY ROUNDUP



October 2022

UPCOMING ACWA REGULATORY EVENTS

ACWA FALL CONFERENCE & REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Register [now](#) to attend ACWA's 2022 Fall Conference at the Renaissance Esmeralda and Hyatt Regency in Indian Wells, CA from Nov. 29 – Dec 1! View the Preliminary Agenda [here](#).

ACWA REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ACWA's regulatory committee meetings will be held on Tuesday, November 29, at Fall Conference. Registration to attend committee meetings is complementary. Attendance at any part of the conference, including committee meetings, will require applicable registration and adherence to current health and safety requirements.

Tuesday, November 29

- Agriculture Committee 8:00 – 9:45 am
- Groundwater Committee 10:00 – 11:45 am
- Energy Committee 10:00 – 11:45 am
- Water Management Committee 1:00 – 2:45 pm
- Water Quality Committee 3:00 – 4:45 pm

ACWA Bi-Monthly Water Use Efficiency Meeting

Join ACWA's Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Subcommittee on October 12 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm to discuss the State's ongoing implementation of Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life. Click here for the [zoom information](#).

POLICY UPDATES

WATER MANAGEMENT

California Water Plan Update 2023

- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has initiated the [California Water Plan Update 2023](#) (Update 2023). The California Water Plan, which is updated every five years, is the State's strategic plan for sustainably and equitably managing and developing resources for current and future generations. Update 2023 will include updated resources management strategies, regional planning and performance tools, water balances, future scenarios, and other technical and policy-related activities related to water resilience and sustainability.
 - Workshop [on](#) October 27 from 9:00 – 12:00 pm

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Delta Conveyance Project Draft EIR

- On July 27, DWR released the [Delta Conveyance Project Draft Environmental Impact Report](#) (Draft EIR). On September 20, DWR released a [change sheet](#) that has corrected formatting and editorial issues in the Draft EIR. DWR additionally extended the public comment period.
 - Written comments [due](#) December 16

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Delta Levees Investment Strategy - On September 23, the Delta Stewardship Council issued a corrected version of the proposed regulatory text for the Delta Levee Investment Strategy (Strategy). The Proposed Strategy would assign a priority of <i>very-high</i>, <i>high</i>, or <i>other</i> to each island or tract located within the legal boundaries of the Delta and Suisun Marsh. - Written comments now due on November 16 by 11:59 PM - Public hearing on November 17	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Drought to Flood Symposium - The Department of Water Resources will host a hybrid event about the impacts of climate change in California. The event will include speakers and panel discussions on building climate resiliency in water resources and flood management, including flood management equity, ARkStorms, and the necessary innovations and funding for weather extremes. - Symposium on October 17 at 9 am	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Racial Equity Action Plan - On September 23, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a Draft Racial Equity Action Plan (Draft Plan). The Draft Plan implements the Racial Equity Resolution that the State Water Board adopted in November 2021 and is a compilation of actions intended to advance efforts to address racial inequities and identifies metrics to measure progress. The State Water Board's Racial Equity Team aims to bring the draft Plan to the Board as an informational item in 2023. The Board will not approve or deny the final Plan. - Public workshop on October 19 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm - Written Comments are due October 24 by 5:00 pm	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Regulation Modifying Water Rights On September 20, the State Water Board adopted a Regulation Modifying Water Right Ownership Notice Requirements and Reporting Dates (Regulation). The Regulation amends requirements for reporting annual water use and change of ownership of water rights. The Regulation will become effective on January 1, 2023, upon approval by the Office of Administrative Law.	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com 
Six-Year Drought White Paper - The California Water Commission (CWC) expects to host a second panel to explore potential strategies for long-term management to protect communities and fish and wildlife in a six-year drought, in accordance with Water Resilience Portfolio Action 26.3. In March, the CWC released a work plan for developing the strategies. - CWC meeting on October 19 at 9:30 am	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com 
Southern California Steelhead Status Review - On October 12, the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) will consider a request from California Department of Fish and Wildlife staff for a six-month extension to deliver the one-year status review report on California Trout's petition to list Southern California steelhead as endangered under CESA. - Commission meeting on October 12 at 9:00 am	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com 
Water Rights Fees for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Emergency Regulation On September 20, the State Water Board adopted an Emergency Regulation Amending Water Rights Fee Schedules (Emergency Regulation). The Emergency Regulation adjusts the fee schedule in FY 2022-23, increasing water rights application, permit and	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com

licenses fees along with other changes. Additionally, the Emergency Regulation includes a new fee of \$1,000 for watershed-wide petitions necessary for implementing voluntary agreements to provide regional sharing of water diversions.



Water Use Efficiency Recommendations

- On September 29, DWR provided [recommendations](#) to the State Water Board in response to the 2018 Legislation (SB 606 and AB 1668) enacted in support of “Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life.” DWR is recommending an outdoor residential water use efficiency standard (ORWUS) of 0.80 in 2023 for existing landscapes, transitioning to an ORWUS of 0.63 and no higher in 2030 and beyond. If enacted, DWR’s recommendations on outdoor residential and CII water use on landscapes with dedicated irrigation meters, combined with the indoor residential water use standard, would result in expected long-term water savings of approximately 450,000 acre-feet per year starting in 2030.

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SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE (SAFER)

Drinking Water Needs Assessment

- On September 20, the State Water Board released a [Draft White Paper](#) detailing proposed recommendations for the Drinking Water Needs Assessment. The annual Drinking Water Needs Assessment is an analysis conducted by the State Water Board to help inform the implementation of SAFER Program. The State Water Board is proposing enhancements to how it incorporates affordability into the Drinking Water Needs Assessment for public water systems, state small water systems, and domestic wells.
 - Written comments [due](#) October 20
 - Public workshop #3 [on](#) November 1

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Fund Expenditure Plan FY 2022-23

- On September 26, the State Water Board released the [Draft Final FY 2022-23 Fund Expenditure Plan](#) for the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (Fund). SB 200 (2019) established the Fund and requires the annual adoption of a Fund Expenditure Plan. Expenditures from the Fund will complement other funding sources as part of the broader SAFER Drinking Water Program.
 - Board to consider adoption [on](#) October 3 at 9:30 am

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WATER QUALITY

Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Integrated Use Plans FY 2022-23

- The State Water Board will consider adoption of the Draft Final FY 2022-23 [Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Integrated Use Plans \(IUPs\)](#). The draft IUPs outline the State Water Board’s business plan for administering the CWSRF, DWSRF, and their complementary funding for state fiscal year (SFY) 2022-23. The draft IUPs also include draft Supplemental IUPs for new SRF funds appropriated through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), including Emerging Contaminants funding and Lead Service Line Replacement funding.
 - Board Consideration to Adopt [on](#) October 3 at 9:30 am

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Lead Service Line Inventory

- In September, the State Water Board released an [inventory template](#) that contains the minimum amount of information required for water systems to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) initial lead service line inventory requirement. All

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community and non-transient noncommunity water systems must complete and submit their inventory by October 16, 2024. Water systems are not required to use the inventory template and may choose an alternative format for their inventory such as a list, custom spreadsheet, database or map.



Proposed Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Policy

- On September 16, the State Water Board released a [Draft Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Policy](#) (OWTS Policy). The purpose of the OWTS Policy and conditional waiver is to allow local agency oversight of over 1.2 million onsite wastewater treatment systems statewide through a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements while maintaining minimum statewide water quality protections.
 - Staff workshop [on](#) October 4 at 5 pm
 - Board Workshop [on](#) October 18 at 9:30 am
 - Written Comments [due](#) November 1

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ENERGY

Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation

- On August 16, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) announced a [notice of public hearing to consider the Proposed Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation](#) (ACF). The Board will not consider adoption of the Proposed ACF Regulation until early 2023, however, the public hearing will provide an opportunity for stakeholder and Board input to CARB staff. Additionally, on August 30, CARB issued a [Staff Report: Initial Statement of Reasons](#) (ISOR) for Proposed ACF Regulation. The ACF would require California fleet owners and operators to start purchase 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](#) October 17
 - Public hearing [on](#) October 27 at 9:00 AM

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Aliso Canyon Closure Staff Proposal

- On September 23, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) released a [Staff Proposal](#) that outlines the resources that might replace the natural gas services provided by Aliso Canyon, how progress towards closure might be assessed, and what rate of change would be necessary to meet a specified target closure date. The Staff Proposal is in response to Order Institution Investigation 17-02-002 pursuant to SB 380 (2016) that tasked the CPUC with determining the "the feasibility of minimizing or eliminating the use of the Aliso Canyon natural gas storage facility located in the County of Los Angeles while still maintaining energy and reliability for the region."

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Electric Program Investment Charge Symposium

- The California Energy Commission (CEC) will hold its annual Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) [symposium](#) in October. EPIC invests approximately \$130 million annually in new technology breakthroughs to transform the electricity sector to meet California's energy and climate policy goals and bring increased benefits to electric ratepayers of the state's three largest investor-owned utilities, PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E.
 - Symposium [on](#) October 4 from 9am-4pm

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RECENT ACWA COMMENT LETTERS

- [Proposed 2022 Cost Assessment Changes](#), SWRCB, 9/8/22
- [Draft Fund Expenditure Plan for the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund](#), SWRCB, 9/14/2022

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- [Proposed Water Loss Performance Standards](#), SWRCB, 9/19/2022
 - [Draft Intended Use Plans for the Drinking Water Revolving Fund and Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#), SWRCB, 9/23/2022
 - [Rulemaking 20-08-020 Net Energy Metering Impacts on Commercial Market](#), CPUC, 9/28/2022
 - [Status Review of Southern California Steelhead](#), CDFW, 9/30/2022
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To receive a monthly email of the Regulatory Roundup, please contact [Sarah Brennan](#), ACWA Regulatory Relations Assistant, to be included on the distribution list. The Regulatory Roundup is also available on ACWA's [website](#).