



MONTHLY REGULATORY ROUNDUP



MARCH 2025

UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS

ACWA QUARTERLY POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ACWA's next Quarterly Policy Committee Meetings will be held virtually on March 13 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Register [here](#) to attend any or all of the meetings. The schedule includes:

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Welcome & ACWA Updates
9:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Water Management Committee
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM	Groundwater Committee
12:45 PM – 2:00 PM	Water Quality Committee
2:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Agriculture Committee
3:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Energy Committee

ACWA LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM

ACWA will host its 2025 Legislative Symposium on March 26 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm in Sacramento. Register [here](#) to attend.

ACWA REGION EVENTS

- ACWA Region 4 / Tour and Program / April 16 at 8:00 am / Register [here](#) to attend.

POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

ACWA's Federal Regulatory Issues chart is accessible [here](#).

WATER MANAGEMENT

Delta Conveyance Project

- On February 28, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a [Third Amended Notice of Public Hearing and Procedural Ruling](#) regarding the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) pending Petitions for Change of Water Rights Permits associated with the State Water Project.
 - Public hearing: March 24-25; April 1, 3, 7-9, 14, 17, 22-24; and June 10-11

Staff Contact

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Delta Protection Advisory Committee

- On January 28, the Delta Protection Advisory Committee (DPAC) [opened applications](#) for five committee member seats. DPAC provides recommendations to the Delta Protection Commission on diverse interests within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Applications are available [here](#).
 - Deadline to submit applications: March 14 at 5:00 pm

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Fees: 2025 Drinking Water, Water Quality, and Water Rights

- The State Water Board is holding a series of [stakeholder meetings](#) to discuss drinking water, water quality, and water rights fees.
 - Water Quality: March 6 at 9:00 am

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○ Water Rights: March 6 at 1:00 pm ○ Drinking Water: March 7 at 9:00 am	
Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook • DWR anticipates releasing a draft 2025 Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook this spring, and a final version by July 1. To access DWR's WUE SharePoint, which includes DWR's proposed changes, email UWMPhelp@water.ca.gov.	Staff Contact Sonja Eschenburg sonjae@acwa.com 
Water Plan Update 2023 • In February, DWR released an updated set of resource management strategies (RMSes) as part of California Water Plan Update 2023. The updated RMSes help local agencies and governments manage their water and related resources. ○ Virtual webinar: March 18 at 10:00 am	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
Water Measurement and Reporting Regulation • On February 28, the State Water Board initiated the formal rulemaking for the draft Water Measurement and Reporting Regulation (Regulation). The Regulation proposes updates for measuring and reporting requirements for water rights holders that divert over 10 acre feet a year. ○ Public hearing: April 16 at 10:00 am ○ Written comments due: April 23 at 5:00 pm	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com 
AGRICULTURE	
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program • The State Water Board will host a virtual Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program stakeholder meeting to discuss the methodology for conducting annual comparisons of township-level groundwater protection targets and actual values achieved. ○ Stakeholder meeting: March 26 at 10:00 am	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
California Underserved and Small Producers Program • On January 28, the California Department of Food and Agriculture launched an agricultural workforce survey to help determine employer needs within the specialty crop sector. Responses will be gathered into a statewide report that is being developed by the California Community Colleges Center of Excellence.	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
GROUNDWATER	
Executive Order: Water Capture and Storage • On January 31, Governor Newsom signed Executive Order (EO) N-16-25 to maximize the capture and storage of additional water from the recent storms in Northern California. The provisions of the EO are similar to orders issued during the 2022-23 wet season.	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com
PRIORITY State Intervention: Kern County Subbasin • On February 20, the State Water Board continued the public hearing for the consideration of a probationary designation for the Kern County Subbasin. The resolution to continue the hearing requests that the subbasin groundwater sustainability agencies provide revised draft	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com 

groundwater sustainability plans by June 20, 2025. There will be an additional opportunity for public comment at the continued hearing.

- Public hearing: September 17 at 9:00 am

SAFE DRINKING WATER

SAFER Advisory Group

- On February 10, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Public Meeting](#) of the SAFER Advisory Group. No action will be taken at the meeting; instead, the Advisory Group will discuss Community Partner pilot efforts, point of use/point of entry pilot effort, and SAFER program and Advisory Group member updates and announcements.
- Advisory group meeting: March 13 at 9:00 am

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WATER QUALITY

Clean Water Act Section 303(d)

- On January 2, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment, Public Staff Workshop, and Public Hearing for the Draft 2026 California Clean Water Act Section 303\(d\) List of Impaired Waters](#) (list) of the 2026 California Integrated Report (report). The draft 303(d) list and draft staff report are accessible [here](#).
- Public hearing on the list and draft staff report: March 18 at 9:00 am
- Written comments on the list and draft staff report due April 2 at 12:00 pm

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PRIORITY Drinking Water Regulations

- On February 19, the State Water Board [adopted](#) the prioritization of drinking water regulations development for calendar year 2025. The resolution, among other things, prioritizes developing maximum contaminant levels for per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances, arsenic, and n-nitroso-dimethylamine.

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Municipal Stormwater Cost Policy

- On January 22, the State Water Board adopted the [Water Quality Control \(WQC\) Policy for Standardized Cost Reporting in Municipal Stormwater Permits](#) (policy). The policy requires permittees to use a list of standardized cost categories to track their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit implementation costs and report annual expenditures for implementing their MS4 permits using a statewide cost data portal.
- Anticipated effective date: April 1

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Urban Stormwater Infiltration

- On January 28, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Preparation and California Environmental Quality Act Scoping Meeting](#) for the proposed urban stormwater infiltration WQC policy. The purpose of the scoping meeting is to solicit public input on the proposed draft Substitute Environmental Documentation, which will identify the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and environmental effects to be analyzed.
- [Virtual scoping meeting](#): March 12 at 10:00 am

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- Written comments due March 31

ENERGY

PRIORITY Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation • The California Air Resources Board (CARB) will delay bringing Assembly Bill 1594 Amendments to the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation (ACF Amendments) for CARB Board Approval following recent stakeholder input. CARB staff intended to bring the ACF Amendments to the May Board hearing, but will now do so at a later date in 2025. The informal comment docket has been reopened to submit written comments to CARB staff.	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com  WORKING GROUP
Battery Energy Storage Facilities • On January 27, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued a proposal to modify General Order (GO) 167. If approved, the proposal would, among other things: establish new standards for the maintenance and operation of battery energy storage facilities and increase oversight over emergency response action plans for battery energy storage facilities. ○ CPUC voting meeting: March 13	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
Electric Utility Transmission Siting Regulations • On January 30, the CPUC updated its electric utility transmission siting regulations to modernize and accelerate how transmission infrastructure is planned, permitted, and built. The new electric transmission process adjustments under GO 131-D are part of the CPUC's process to implement SB 529.	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com

ACWA COMMENT AND COALITION LETTERS

- [Extending the Bioenergy Feed-in Tariff Program](#), California Public Utilities Commission, February 4, 2025
- [Water Banking - Kern County Subbasin](#), State Water Resources Control Board, February 12, 2025

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



Indicates ACWA Working Group



Indicates ACWA Priority Issue