

Frequently Asked Questions: Volumetric Annual Reporting of Wastewater and Recycled Water

Recycled Water Policy

1. What are the requirements for volumetric annual reporting?

The Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water (Recycled Water Policy) requires wastewater and recycled water dischargers (even dischargers that do not produce any recycled water) to annually report monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. As applicable, dischargers are additionally required to annually report recycled water use by volume and category of reuse. A summary of the volumetric reporting requirements is shown below:

Annual Volumetric Reporting	Wastewater Treatment Plants <i>without</i> Recycling	Wastewater Treatment Plants <i>with</i> Recycling	Water Recycling Treatment Plants
Influent (monthly)	X	X	X
Production (monthly)	X	X	X
Discharge (monthly)	X	X	X
Reuse (monthly)		X	X
Reuse by Category (annually)		X	X

The complete requirements can be found in section 3.2 of the [Recycled Water Policy](#).

2. Why is this being required now?

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted an amendment to the Recycled Water Policy on December 11, 2018 (effective on April 8, 2019), which includes numeric goals for the increased use of recycled water, two narrative goals to encourage recycled water use in groundwater-overdrafted and coastal areas, and annual reporting requirements statewide for the volume of recycled water produced and used as well as the volume of wastewater treated and discharged.

3. What will this be used for?

The Water Boards recognize the importance of recycled water as a critical water supply for California and an important resource for improving our water resilience. Data generated by the volumetric annual report will assist the state in tracking progress towards the current recycled water goals in the Recycled Water Policy and the Draft Water Resilience Portfolio in response to Executive Order N-10-19; evaluating the potential for increased recycled water use; and assisting with statewide water supply planning efforts.

Water Quality Order

1. How are these requirements being implemented?

On July 23, 2019 (updated January 14, 2020), the State Water Board Executive Director issued water quality order 2019-0037-EXEC to update permit monitoring and reporting requirements pursuant to the Recycled Water Policy. This Order will be in effect for each discharger until the applicable regional water quality control board reissues or otherwise amends the discharger's monitoring and reporting program to incorporate the requirements of this Order, at which time this Order will no longer be applicable to that discharger and the requirements in the permittee's monitoring and reporting program will be in effect.

2. Who does this apply to?

Volumetric reporting requirements apply to permittees covered by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), master recycling permits, and Water Reclamation Requirements (WRRs). The reporting requirements apply to dischargers that: (a) have facility design flow of more than 20,000 gallons per day that treat wastewater or recycled water from sources that contain domestic waste, in whole or in part; and (b) are not considered an Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) per Water Code section 13290.

3. My facility doesn't produce any recycled water. Am I still required to complete this annual report?

Yes. The Recycled Water Policy requires wastewater *and* recycled water facilities to annually report monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. The data from the wastewater treatment facilities that are not currently recycling will be used to evaluate the potential for increased recycled water use and assisting with statewide water supply planning efforts.

4. Is this a one-time report?

No. The Recycled Water Policy specifies that volumetric annual reporting will be due by April 30th of each year for data from the prior calendar year. The volumetric annual report will capture the statewide volume of wastewater treated and distributed to assist the State Water Board in evaluating current recycled water use, as well as the potential for future increases in recycled water use. Volumetric annual

reporting will assist with statewide water planning efforts and remain consistent with the interest of the State in maintaining water quality and diversifying local water supplies to increase water resiliency.

GeoTracker

1. What is GeoTracker and how do I use it?

GeoTracker is the State Water Board's Internet-accessible database system to track and archive compliance. This system consists of a relational database, on-line compliance reporting features, a geographical information system (GIS) interface and other features. GeoTracker is utilized by the Water Boards, local agencies, regulated industry and the public to input, manage, or access compliance and regulatory tracking data. GeoTracker requires a USERNAME and PASSWORD to gain access to the secure Electronic Submittal of Information (ESI) section of GeoTracker in order to obtain access to sites/facilities so you can enter data and reports.

For assistance with creating a GeoTracker account you can email geotracker@waterboards.ca.gov

2. How is this information reported?

The ESI section of GeoTracker houses the Volumetric Annual Report. Data for the applicable monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, effluent and recycled water use will be entered into a form within the reporting module. Once all data is entered the report can be submitted. There is no uploading of a Portable Document Format (PDF) file for this report.

3. I need help, who can I contact?

Help guides and additional resources can be found at: waterboards.ca.gov/recycledwaterpolicy

For assistance with the volumetric annual report you can email recycledwater@waterboards.ca.gov or call Rebecca Greenwood at (916) 341-5858

4. Will data be available to view?

Data will be publicly accessible a few months following the closing of the reporting period. More information at that time will be available at: waterboards.ca.gov/recycledwaterpolicy

Additional Resources

More information on this volumetric annual reporting can be found on the recycled water webpage at: waterboards.ca.gov/recycledwaterpolicy

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