

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LAHONTAN REGION**

**MEETING OF MARCH 13-14, 2019  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE**

<b>ITEM 12</b>
<b>2019 Annual Enforcement Report</b>

**\*\*Please Insert Power Point Presentation in Item #12, after Bate Stamp  
12 – 21\*\***

<b>ENCLOSURE</b>		<b>BATE STAMP</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Power Point Presentation</b>	<b>12 – 23</b>

# Agenda Item No. 12

## Lahontan Water Board Annual Enforcement Report

Lahontan Water Board Meeting  
South Lake Tahoe  
March 14, 2019



Scott C. Ferguson, P.E.  
Supervising WRCE

## Topics of Discussion

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- Annual Priorities
- Funding
- Informal Enforcement Effectiveness
- Recommendations

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# Annual Enforcement Priorities

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- Violations adversely affecting public health
- Violations that damage or destroy aquatic habitats

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# Annual Enforcement Priorities

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1. Replacement Water  
Human Right to Water/Disadvantaged communities
2. Cleanup Pollution Sources  
Groundwater and surface water
3. Increased Permit Compliance

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# Annual Enforcement Priorities

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4. Targeted Actions  
Program and industry-specific
5. Informal Enforcement  
Continuing emphasis/expanding use
6. Formal Enforcement  
Class A violations

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# Enforcement-Dedicated Funding

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- Severely Limited
  - Must rely upon Core Regulatory
  - Program vulnerable to changing staffing levels
- Additional Resources Needed
  - Enforcement/Core Regulatory/Advisory Team

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## Effective Informal Enforcement

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- Key Element of Progressive Enforcement
- Relatively Simple/Cost Effective
  - To issue informal: <1 - 40 hours/action
  - To issue formal: 100 - 1,000(+) hours/action
  - ACLs/Settlements: 18 - 24 months

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## Effective Informal Enforcement

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- Compliance Restoration
  - Informal (approx. 89 percent)
  - Formal (approx. 58 percent)

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## Enforcement Actions (2015 - 2018)

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- 387 informal actions
  - 345 Historical/withdrawn
- 476 formal actions\*
  - 279 Historical/withdrawn

\* Includes 454 Notices of Noncompliance; very similar to Notice of Violations

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## Informal Enforcement - Benefits

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- Simple Processes
- Limited Resource Demand per Action
- Limits Severity of Non-Compliance
- Quick Resolution

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## Recommendations

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- Speed Up Formal Enforcement Actions
- Improve Evidence Quality
- Settlement Workshops
- Increase Groundwater Cleanup Activities

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## Recommendations

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- Continue Enforcement at Lowest Effective Level
- Expedite Fine Process for Minor Violations
- Prioritize Department of Defense Facilities

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# Recommendations

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- Expand Staffing
  - Core Regulatory programs
  - Enforcement staffing
  - Advisory Team

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# Questions

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