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## State Water Resources Control Board

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Remote Participation Only

### 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public workshop to receive information and solicit public input from interested persons concerning the development of the 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan. A quorum of State Water Board members may be present; however, no action will be taken.

State Water Board staff will conduct three public workshops at the times and place described below. At the workshops, any person may present comments orally or in writing relevant to the subject described in this notice. During the comment period, members of the public will be allowed three minutes to provide oral comments, unless additional time is approved.

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.**

**Friday, March 19, 2021 – 1:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 23, 2021 – 1:30 p.m.**

**Video and Teleconference Participation Only**

**No Physical Meeting Location**

As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, this workshop is scheduled at this time to occur via remote presence. The workshop will be recorded and will be webcast at <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.

**PURPOSE:** This workshop will provide an opportunity for stakeholders to learn about, and contribute to, the State Water Board's 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan. The State Water Board will provide an overview of the document, highlight progress made since the 2015 Safe Drinking Water Plan, and describe the goals in the 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**AGENDA**

Items on this Agenda are numbered for identification purposes only;

1. Overview of draft 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan
2. Actions implemented based on the 2015 Safe Drinking Water Plan
3. Recommendations identified in the draft 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan

**If you wish to watch the meeting:** A webcast will be available at [video.calepa.ca.gov/](https://video.calepa.ca.gov/) and should be used unless you intend to provide oral comments on an agenda item.

**If you wish to make an oral comment:** additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/reg-meeting.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/reg-meeting.html)

**Special Accommodation Request**

Consistent with California Government Code section 7296.2, special accommodation or language needs may be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the workshop;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language; or
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerk to the Board at (916) 341-5600 as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled workshop. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia
- Documentos disponibles en un formato alternativo u otro idioma
- Una acomodación razonable relacionada con una incapacidad

Para solicitar estas comodidades especiales o necesidades de otro idioma, por favor llame a la oficina del Consejo al (916) 341-5600 lo más pronto posible, pero no menos de 10 días de trabajo antes del día programado para la audiencia del Consejo. TTY/TDD/Personas que necesiten este servicio pueden marcar el 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Mensajes de California.

**MEETING MATERIALS**

Meeting materials and details on remote participation will be available online at [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/safedrinkingwaterplan/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/safedrinkingwaterplan/)

**SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS**

Any interested person, or their representative, may submit written comments relevant to the subject described in this notice to the Clerk to the State Water Board. To facilitate timely identification and review of written comments, please use the subject line:

**“Comment Letter – 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan”.**

The submission of the Safe Drinking Water Plan to the state legislation is not subject to the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act. However, input provided on the draft 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan may be used to refine the 2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan. In order for those comments to be considered, written comments, regardless of the method of transmittal, must be received by the Clerk **by 12:00 p.m. noon on April 23, 2021.**

Written comments may be submitted as follows:

1. By email to: [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov);
2. By fax transmission to: (916) 341-5620;
3. By mail to: Clerk to the Board, Ms. Jeanine Townsend, State Water Resources Control Board, P.O. Box 997377, MS 7400, Sacramento, CA 95899-7377; or
4. Hand-delivered to: Clerk to the Board, Ms. Jeanine Townsend, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814.

The State Water Board requests, but does not require, that written comments sent by mail or hand-delivered be submitted in triplicate.

The State Water Board requests, but does not require, that if reports or articles in excess of 25 pages are submitted in conjunction with the comments, the commenter provide a summary of the report or article and describe the reason for which the report or article is being submitted or is relevant to the proposed Safe Drinking Water Plan.

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code, §6250 et seq.), your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) can be released to the public upon request.

**BACKGROUND**

Health and Safety Code Section 116355 requires the State Water Board to update the Plan every five years. The statute requires the Safe Drinking Water Plan to address:

1. An analysis of the overall quality of California's drinking water and the identification of specific water quality problems.
2. Types and levels of contaminants found in public drinking water systems that have less than 10,000 service connections. The discussion of these water systems shall include the following:
  - a. Estimated costs of requiring these systems to meet primary drinking water standards and public health goals.
  - b. Recommendations for actions that could be taken by the Legislature, the department, and these systems to improve water quality.

3. A discussion and analysis of the known and potential health risks that may be associated with drinking water contamination in California.
4. An evaluation of how existing water quality information systems currently maintained by local or state agencies can be more effectively used to protect drinking water.
5. An evaluation of the research needed to develop inexpensive methods and instruments to ensure better screening and detection of waterborne chemicals, and inexpensive detection methods that could be used by small utilities and consumers to detect harmful microbial agents in drinking water.
6. An analysis of the technical and economic viability and the health benefits of various treatment techniques that can be used to reduce levels of trihalomethanes, lead, nitrates, synthetic organic chemicals, micro-organisms, and other contaminants in drinking water.
7. A discussion of alternative methods of financing the construction, installation, and operation of new treatment technologies including, but not limited to, user charges, state or local taxes, state planning and construction grants, loans, and loan guarantees.
8. A discussion of sources of revenue presently available, and projected to be available, to public water systems to meet current and future expenses.
9. An analysis of the current cost of drinking water paid by residential, business, and industrial consumers based on a statewide survey of large, medium, and small public water systems.
10. Specific recommendations, including recommendations developed pursuant to paragraph (6), to improve the quality of drinking water in California and a detailed five-year implementation program.
11. A review of the use of administrators pursuant to Section 116686 in the state, including, but not limited to, the number of communities that have achieved access to safe drinking water through use of an administrator, the costs and duties of the administrator and a comparison of costs, whether rate structures for communities served by an administrator have resulted in significantly higher rates and whether those rates are affordable, and whether the administrator program should be modified to better serve communities.
12. A review of the consolidations pursuant to Section 116682 in the state, including, but not limited to, the number of communities that have achieved access to safe drinking water through consolidation, whether rate structures for communities are affordable following consolidation, barriers to consolidation, and whether the consolidation program should be modified to better serve communities.

In [June 2015](#) the State Water Board issued the previous Safe Drinking Water Plan to the State Legislature. There has been significant progress on the recommendations identified in the 2015 Safe Drinking Water Plan, especially with the establishment of the SAFER program.

#### **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

Related documents and information are available on the State Water Board [2020 Safe Drinking Water Plan website](#).

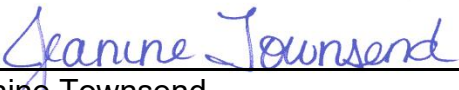
**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

Due to ongoing circumstances related to the COVID-19 emergency, all public participation will be remote via an online hosted platform. The presentation slides will be sent out ahead of time and shared via webcast. Questions, comments, and discussion items will be collected via the webinar.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to [DDW-TechOps@Waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:DDW-TechOps@Waterboards.ca.gov).

February 18, 2021  
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Date

  
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Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board