
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Urban Water Conservation

Wednesday, December 17, 2014 – 9:00 a.m.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, California

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public workshop to receive input on potential next steps and future actions related to urban water conservation if drought conditions persist into the new calendar year. This will be an informational workshop only and the State Water Board will take no action.

BACKGROUND

On April 25, 2014, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order calling on the State to redouble its drought actions. Among other things, the Executive Order directed the State Water Board to adopt emergency regulations as it deemed necessary, pursuant to Water Code section 1058.5, to ensure that urban water suppliers implement drought response plans to limit outdoor irrigation and other wasteful water practices. In response to the Executive Order, the State Water Board adopted an [Emergency Water Conservation Regulation](#) that went into effect on July 28, 2014.

The Emergency Water Conservation Regulation includes prohibitions on certain water uses and requires urban water suppliers to activate their Water Shortage Contingency Plans to a level where outdoor irrigation restrictions are mandatory. In communities where no water shortage contingency plan exists, the regulation requires that water suppliers either limit outdoor irrigation to twice a week or implement other comparable conservation actions. Urban water suppliers must also report to the State Water Board water use on a monthly basis to track progress.

Data collected by the State Water Board demonstrate that approximately 90 billion gallons of water have been conserved for the period of June-October 2014 as compared to the same period last year. The amount of water conservation realized, however, has been variable throughout the State, as have the types of water conservation measures implemented by individual water suppliers. Additional State and local action to conserve urban water supplies may be needed depending on weather conditions and the water supply outlook.

WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

The purpose of this workshop is to solicit input on a range of additional actions that the State Water Board should consider to compel further urban water savings if drought conditions persist. The workshop will include presentations from invited speakers, followed by public comments and discussion. The State Water Board is interested in receiving public input on the following questions:

1. What more should be done at the local and/or State level in the near-term to increase water conservation?
2. What additional conservation requirements, if any, should the State Water Board consider adopting if dry conditions persist into the new year?
3. What can be done to compel poorer performing areas to increase conservation?
4. What additional data should the State Water Board be collecting and how would it be used?

To ensure a productive and efficient workshop, participants with common comments are encouraged to coordinate and provide comments as a group. So that all commenters have an opportunity to participate, presentations and questions may be time-limited.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

Interested persons must submit written comments by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 17, 2014.

Written comment letters must be submitted to the attention of:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comment letters may be submitted to the Clerk of the Board via email at: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov (15 megabytes, or less, in size) or by fax at (916) 341-5620.

Please indicate in the subject line “**Comment Letter – Urban Water Conservation Workshop.**”

Comments may also be hand delivered. Couriers delivering comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel on the first floor of the Cal/EPA Building at the above address. Questions on comment submittals may be directed to Ms. Townsend, at (916) 341-5600.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More information on the State Water Board's Emergency Water Conservation Regulation can be found here:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/drought/emergency_regulations_waterconservation.shtml

For a map of the visitor parking guide around the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), visit:

http://www.mwdh2o.com/mwdh2o/pages/about/union_station_parking_map.pdf.

For driving directions to MWD, visit:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?2pn=Metropolitan+Water+District&2a=700+N+Alameda+St&2c=Los+Angeles&2s=CA&2z=90012&form=directions>.

Notices and submittals are available electronically at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml

All visitors must check-in upon arrival to MWD and then proceed to the meeting room.

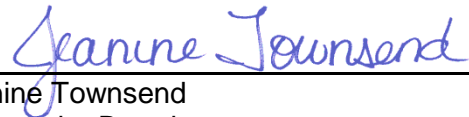
Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the Clerk to the Board at (916) 341-5600.

Please direct other questions about this notice to Dorena Goding at (916) 327-8101 or

dorena.goding@waterboards.ca.gov, or to Eric Oppenheimer at (916) 445-5960 or eric.oppenheimer@waterboards.ca.gov.

December 4, 2014

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board