

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING,  
AND PERFORMANCE  
OCTOBER 19, 2022**

**ITEM 9**

**SUBJECT**

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A RULE ESTABLISHING WATER LOSS PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR URBAN RETAIL WATER SUPPLIERS.

**DISCUSSION**

The State Water Board will consider a proposed resolution to adopt a rule establishing water loss performance standards for urban retail water suppliers. The State Water Board initiated this rulemaking on December 24, 2021.

**POLICY ISSUE**

Water Code section 10608.34 sets statutory requirements for monitoring and reducing water losses through leaks in urban retail water suppliers' (URWS) distribution systems. Section 10608.34 also requires the State Water Board to develop performance standards for water loss for URWS. The proposed water loss performance standards (proposed regulation) will reduce water loss. The proposed regulation is designed to bring water losses to levels that are cost-effective and feasible for each URWS. The intent of the proposed regulation is to provide each URWS a unique volumetric standard reflecting cost-effective levels of achievable water loss, given its system and budget, and to give each supplier the flexibility to choose its own approach to meeting its standard.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

State Water Board staff estimates the benefits of the proposed regulation, over the 30-year period analyzed, are \$4 billion and the costs are \$0.5 billion. Benefits are mainly the water savings due to reduced losses. Costs relate to leak detection, leak repair, and monitoring and reporting. The proposed regulation would not have direct impacts on individuals, but the proposed regulation is projected to decrease water supply costs from what they otherwise would be.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt the regulation.