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Tract 349 Mutual Water Company & Tract 180 Mutual Water Company

Public Meeting

Bryan Potter and Saeeda Rafique
Division of Drinking Water



SAFER Program - January 14, 2026



Water Board's Mission Statement

Preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Meeting Agreements



Please hold your questions or comments until we reach the public comment section.



You may fill out a comment card during the presentation or raise your hand after.



Everyone will have a chance to speak during the public comment period.

Meeting Agenda

- Tract 349 MWC & Tract 180 MWC Background
- Consolidation Overview
- Project Under Development
- Public Comment / Q&A

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Tract 349 MWC Background

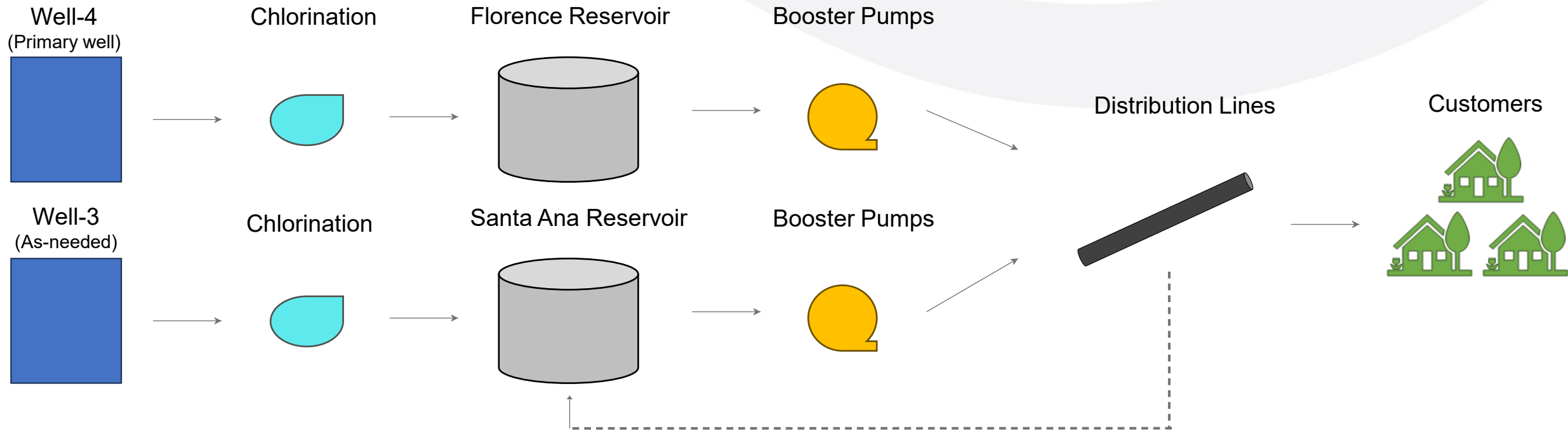
Saeeda Rafique - DDW



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Infrastructure

- Source: Well 3 and Well 4
- Aging infrastructure
- Backup power for Well 4 only
- Emergency interconnection with City of Huntington Park and Tract 180 MWC



Equipment Life Expectancy

Equipment	*Typical Equipment Life Expectancy	Age of Equipment
Wells	35 - 45 years	78 years (Well 3) 7 years (Well 4)
Chlorination Equipment	10 - 15 years	12 years (Well 3 site) 5 years (Well 4 site)
Storage Tank	30 - 60 years	62 years (Well 3 site) 88 years (Well 4 site)
Booster pumps	10 – 15 years	14-20 years (Well 3 site) 2 years (Well 4 site)
Mains & Distribution Pipes	35 - 40 years	~70 years (Some pipes have been replaced but age is unknown)

*Table 1: Typical Equipment Life Expectancy available at:

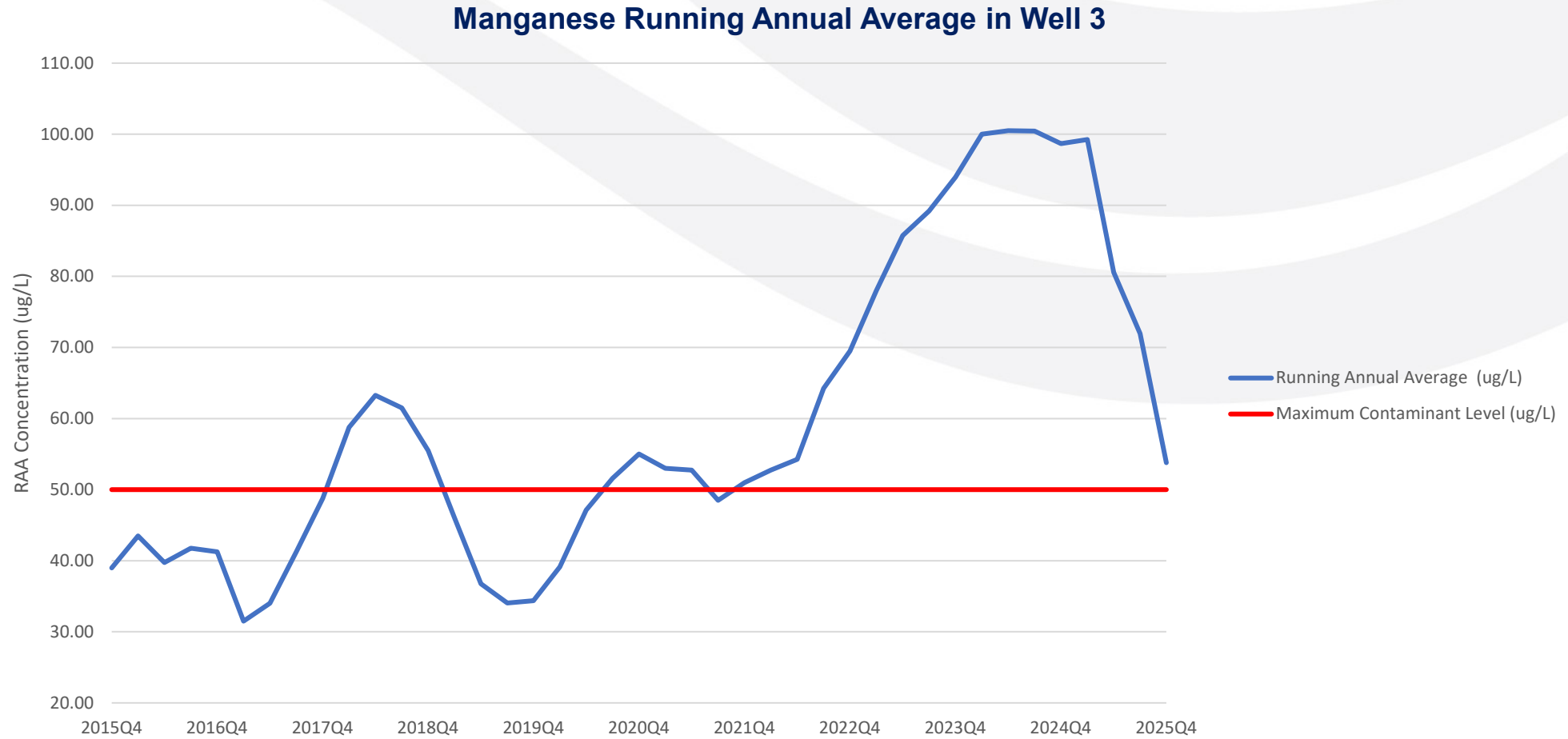
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/TMF.html

Water Quality: Manganese

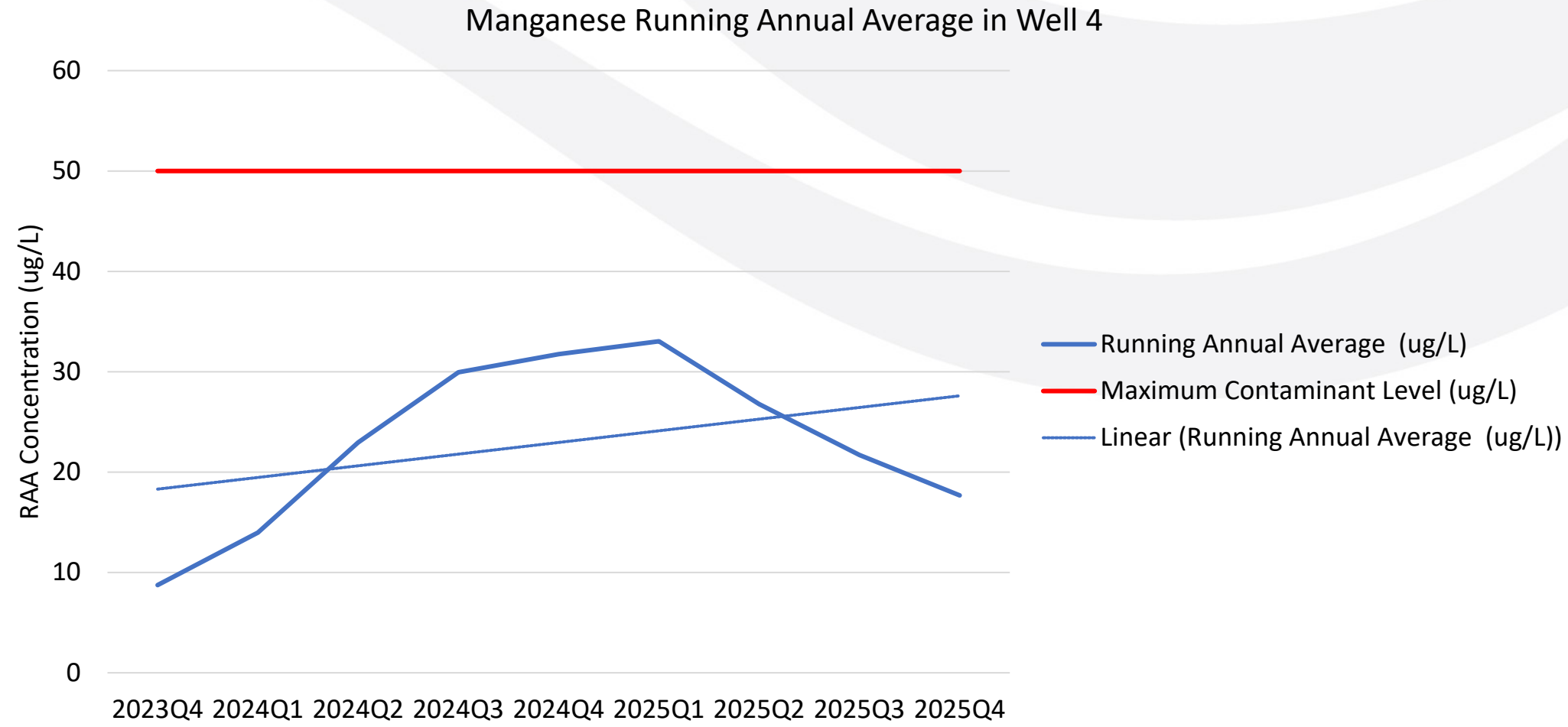
- Naturally occurring element
- Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) = 50 ug/L.
 - Discoloration, taste, or odor may occur.
- Well 3 regularly exceeds the SMCL
 - Compliance Order 04-07-02C0-002 on October 24, 2002
 - Waiver from November 7, 2003, to November 6, 2017
 - Compliance Order 05-07-25R-002 on December 22, 2025
- Well 4 regularly stays below the SMCL but is trending upward.
- Both wells are below the proposed Response Level of 200 ug/L.
- Distribution System Flushing Program
 - Compliance is based on source concentration, not distribution system concentration.



Manganese in Well 3



Manganese in Well 4



Water Quality: PFAS

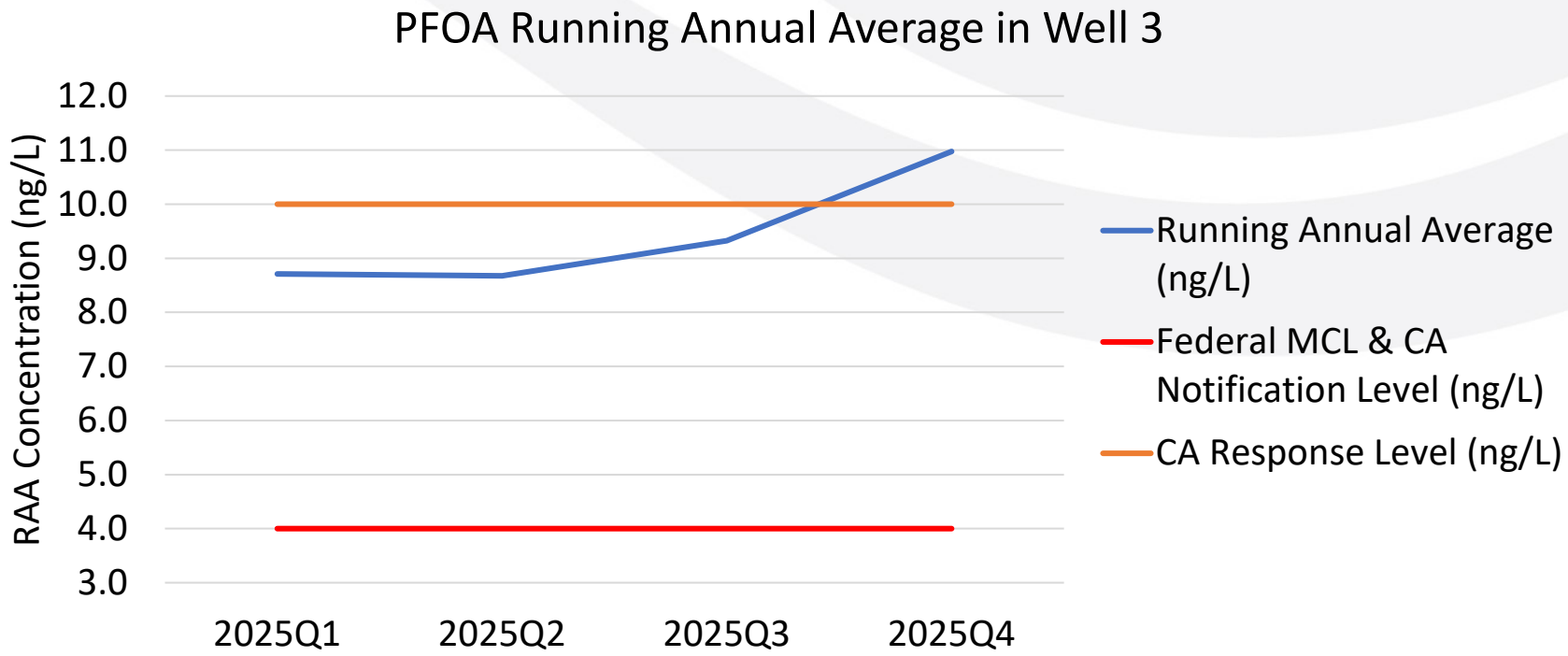
- Man-made chemical compounds that persist in the environment for long periods of time (“forever chemicals”).
- Used in industry and consumer products such as nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, and stain resistant furniture.
- PFOA and PFOS are readily absorbed but not readily eliminated from the human body.
- Health effects associated with long-term exposure may include:
 - Harmful effects to a developing fetus or infant
 - Harmful effects to the immune system, thyroid and liver
 - Cancer
- Tract 349 is under a PFAS monitoring order for both wells
 - Exceed the Notification Level, Federal MCL, and Response Level for PFOA and PFOS in Well 3

Water Quality: PFAS

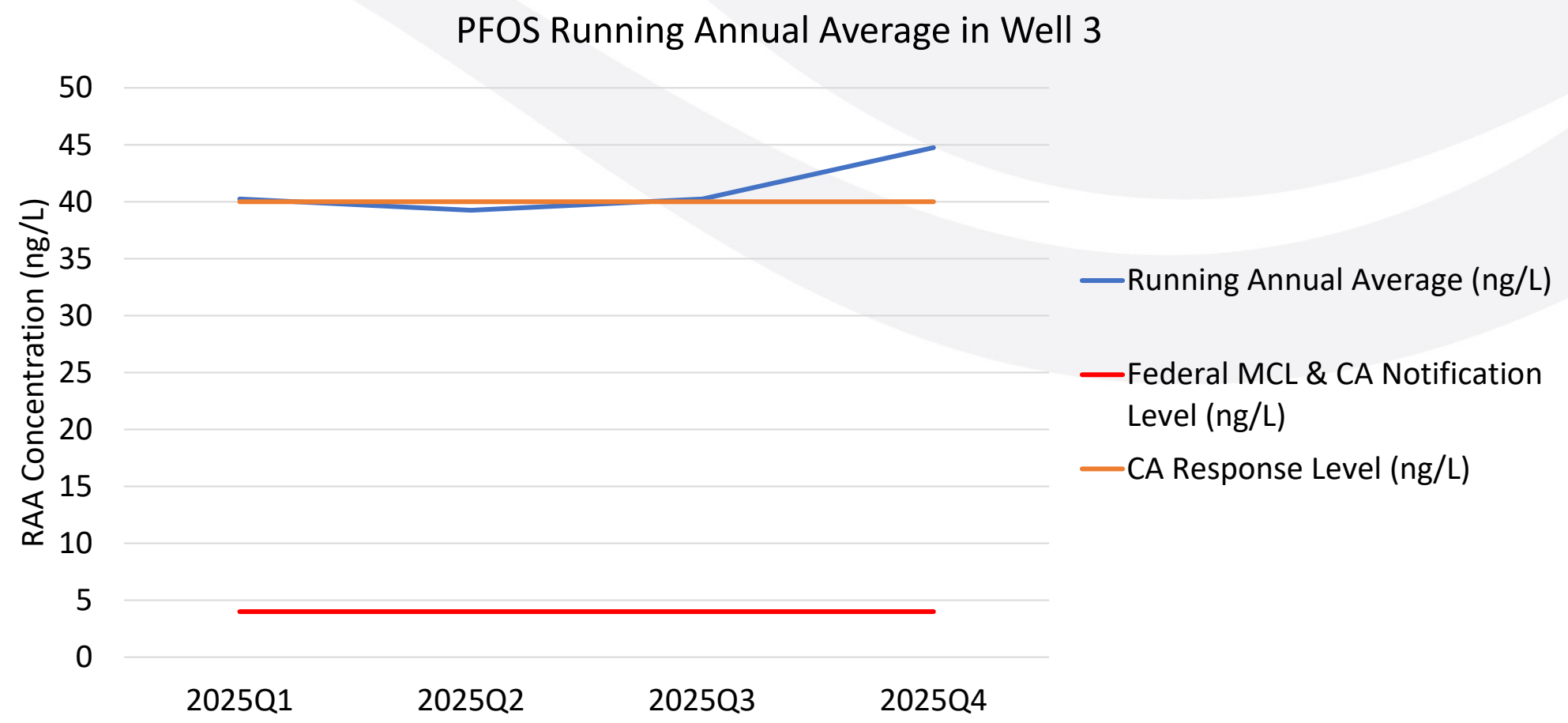
- Federal Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL): Legally enforceable levels established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
 - Currently in initial monitoring phase.
 - Water systems are not out of compliance yet; Federal MCL will be enforced in the coming years.
- Notification levels (NL): Nonregulatory, health-based advisory levels for contaminants in drinking water for which MCLs have not been established and/or enforced.
- Response levels (RL): Set higher than an NL and are recommended chemical concentration levels at which water systems consider taking a water source out of service or provide treatment if that option is available to them.

Analyte	Federal MCL	CA Notification Level	CA Response Level
PFOA	4 ng/L	4 ng/L	10 ng/L
PFOS	4 ng/L	4 ng/L	40 ng/L

PFOA Level in Well 3



PFOS Levels in Well 3

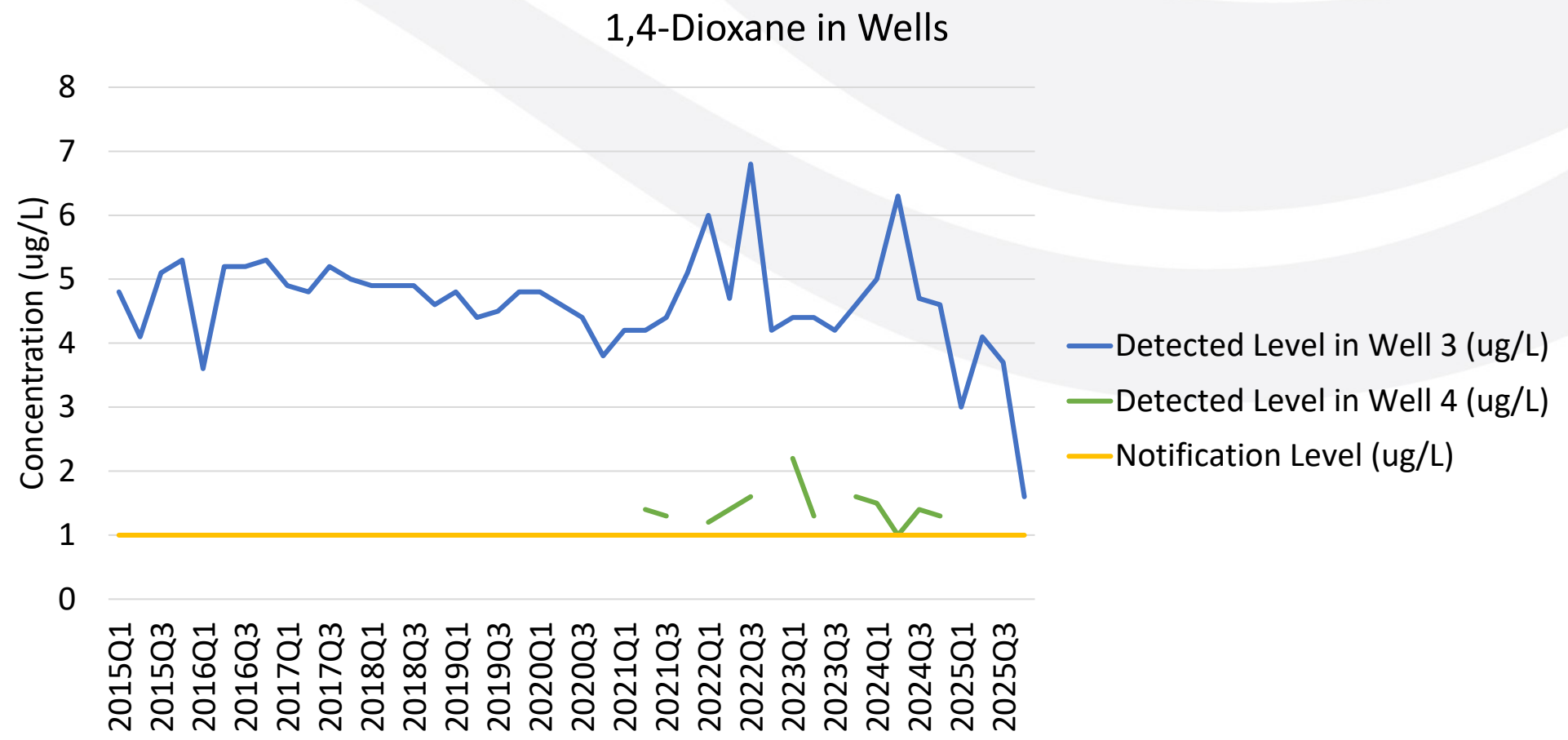


Water Quality: 1,4-Dioxane

- Synthetic chemical historically used as a stabilizer for industrial chlorinated solvents
- Notification Level = 1 ug/L
- Response Level = 35 ug/L
- Causes cancer in laboratory animals that have been exposed to high levels over a long period of time
 - Probable human carcinogen



1,4-Dioxane in Wells



Other violations

- Citation 04_07_023C_010 on June 26, 2023, for Total Coliform Monitoring during April 2023. The system failed to collect repeat samples from the approved locations.
- Citation 04_07_019C_003 on July 24, 2019, for Total Coliform MCL Violation during May 2019. The system collected fewer than 40 bacteriological samples, 2 samples were positive for Total Coliform, and they did not notify the State Water Board or collect a repeat sample.
- The water system addressed these citations.



Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity



- SMCL exceedance for Manganese since 2002
- PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane detection
- Aging infrastructure replacement
- Adjudicated basin
- Limited knowledge transfer
- Fixed customer base
- Capacity to fund solutions
- Water rates

Tract 180 MWC Background

Bryan Potter - DDW



Infrastructure

- Source: Well 5 and Well 6
- Aging infrastructure
- Backup power for Well 6 only
- Emergency interconnection with Golden State Water Company and Tract 349 MWC

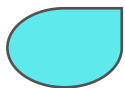
Well 5



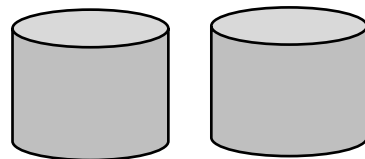
Well 6



Chlorination



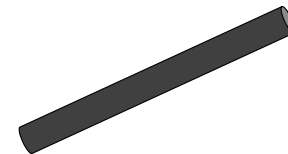
Reservoir 2 and Reservoir 3



Booster Pumps



Distribution Line



Customers



Equipment Life Expectancy

Equipment	*Typical Equipment Life Expectancy	Age of Equipment
Wells	35 - 45 years	47 years (Well 5) 36 years (Well 6)
Chlorination Equipment	10 - 15 years	Unknown
Storage Tank	30 - 60 years	70 years (Reservoir 2) 36 years (Reservoir 3)
Booster pumps	10 – 15 years	Unknown
Mains & Distribution Pipes	35 - 40 years	Unknown

*Table 1: Typical Equipment Life Expectancy available at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/TMF.html

Water Quality: PFAS

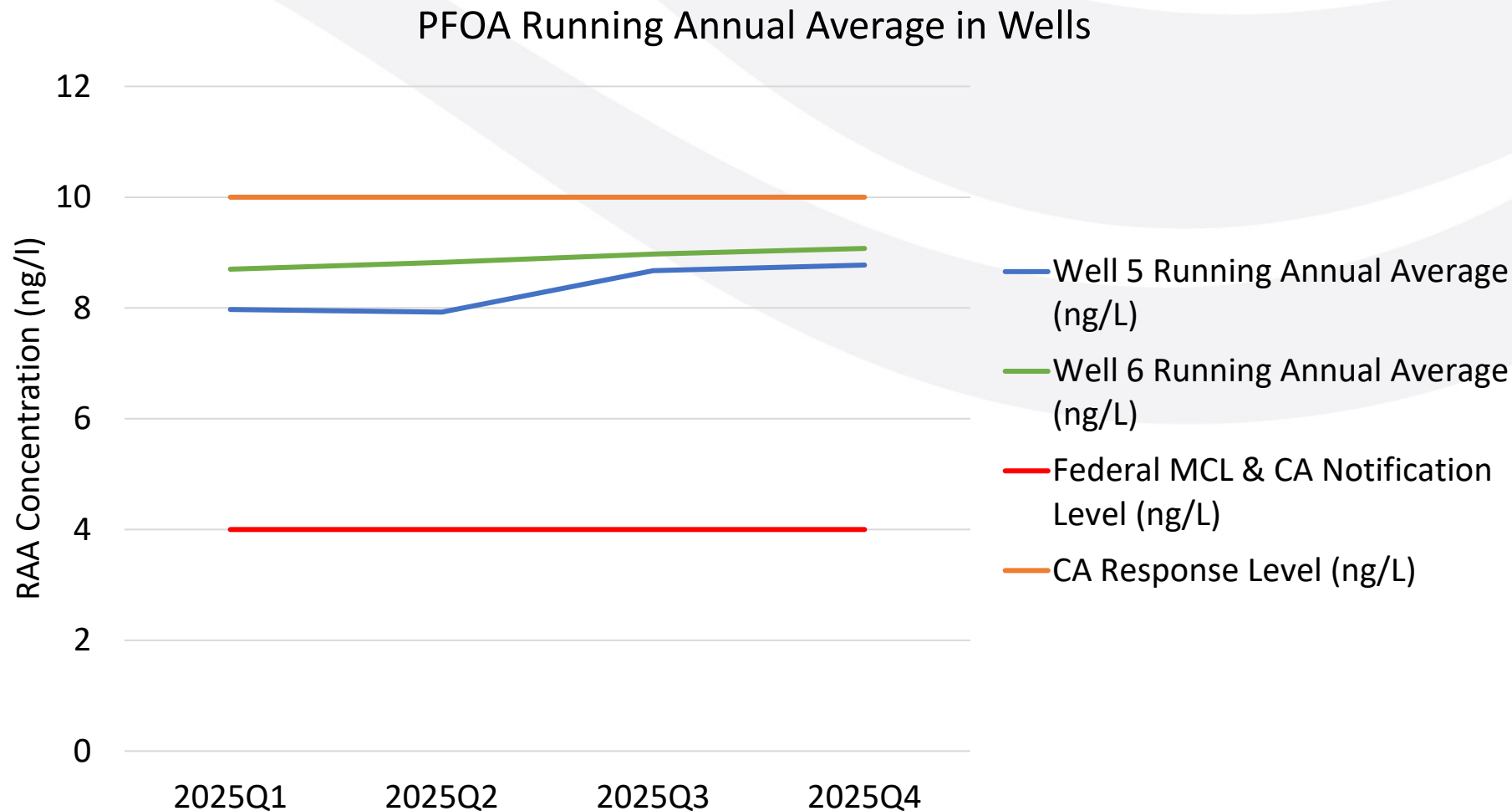
- Man-made chemical compounds that persist in the environment for long periods of time (“forever chemicals”).
- Used in industry and consumer products such as nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, and stain resistant furniture.
- PFOA and PFOS are readily absorbed but not readily eliminated from the human body.
- Health effects associated with long-term exposure may include:
 - Harmful effects to a developing fetus or infant
 - Harmful effects to the immune system, thyroid and liver
 - Cancer
- Tract 180 is under a PFAS monitoring order for both wells
 - Exceed the Notification Level and Federal MCL for PFOA and PFOS

Water Quality: PFAS

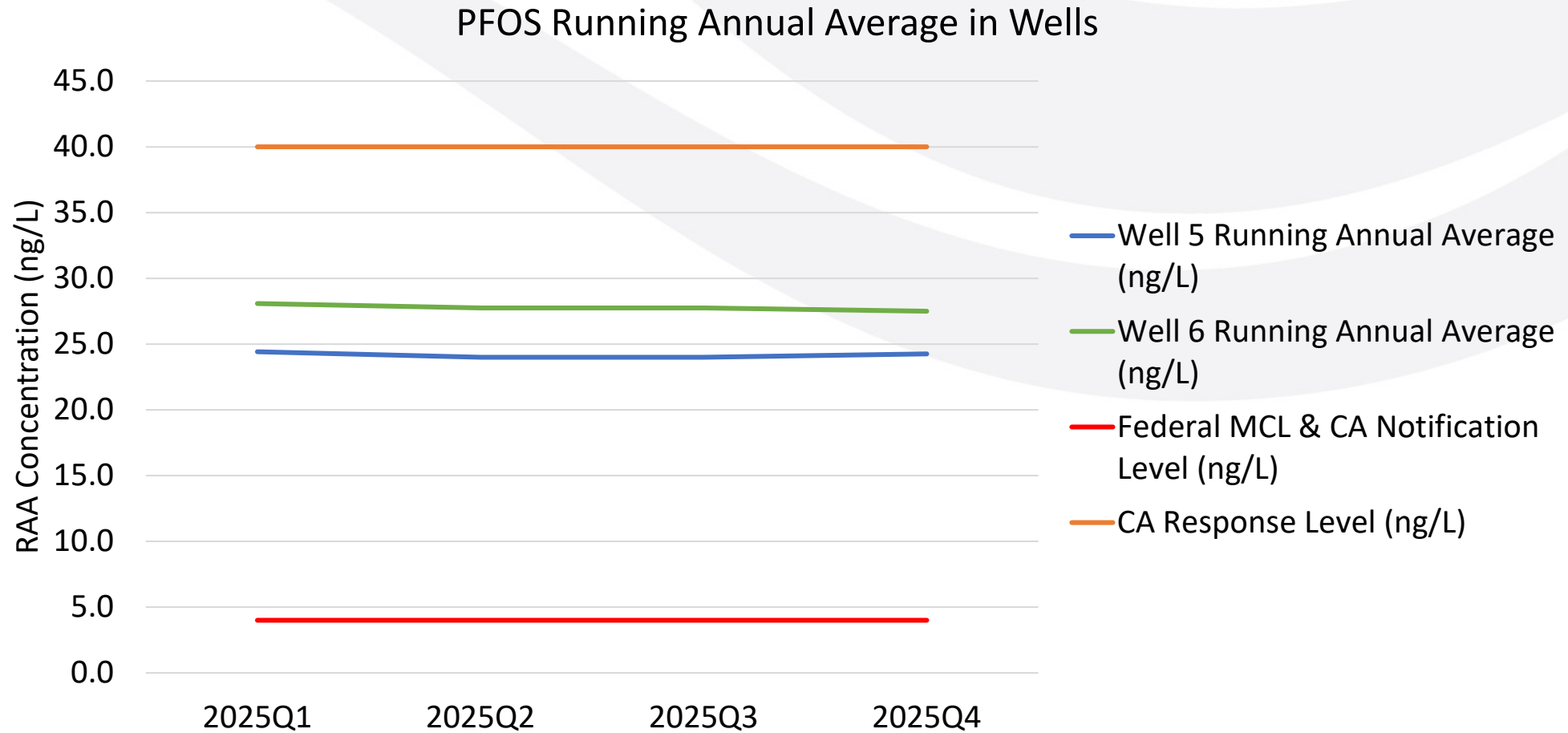
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Analyte	Federal MCL	CA Notification Level	CA Response Level
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PFOA Levels in Wells



PFOS Levels in Wells

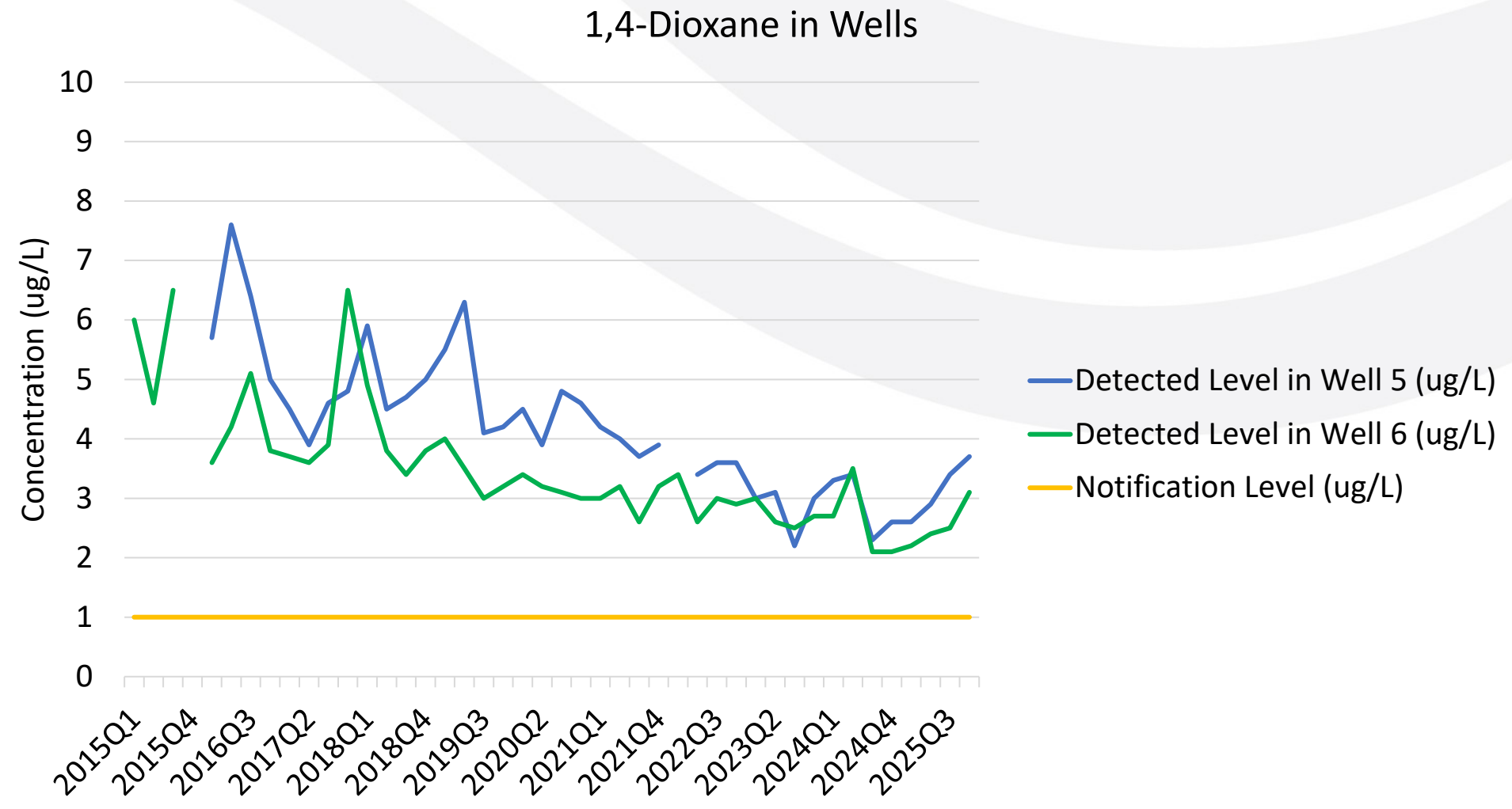


Water Quality: 1,4-Dioxane

- Synthetic chemical historically used as a stabilizer for industrial chlorinated solvents
- Notification Level = 1 ug/L
- Response Level = 35 ug/L
- Causes cancer in laboratory animals that have been exposed to high levels over a long period of time
 - Probable human carcinogen



1,4-Dioxane in Wells



Violations

- Citation No. 05_07_24C_001 on January 24, 2024, for failing to collect all the required Synthetic Organic Chemical (SOCs) samples for 2020-2022.
- Citation No. 04_07_22C_002 on February 15, 2022, for failing to monitor disinfection residuals in January 2022.
- Citation No. 04_07_17C_001 on June 7, 2017, for failing to sample its sources in accordance with the Ground Water Rule after a positive total coliform sample in the distribution system.
- The water system addressed these citations.



Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity



- PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane detection
- Aging infrastructure replacement
- Adjudicated basin
- Limited knowledge transfer
- Fixed customer base
- Capacity to fund solutions
- Water rates

Consolidation Overview

Bryan Potter - DDW



SAFER Program – January 14, 2026

SAFER Goals

- Goal 1: People in Communities and Schools that didn't have access to safe drinking water now have it.
- Goal 2: All communities and schools without safe drinking water are on track to get lasting solutions in place as swiftly as feasible.
- Goal 3 : California's most vulnerable communities and schools are transitioning to be resilient and prevent cycles of failures.



Definitions

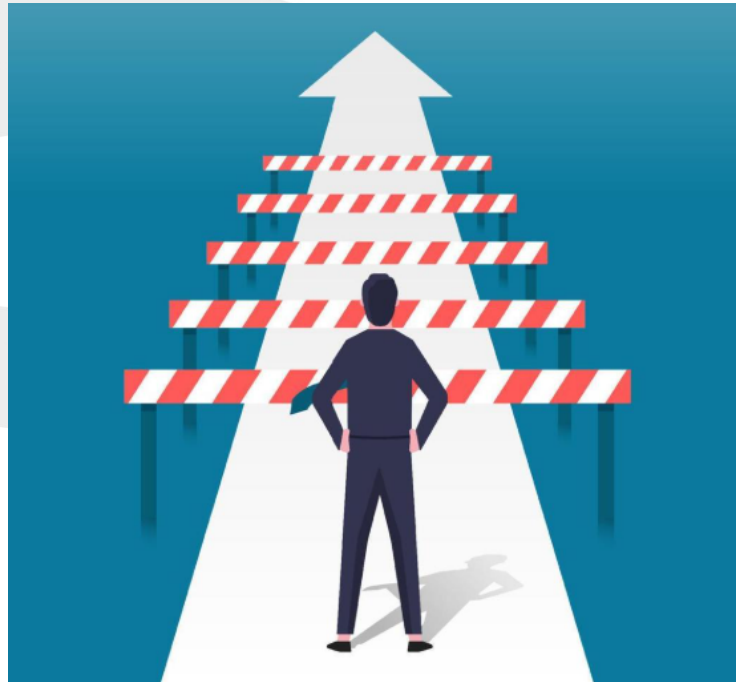
- Consolidation is joining two public water systems, state small water systems, or affected residences not served by a public water system, into a single public water system.
 - Physical consolidation involves merging or connecting physical infrastructure such as pipelines or treatment plants to improve efficiency or expand service coverage.
 - Managerial consolidation involves centralizing administrative functions or decision-making processes across multiple water systems to streamline operations and enhance coordination.
- Regionalization is bringing together multiple water systems to form one large water system.
- Subsumed system means the public water system, state small water system, or affected residences not served by a public water system consolidated into or receiving service from the receiving water system.
- Receiving system means the public water system that provides service to a subsumed water system through consolidation or extension of service.

Consolidation Goals



Why Consolidation?

Difficulties for Small & Medium Sized Water Systems



Inadequate staffing

Poor governance and management

Difficulty planning and funding infrastructure improvements (CIP)

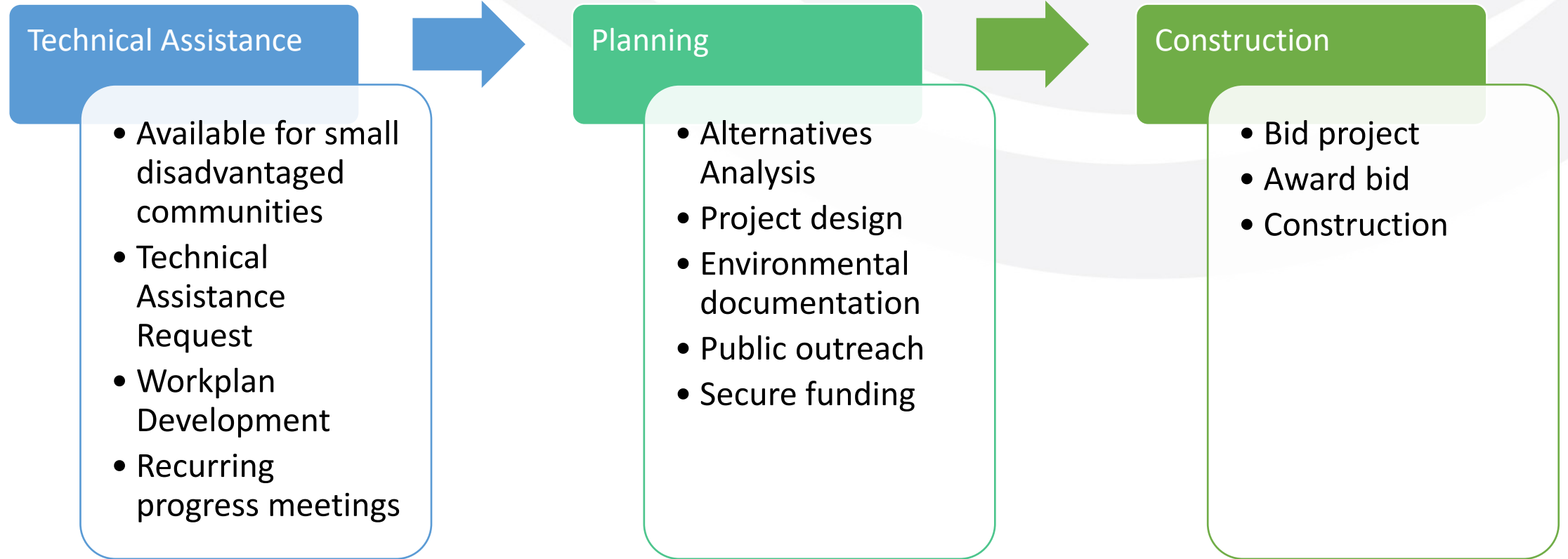
Poor economies of scale

Difficulty adjusting to regulatory changes

Difficulty setting proper rates

Less resilient to natural disasters

Consolidation Process



Consolidation Funding

What costs are covered?

- Technical Assistance
- Upfront cost to implement the project

Funding may be available for:

- Planning & Construction
- Reimbursement for time spent on the project
- Legal Services

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Project Under Development

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History

Tract 349 installed Well 04 to replace Well 02 in 2020 (funded by the SWB).

SWB instructed Tract 349 to update and complete the funding application between March 2023 to January 2024.

Tract 349 submitted an incomplete funding application for system improvements (new well and treatment) in 2022Q1.

Tetra Tech, Inc. completed the *Tract 349 Consolidation Study* and the *Tract 180 Consolidation Study* in December 2023.*

*Both studies determined that consolidation is technically feasible but recommended system improvements.

History

The SWB met with both water systems in June 2024 and stated that since consolidation was deemed feasible, it is the only long-term solution eligible for grant funding.*

SWB submitted a technical assistance request in February 2025 to complete consolidation analysis and outreach.

Tract 349 and Tract 180 submitted a Letter of Intent to consolidate in December 2024.

Technical Assistance provider, NV5, Inc., assigned in April 2025.

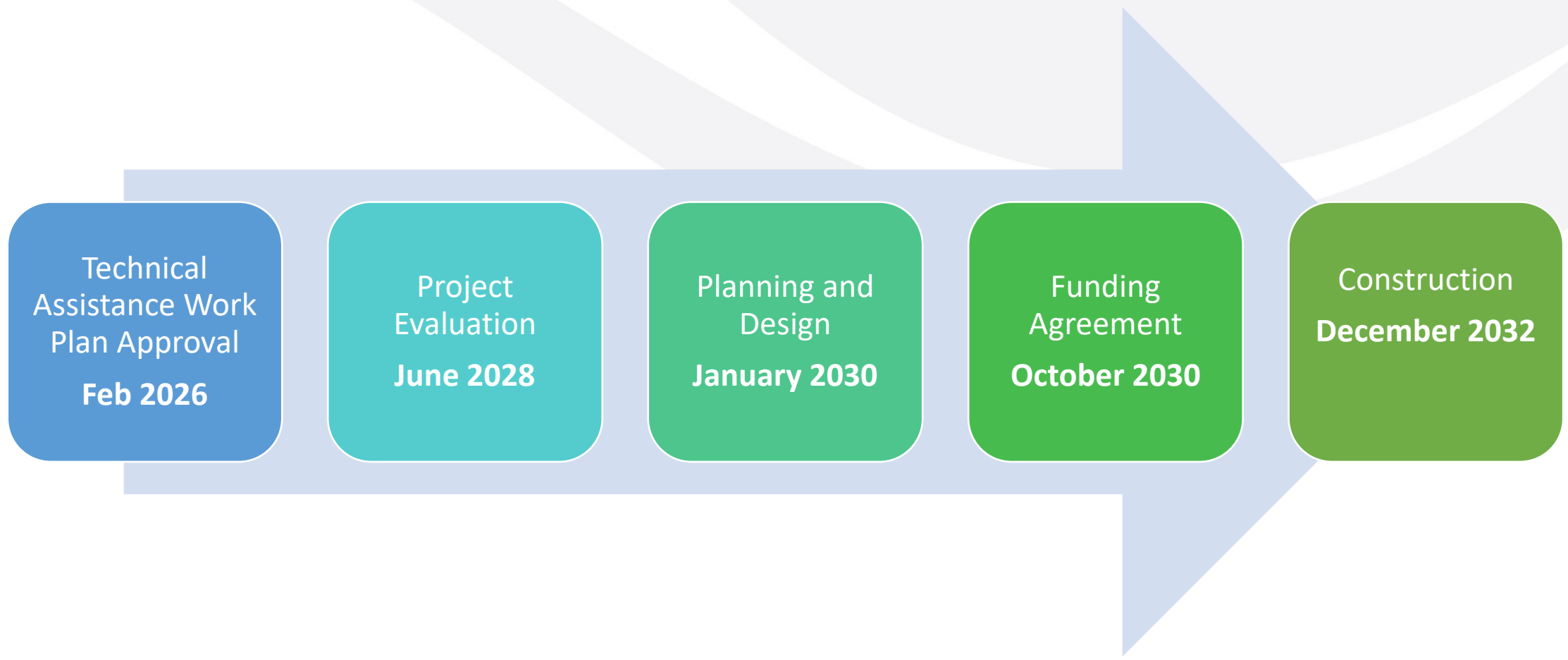
*System improvement projects, to remain independent, would only be eligible for loan funding.

Technical Assistance (TA) Request

- Assigned to NV5, Inc (engineering consultant)
- Consolidation assessment:
 - Tract 349 MWC + Tract 180 MWC
 - Tract 349 MWC + Tract 180 MWC + Golden State Water Company (Bell/Bell Gardens)
 - Tract 349 MWC + Tract 180 MWC + City of Huntington Park
 - Tract 349 MWC + Tract 180 MWC + City of South Gate
- This work will build upon the findings in the *Tract 349 Consolidation Study* and the *Tract 180 Consolidation Study*, refine and update the associated cost analysis, and address remaining informational gaps across the project alternatives.



Estimated Project Timeline



Public Comment Q&A

Aaron Dickinson
Office of Public Engagement, Equity, and Tribal Affairs



Public Comment and Q&A

- Speak your comment:
 - Raise your hand and we will come by with a microphone.
- Submit a comment via Zoom:
 - Select the “raise hand” option in Zoom or type your comment into the chat.
- Written comments can be addressed by mail, email, or phone (**Deadline Monday, February 16, 2026**):
 - Saeeda Rafique
 - Email: DDW-SoCalEngagement@waterboards.ca.gov
 - Phone number: (818) 551-2070

References

- California State Water Resources Control Board. *Manganese Information*.
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Manganese.html
- California State Water Resources Control Board. *PFAS (PFOS and PFOA) Fact Sheet – AB 756*.
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/documents/pfos_and_pfoa/pfas_ab756_factsheet.pdf
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation – General Fact Sheet (April 2024)*.
https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/pfas-npdwr_fact-sheet_general_4.9.24v1.pdf
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *PFAS NPDWR FAQs for States (April 2024)*. https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/pfas_npdr_faqsstates_4.8.24.pdf
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. *Technical Overview of the PFAS NPDWR for Drinking Water Utilities and Professionals*.
<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/drinking-water-utilities-and-professionals-technical-overview-of-pfas-npdwr.pdf>
- California State Water Resources Control Board. *1,4-Dioxane Information*.
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/14-Dioxane.html
- California State Water Resources Control Board. *Public Notices*.
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Notices.html

Thank you!

DDW-SoCalEngagement@waterboards.ca.gov



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