
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

PROPOSED ADOPTION OF THE STATE FISCAL YEAR (SFY) 2021-22 (FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2021) INTENDED USE PLAN (IUP) FOR THE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF), INCLUDING AN UPDATED SUPPLEMENTAL IUP FOR THE ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR DISASTER RELIEF ACT OF 2019 (ASADRA), AND REVISED GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSITION 1 AND PROPOSITION 68 DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept public comment on the DWSRF program IUP, supplemental ASADRA IUP, and revised Proposition (Prop) 1 and Prop 68 Drinking Water program Guidelines. The State Water Board will consider adopting the IUPs and Guidelines as early as the Tuesday, June 15, 2021 Board Meeting.

BACKGROUND

The DWSRF program provides low-cost financing to public water systems statewide to address drinking water quality and capacity issues. It also subsidizes a portion of California's public water system supervision program under the Division of Drinking Water. ASADRA was established in June 2019 to provide additional funding for water and wastewater infrastructure to aid in recovery from specific natural disasters. The funds are available to help any DWSRF-eligible entity that was impacted by natural disasters in calendar year 2018. The Prop 1 and Prop 68 Drinking Water programs provide funding for public water system infrastructure improvements and related actions to meet safe drinking water standards, to ensure affordable drinking water, or both. Prop 1 and Prop 68 Drinking Water funds will be administered consistent with the DWSRF IUPs, the DWSRF Policy, and the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Fund Expenditure Policy and Plan to the extent allowed by federal regulations and state law.

The SFY 2021-22 DWSRF IUP outlines the State Water Board's business plan for the DWSRF program as well as the Prop 1 and Prop 68 Drinking Water programs during SFY 2020-21. The IUP identifies the available funding, the projects the State Water Board anticipates financing, the associated financing terms, and the measures that will be used to track the DWSRF as well as the Prop 1 and Prop 68 Drinking Water programs' performance. The Supplemental IUP for the ASADRA funds is being updated as the State Water Board intends to apply for additional funds originally allocated to (and declined by) other state SRF programs.

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

The IUPs are required by federal statutes and regulations and will be included in the applications submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for the FFY 2021 DWSRF Capitalization Grant and additional ASADRA Grant funds. The DWSRF IUP also serves as guidelines for the implementation of the Prop 1 and Prop 68 Drinking Water funds in accordance with applicable State statutes.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Draft IUP is available for review on the State Water Board's website at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/

(To receive email notifications about future IUPs and other information related to the DWSRF and its associated programs, go to the State Water Board's Lyris Subscription website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml.)

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept both written and oral comments on the proposed SFY 2021-22 (FFY 2021) DWSRF IUP. Written comments should be submitted as early as possible to ensure thorough staff analysis. Please use the subject line "**Comment Letter – June 15, 2021 Board Meeting – DWSRF IUP.**" Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on June 1, 2021** and should be addressed to:

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

Comment letters in pdf less than 15 megabytes may be emailed to the Clerk to the Board at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the electronic comment letter is greater than 15 megabytes, it may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Couriers delivering hard copies of comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

At the Board Meeting, commenters will be given an opportunity to make oral comments or to summarize and supplement orally previously submitted written materials. If you would like to provide oral comments, please follow the remote participation guidelines available at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/#provide_comments

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

To ensure a productive and efficient Board Meeting, the Board may limit the time for oral comments. For recommendations regarding presentations to the Board, please go to: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml.

If the Board adopts the DWSRF IUP and updated ASADRA IUP, the adopted IUPs will be submitted to the U.S. EPA as part of the Board's applications for the FFY 2021 Capitalization Grant and amended ASADRA Grant.

ACCESSIBILITY

Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922. A broadcast of the hearing will be available via internet and can be accessed at <https://video.calepa.ca.gov>.

WORKSHOP/WEBCAST

The Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) will also hold a public workshop/webcast on April 29, 2021, via remote presence only 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. The purpose of the workshop/webcast will be to provide an overview of the IUPs and Guidelines and to receive public input regarding the draft documents.

The date and time of the workshop is:

Thursday, April 29, 2021
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Remote Participation Only


Additional information about the workshop can be found at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/

For questions regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Elisabeth Brown at Elisabeth.Brown@waterboards.ca.gov or Ms. Elnaz Nasaei at Elnaz.Nasaei@waterboards.ca.gov.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Ms. Romana Wortell at Romana.Wortell@waterboards.ca.gov or CleanWaterSRF@waterboards.ca.gov

Date April 29, 2021



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board