State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WEBINAR

Public Stakeholder Workgroup Meeting to Support the Development of Water Loss Performance Standards

Wednesday, May 13, 2020 – 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. PDT
Remote Participation Only - No Physical Meeting Location
(Authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20.)

Meeting link: Join Microsoft Teams Meeting
Audio option via phone: +1 916-562-0861 United States, Sacramento (Toll)
Conference ID: 839 884 630#
Local numbers

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public stakeholder workgroup meeting to receive input prior to initiating the formal rulemaking process for the development of water loss performance standards. Interested persons can provide input at the meeting or via email to the contact specified in this notice. This is an informal stakeholder meeting where a quorum of the State Water Board may be present, but the State Water Board will take no formal action.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Board will receive public comments on the related materials shared via the email list provided in this notice, beginning April 23, 2020. The related materials are also posted at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/water_loss_control.html. Written comments must be received by 12:00 noon PDT on May 26, 2020. The stakeholder webinar will be conducted during the 30-day comment period provided to review materials shared via email list. Please send your comments to the contact provided in this notice by 12:00 noon PDT on May 26, 2020. For additional information regarding submitting comments, please read below under “Submission of Written Comments.”
BACKGROUND
Water Code Section 10608.34, subdivision (i) (Senate Bill (SB) 555, 2015) requires the State Water Board to develop volumetric performance standards for water loss for urban retail water suppliers. Pursuant to section 10608.34, urban retail water suppliers are already required to submit annual water loss audit reports to the Department of Water Resources.

The State Water Board staff has updated its proposed regulatory framework and developed the second version of the draft economic model to propose performance standards after incorporating input from stakeholders and experts, based on available data, including water loss estimates from water loss audit reports, data on water systems from Electronic Annual Reports, and relevant literature. These standards are structured to integrate seamlessly into future rules to implement Assembly Bill (AB) 1668 and SB 606 (2018).

PRIOR STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS
The State Water Board has conducted six public stakeholder workgroup meetings and a series of focused group and individual calls with stakeholders to obtain input and provide information regarding the performance standards.

1. Sacramento, March 2018: This meeting included discussions and presentations on the interpretation of water loss audit data, an overview of the rulemaking timeline, and the sections pertaining to SB 555 in the Electronic Annual Reports.
2. Oakland, June 2018: The meeting focused on existing technologies for reducing water loss and their potential for implementation depending on various water distribution system characteristics.
3. Los Angeles, September 2018: This meeting included discussions on costs and benefits associated with water loss control, and overviews of water loss control programs by two California urban retail water suppliers.
4. Sacramento and Los Angeles, February 2019: Staff provided an overview of the proposed regulatory framework for the performance standards, and key aspects of the framework of the economic model.
5. Sacramento, June 2019: State Water Board staff provided an overview and solicited input on the economic framework and data inputs proposed to be used for determining the performance standards.
6. Sacramento, September 2019: Staff provided a detailed overview on the first draft of the economic model.
7. The focused calls and individual calls held in December 2019 and January 2020 overviewed proposed draft revisions in the proposed regulatory framework in response to comments received during and after the September workshop on the scope of the economic model, and supplier-specific constraints.

MEETING PURPOSE
This stakeholder meeting will provide a detailed overview of the updated regulatory approach and draft economic model, and the analysis and calculations proposed to be employed for determining each urban retail water supplier's proposed volumetric performance standards. Staff will seek input on the various components and default
assumptions of this economic model. The meeting will also provide information on the overall framework, timeline, and proposed requirements. Staff will publicly release documents for the workshop through the email list provided below. If you have not already, we encourage you to sign up for this email list. Comments on the content of the meeting and the released documents must be provided to the contact provided in this notice by 12 noon PDT by May 26, 2020.

- State Water Resources Control Board’s ‘Water Conservation Regulations’ email list - You can subscribe to this email list at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html

PROCEDURAL MATTERS
Due to ongoing circumstances related to the COVID-19 emergency, all public participation will be remote via an online hosted platform. This webinar will provide opportunities for stakeholder feedback. The presentation slides will be shared via the webinar platform. Questions, comments, and discussion items will be collected via the webinar and as directed in this notice during the rest of the comment period.

NOTICE AND AGENDA
The notice and additional information on the agenda are available at the State Water Board’s water loss program webpage: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/water_loss_control.html

CONTACT
Please direct questions about this notice to:

Kartiki Naik
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 319-9468 or Kartiki.Naik@waterboards.ca.gov

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS
The deadline for submission of written comments is by 12 noon PDT on May 26, 2020. Comment letters may be submitted electronically in pdf format, less than 15 megabytes, to Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board at: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. Please indicate in the subject line: “Comment Letter – Water Loss Regulation Webinar.”

Comment letters may be submitted by mail to the attention of:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board,
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 (mail)
1001 I Street, 24th floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)
If you would like a copy of the written comments submitted on this subject, please send a request to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, identifying the subject listed above. Written comments will not be available until after the comment deadline.

April 24, 2020
Date

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board