SB 555: Water Loss Performance Standards

Senate Bill No. 555

CHAPTER 679

An act to add Section 10608.34 to the Water Code, relating to water programs. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board, no earlier than January 1, 2019, and no later than July 1, 2020, to adopt rules requiring urban retail water suppliers to meet performance standards for the volume of water losses. This bill would require the board to contribute up to $400,000 using funds available for the 2016–17 fiscal year towards procuring water loss audit report validation assistance for urban retail water suppliers.
Meeting #1
Making Audits Actionable

- Interpreting data from 2017 Water Loss Audits
- Steps towards water loss control
- Focus areas for improving water loss estimates
Economic Assessment

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CHAPTER 679

An act to add Section 10608.34 to the Water Code, relating to water.

(i) No earlier than January 1, 2019, and no later than July 1, 2020, the board shall adopt rules requiring urban retail water suppliers to meet performance standards for the volume of water losses. In adopting these rules, the board shall employ full life cycle cost accounting to evaluate the costs of meeting the performance standards. The board may consider establishing a minimum allowable water loss threshold that, if reached and maintained by an urban water supplier, would exempt the urban water supplier from further water loss reduction requirements.
California Environmental Quality Act
Diving Deeper into Water Loss

What steps did your system take to...

• Gain confidence in your estimates?
• Take action using your estimates?
Data Reliability

High variability in water loss estimates

2017 → 2018 → 2019
### Data Reliability

- **Volume from own sources**
  - MMEA: 7
  - MMEA: 6
  - MMEA: 4

- **Water imported**
  - MMEA: 5
  - MMEA: 6
  - MMEA: 4

- **Water exported**
  - MMEA: 4
  - MMEA: 4
  - MMEA: 4

- **Customer metering inaccuracies**
  - MMEA: 363
  - MMEA: 363
  - MMEA: 363

- **Average operating pressure**
  - MMEA: 363
  - MMEA: 363
  - MMEA: 363

- **Billed metered**
  - MMEA: 363

### Numbers of Retailers
- Number of retailers: 309
- Water imported: 223
- Water exported: 80

#### Other Metrics
- Number of retailers: 363
Making Audits Actionable

Metering, data-logging and meter testing
- Retailers: Own sources, Exported water
- Wholesalers: Exported water

Monitoring operating pressure for zones

Testing & record-keeping: Metered distributed water
Performance Indicators

- Infrastructure Leakage Index (X)
- Data Validity Scores (X)
- Volumetric Indicators (✓)
- Water audit and water loss improvement steps (✓)
Timeline for Rulemaking

- Annual validated audit submission begins Oct. 2017
- State Water Board Public Workshop March 2018
- Audit 2018 Jan. 2019
- Audit 2019 July 2020

- The State Water Board approved $3.2 million in funding for water loss audit validation assistance
- Public Stakeholder Workgroup meetings
- Formal Rulemaking Process for adopting performance standards

3000 acre-feet per year or 3000 customers
Stakeholder Meeting Topic Overview

• Meeting #2: May 2018
  Pressure Management
  San Francisco/Bay Area

• Meeting #3: August 2018
  Cost Assessment for Water Loss Monitoring and Valuation
  Los Angeles Area

• Meeting #4: November 2018
  Cost Assessment of Infrastructure Rehabilitation & Audits 2018
  Sacramento
Electronic Annual Reports

- Age
- Material
- Small v/s Large Pipes
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https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/conservation_portal/water_loss_control.html