



Follow-up Discussion on Public Benefit Cost Share and Eligibility

Background

SBX7-2, signed into law in November 2009, authorized a bond that will, if approved by voters, authorize \$3 billion to fund projects providing public benefits associated with water storage projects.

The Commission has begun the process of considering information from DWR, other public agencies, NGOs, stakeholders, and the public on methods for quantifying and managing the public benefits of water storage projects. As part of this process, on March 20, 2013, the Commission held a Public Benefits Workshop to hear additional information regarding methods to evaluate the public benefits of water projects, discuss how this information could support strategies for future state investments, and consider future program implementation.

The Commission determined that in order to proceed with additional public benefits work, clarity on certain issues will be needed, including an understanding of the ceiling established in Section 79746(a) of the Act on public contribution to projects funded under the Act and the threshold established in Section 79746(b) for public benefits that improve ecosystems.

At this meeting, Legal Counsel will provide input on their understanding of the statutory language in Sections 79746 (a) and 79746 (b), (which has been interpreted differently by Commission members) and how the implementation of these Sections is informed by the guidance in Section 79740 of the Act.

Contact

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