



Action Item: Review of Updated Staff Draft of Proposed Regulations for Quantifying the Public Benefits of Water Storage Projects

Background

The Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2009 (Water Code Section 74744), requires the California Water Commission to develop and adopt, by regulation, methods for the quantification and management of public benefits associated with eligible water storage projects. Although this section of the Water Code will not become operative unless and until approved by voters in November 2014, the Commission has begun evaluating existing research and analytical work, and discussing a variety of associated policy issues on the subject. It is intended that the Commission's work on this issue will also provide useful information, policy guidance, and direction that could support other future State activities and investments related to water storage projects.

At this meeting staff will present a working staff draft of potential regulations related to SBX7-2, for Commission discussion and public comment. If the Commission approves this staff draft, this will begin an informal public review period. The Commission intends to develop three staff drafts of the regulations, tentatively planned for release in August 2013, January 2014, and May 2014. Each staff draft will be available for public review for a minimum of 60 days, and all comments and recommendations received will be considered in the development of the subsequent draft. This process is not part of a formal rulemaking process.

Draft Schedule

Preliminary Commission and Public Review of Staff Work Products

- August 2013 Meeting: Review Revised Working Staff Draft Regulations
- September - November 2013: Public Review and Comments*
- January 2014 Meeting: Review Second Working Staff Draft Regulations and Guidelines
- February - March 2014: Public Review and Comments *
- May 2014: Review Third Staff Draft Regulations and Guidelines

* While public comments are always welcome, we request comments be submitted during this time frame for inclusion in the next staff draft.

Contact

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