



**Action Item: Review and Consideration of Public Comments Received on
Staff Draft Regulations and Guidelines for the Quantification and
Management of 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 a water bond is approved by voters, 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 the October 2013 Commission meeting, staff presented updated staff drafts of the proposed regulations and guidelines. The Commission approved the drafts for an informal public comment period following the inclusion of several changes. The public review period began November 13, 2013, and the Commission received several comment letters. At this meeting, the Commission will review the comments received for potential incorporation into the staff draft regulations and guidelines. This process is not part of a formal rulemaking process.

Updated Review Schedule:

- October 2013 - January 2014: Public Review and Comments
- February-April 2014: Review, Incorporation of Public Comments
- May 2014: Conclude Informal Review of Staff Drafts

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