

From: [Joyce \[Redacted\]](#)
To: [California Water Commission](#)
Cc:
Subject: Comments to CWC Draft Regulations and Guidelines for Public Benefits due 1.17.2014
Date: Friday, January 17, 2014 3:14:24 PM

DRAFT REGULATIONS

You state:

§zz.3 Quantification of Public Benefits All benefits must be described in terms of physical quantities such as population numbers, concentration, area, weight or volume. Most benefits can also be expressed in monetary terms, such as cost savings or value of goods or services provided. All public benefits can be considered for funding, even if they cannot be expressed in monetary terms (monetized).

Comments:

- A. Missing from the consideration for cost savings or value of goods and services is risk assessment toward any seismic or fracking activity and repair or replacement of infrastructure.
- B. Ecosystems must include birds, plants, trees and wildlife assessments on information specific to the watershed.
- C. There is no guidance on measurement of ecosystems and opinions should not count.
- D. There needs to directed reporting, monitoring and mitigation with sufficient data to make an assessment and not a guess.
- E. Drought conditions or reduced water availability should be taken into consideration. Weather and wave conditions and shoreline monitoring are missing.

You state:

(b) Project Evaluation Panel

In an effort to make sure the panel is free from bias, the Commission will review potential appointments for conflicts of interest such as those proscribed under Government Code §1090. If a member of the panel, or a member of his or her immediate family, has a financial relationship with an applicant or other entity that stands to benefit from the application process or grant award, the member shall disclose such interest to the other panel members and the Commission. The Commission may, at its discretion, request such members to recuse themselves and/or appoint a replacement for that member.

Comments:

F. The Commission should not review itself. That responsibility should be under the Fair Political Practices Commission. Forms 700 should be posted on the website.

DRAFT GUIDELINES

You state:

Eligible applicants under this division are public agencies, nonprofit organizations, public utilities, and mutual water companies

Comments:

G. Non-profit organizations must be accountable to the public including Open Meetings and Public Record Requests as any agency would be accountable. There should also be audit conditions.

GENERAL COMMENTS

H. The Act specifically funds agencies without the legal jurisdiction for watersheds and/or water bodies (local, state and federal), such as the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the upper Los Angeles River and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, without a named watershed area.

I. Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan LARRMP is codified for the Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds. This leaves out the cities and agencies with jurisdiction of the Lower Los Angeles River. LARRMP is a City of Los Angeles project only.

J. Santa Monica Bay Watershed refers to an area which includes the City of Los Angeles, while the IRWMP planning area is North Santa Monica Bay.

K. Other watersheds are omitted such as Ballona Creek and Dominguez Channel.

L. This bill is conflict with NPDES permitting and Enhanced Watershed Management Plans as well as the statewide Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plans.

Joyce