



Update on Stakeholder Process for Water Storage Investment Program

Background

In November 2014, California voters passed [Proposition 1: the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014](#), a \$7.5 billion water bond that will make needed investments in the state's water management systems. The bond dedicated \$2.7 billion to be continuously appropriated to the California Water Commission to pay for the public benefits of water storage projects. The bond requires the Commission to develop regulations for the quantification and management of the public benefits of water storage projects, which will serve as the foundation for the Water Storage Investment Program, along with program guidelines.

The California Water Commission is committed to developing the Water Storage Investment program and allocating funding in an open, transparent, fair, and cost-efficient manner – and in a way that maximizes the sound and responsible investment of public dollars. The Commission will work with a broad array of stakeholders including water agencies, conservation organizations, tribal governments, public agencies, and communities throughout the state to develop the regulations and guidelines for the Water Storage Investment Program. Stakeholders will provide valuable technical and program expertise to the Commission for consideration in developing the regulations, guidelines, project solicitation, and program activities.

There will be many ways for the public and stakeholders to share ideas and participate in this process. All of the Commission's meetings are open to the public and most are webcast for live and later viewing. All materials and work products developed for the Water Storage Investment Program will be available on the Commission's website and upon request. The Commission will also develop additional opportunities to engage with stakeholders.

At the January 21 meeting, staff presented the Commission a proposed stakeholder engagement plan. Based on the Commission's feedback, staff has refined potential stakeholder engagement options. At this meeting, staff will present a range of options about how the California Water Commission can convene a stakeholder process to support the Water Storage Investment Program.

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