



**Update on Stakeholder Process for Water Storage Investment Program and Presentation of  
Communication and Engagement Plan**

**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.

At the February 18 meeting, Commission staff presented a range of options for development of a stakeholder process to support the Water Storage Investment Program. The Commission directed staff to develop a robust communications and engagement program incorporating the full suite of engagement options. At this meeting, staff will present the full Stakeholder Engagement Plan, including Commission meetings and workshops, a Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and a series of public meetings. Additionally, staff will provide the Commission an overview of the Communications and Engagement Plan.

**Contact**

Rachel Ballanti  
Acting Executive Officer  
California Water Commission  
(916) 653-7937