



Water Storage Investment Program Issue Working Session: Definitions of Groundwater Storage and Conjunctive Use Projects, Environmental Mitigation and Compliance Obligations, Without-Project Conditions, Funding Mechanisms, Upcoming Rulemaking Process, Review Content of Draft Regulations

Background

In November 2014, California voters passed [Proposition 1: the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014](#). 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 and requires the Commission to develop regulations for the quantification and management of the public benefits of water storage projects. The Commission is carrying out these responsibilities through the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP).

In this issue working session, the Commission will consider specific issues relevant to the implementation of the WSIP, consistent with the schedule outlined in the document "Topics for Issue Working Sessions." The Commission will provide direction to staff for the development of regulations and guidelines. At this meeting Jenny Marr, Commission Supervising Engineer and WSIP Project Manager, will present a variety of issues.

Definition of eligible projects types	This item was originally presented in June. Following additional input from the SAC, staff will present definitions for groundwater storage and conjunctive use projects. Staff will ask for tentative acceptance of these definitions.
Funding Mechanisms and Contracts	Staff will provide options for developing funding contracts and payment mechanisms. Staff will ask for tentative approval of one option.
Environmental Mitigation and Compliance Obligations	Staff will provide options for interpretation of Water Code Section 79753(b) for Commission discussion.
Without Project Conditions	Staff will provide options for how project applicants should evaluate improvements as a result of project implementation for Commission discussion.
Upcoming Rulemaking Process	Staff will provide the Commission members a briefing on the steps and process for the formal rulemaking process. Staff will ask for approval of the proposed plan.
First Administrative Draft Review Walkthrough	Staff will provide the Commission members a briefing on the first Administrative Draft of the regulations package. Staff will ask for Commission member comments.

Agenda Item: 13/3

Meeting Date: September 16 and 17, 2015

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