

Proposition 1 -- Water Storage Investment Program: Project Scoping Questionnaire

Program Background

With the passage of Proposition 1, the California Water Commission (Commission) is implementing Chapter 8 of the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (California Water Code §79750-79760) and developing a competitive process to allocate bond funds for the public benefits of qualified water storage projects. These public benefits include ecosystem improvements, water quality improvements, flood control benefits, emergency response and recreation. The Commission is developing a Water Storage Investment Program to provide a transparent public process and work closely with stakeholders and the public to develop reliable measures of the public benefits and ensure that selected projects provide the maximum return for the public investment.

Per the legislation, eligible projects must provide benefits to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem or to tributaries of the Delta and fall within one of the following four project types:

- Groundwater storage projects and groundwater contamination prevention or remediation projects that provide storage benefits
- Local and regional surface storage projects that improve the operation of water systems in the state and provide public benefits
- Conjunctive use and reservoir reoperation projects
- Surface storage projects identified in the CALFED Record of Decision, with the exception of projects that are prohibited by the California Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The proposed Storage Investment Program will be implemented over many years, with the following anticipated major milestones:

- By March 2015, the Commission will initiate a stakeholder and public engagement process to ensure the Water Storage Investment Program is implemented in an open, transparent, and fair manner.
- By December 15, 2016, the Commission will develop and adopt by regulation methods for the quantification and management of the public benefits of water storage projects. (Water Code § 79754)
- By March 2017, the Commission will release draft project solicitation and evaluation guidelines for the Water Storage Investment Program and conduct meetings to consider public comments before finalizing the guidelines.
- After December 15, 2016 and before January 2022, the Commission will select projects through a competitive public process that ranks proposed projects based on expected return of public investment. (Water Code § 79755(a); 79757(a))

About This Survey

One of the first steps in developing the Water Storage Investment Program is an initial scoping survey to collect cursory information about potential water storage projects from project proponents that may request Proposition 1 funding. The survey requests general agency information and project information, such as project type, anticipated completion dates for feasibility studies and environmental documentation, permit requirements, potential public benefits provided, project cost, and potential funding partners.

The results of the survey will be used to identify the number and types of projects that may apply for bond funding, their readiness for construction, the types of public benefits that may be achieved, and their potential bond funding request. The responses will be condensed into general statistics that will be presented to the Commission at the March 18, 2015 meeting and any information provided may become public (meeting information will be posted on the Commission's website: www.cwc.ca.gov). The Commission will use this



information to inform the development of the regulations, guidelines, and implementation process, such as when project solicitation packages should be released.

If your agency has a water storage project under consideration which may qualify for Proposition 1 funding, please complete this initial scoping survey and submit your information by March 11. While some information about potential storage projects exists from previous surveys conducted by the Commission and Department of Water Resources, the Commission is asking for your help gathering information specific to this program. This survey does not constitute an application for funding and is not a requirement for future funding or participating in the program.

Thank you for your time replying to this survey. The Water Storage Investment Program represents an important opportunity to invest in the future of California. The water projects receiving funding will produce real and measurable public benefits, and help address the long-term water needs for California families, farms, communities, and the environment.

Ways to Stay Involved

If you would like to be added to the Commission's email list or further engage in the Water Storage Investment Program, please visit the Commission's website (cwc.water.ca.gov). There are 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. The Commission will soon be convening public workshops and meetings to provide information and receive input on the development of the draft regulations and guidelines. Materials and work products developed for the Water Storage Investment Program will be available on the Commission's website and upon request.

If you have any questions, please email cwc@water.ca.gov.

Potential Applicant Information

1. Applicant Agency Name

2. Contact Information

- Name
- Address
- City/Town
- State/Province
- ZIP/Postal Code
- Email Address
- Phone Number

3. Agency Type

- Public Agency - A state agency or department, special district, joint powers authority, city, county, city and county, or other political subdivision of the state. Water Code §79702(s)
- Nonprofit Organization - An organization qualified to do business in California and qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code. Water Code §79702(p)
- Public Utility - Every common carrier, toll bridge corporation, pipeline corporation, gas corporation, electrical corporation, telephone corporation, telegraph corporation, water corporation, sewer system corporation, and heat corporation, where the service is performed for, or the commodity is delivered to, the public or any portion thereof. Public Utilities Code §216

- Federally recognized Native American tribe and/or state Native American tribe listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List - Federal Register / Vol. 79, No. 19 / Wednesday, January 29, 2014 / Notices California Native American Heritage Commission
- Mutual Water Company - Any private corporation or association organized for the purposes of delivering water to its stockholders and members at cost, including use of works for conserving, treating and reclaiming water. Public Utilities Code §2725

*To be eligible for funding, a project proposed by a public utility that is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission or a mutual water company shall have a clear and definite public purpose and shall benefit the customers of the water system and not the investors. Water Code §79712(b)(1)

Project Information

4. Project Name

5. Project Description (please give a brief description of the project that includes the main activities that will be implemented in 250 characters max.)

6. Project Type (please check the single best fit)

- Surface storage project contained in CALFED Record of Decision:
 - A) Los Vaqueros Reservoir Enlargement
 - B) Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Investigation
 - C) North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage Investigation
 - D) Delta Wetlands
- Groundwater storage projects and groundwater contamination prevention or remediation project that provides water storage benefits
- Conjunctive use and reservoir reoperation project
- Local and regional surface storage project that improve water systems in the state and provide public benefit

Project Status - Feasibility Study

Please give a brief status of the project's feasibility study.

7. Anticipated Completion Date

8. Status (250 characters max.)

Project Status - Environmental Documents (CEQA)

Please give a brief status of the project's environmental documents (CEQA).

9. Type of Environmental Document

10. Anticipated Completion Date

11. Status (250 characters max.)

Project Status - Permits

Please list all major needed permits and status, including anticipated date of obtaining permits.

12. Permit (provide permit name, date and status in 250 characters max.)

13. Do you have additional permits to report?

- Yes
- No

Anticipated Project Benefits

15. Public Benefits - check all that may apply

- Ecosystem improvements
- Ecosystem improvements in the Delta or tributaries to the Delta
- Water quality improvements in the Delta or other river systems that provide significant public trust resources
- Water quality improvements that clean up and restore groundwater resources
- Flood control
- Emergency response
- Recreation

16. Please provide a brief description of the public benefits selected above in 500 characters max.

17. Please provide a brief description of the non-public benefits (benefits other than public benefits listed above) and the partner agencies that may receive those benefits in 500 characters max.

Funding Information

18. Total Estimated Project Construction Cost

19. What funding sources in addition to Proposition 1 -- Water Storage Public Benefit funding will be contributing to the project? (250 characters max.)

20. If there are funding partners, what is the estimated date when the non-public benefit funding agreement will be secured?