



**Date: January 11, 2022**

**9:30 AM – 11:05 AM**

**Location – GoToMeeting**

**MEETING NOTES**

**Regional Water Efficiency Program Advisory Committee (RWE PAC)**

**Meeting called by:**

Program Manager

**Type of meeting:**

Program Advisory Committee

Call to Order at: 9:30 a.m.

**1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

**Attendees**

Amy Talbot, Bobby Alvarez, Chris Nelson, Danny Gwaltney, Don Smith, Forrest Williams, Greg Bundesen, Jenny Simpson, John Shannon, Karen Wilhelm, Linda Higgins, Lisa Brown, Lucy Silva, Matt Puffer, Monica Garcia, Ryan Burnett, Stephanie Miranda, Tom Hennig, Traci Goularte, Travis Franklin, William Granger, Dawn Calciano (City of Davis), Sayetsi Sanchez (City of Woodland), Armando Salas (Green Media Creations, Inc.), Rylan Little (Green Media Creations, Inc.), Silvia Gutierrez (Green Media Creations, Inc.), Cheryl Buckwalter (Landscape Liaisons), Gayleen Darting-Johnson (Regional San)

**2.0 Meeting Notes**

The November 9, 2021 notes were approved and will be posted online.

**3.0 Group Discussion: Water Loss Regulation**

**State Water Board Timeline**

- Formal Rulemaking initiated December 24, triggers 45-day comment period.
- Comments are due Friday, February 11 by 12 p.m. Email comments any time during the comment period, however, they will not be reviewed until after Feb 11. Amy has requested access to all the submitted comments.
- Two upcoming meetings: January 11 – State Water Board staff presentation and clarifying questions for stakeholders; February 10 - Opportunity to provide formal comments to State Water Board staff.
- If there are major changes to the regulation text, there will be an additional comment period(s). The additional comment period would only be focused on collecting comments on the proposed changes, not the entire regulation.
- Expect approval of the regulation in the second quarter of 2022, effective date in third quarter of 2022.

**Major Changes from Previous Drafts**

- Economic Model: Annual price of water changed from 4.6% to 4.2%; Rate in rise of leakage changed from 4 gpcd to 5 gpcd; If BCR <1, solve for 1 where possible.
- Addition of Apparent Loss Reporting Requirement: Not factored into overall compliance, only reporting; Target is average current baseline apparent loss; Buffer of 5 gpcd; missing target triggers a reporting requirement of an apparent Loss inventory.
- Adjustments to model inputs may be submitted anytime. After July 1, 2023 changes will go to the Water Board for approval (instead of staff). If possible, we recommend submitting changes/adjustments to the State Water Board before the 2023 deadline.
- Suppliers can use 2025, 2026, or 2027 data to show compliance with 2028 target.
- Fines set for \$500 per day for not complying with information orders or submitting false information.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First compliance period will provide more time and temporary compliance for agencies with reductions greater than 30%, perform two full detection cycles and have at least a level 3 data validity.</li> </ul>
<b>Next Steps for Suppliers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check out your agency's water loss target with model defaults values.</li> <li>• Try changing inputs with agency specific data to see how/if target changes.</li> <li>• Attend the coalition free training webinar on January 27, 2022 and learn how to customize model inputs.</li> <li>• Review baseline audit data (2017-2020) and resubmit any errors/changes DWR.</li> <li>• Deadline for model inputs and audit data changes for calculating targets is July 1, 2023.</li> <li>• RWA Water Loss Meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2022.</li> </ul>
<b>Advocacy Priorities</b>	Several comment letters have been sent over the last 4 years and RWA will continue monitoring the changes to the regulation. RWA is focusing on policy improvements at this time and not the suggesting technical improvements to the economic model.
<b>Concerns</b>	Small systems/multiple systems within a single supplier can be an issue for calculating and meeting potentially multiple water loss targets. RWA submitted a recommendation to the State Water Board that small systems be exempt from the water loss regulation.

<b>4.0 General Program and Drought Update</b>	
MOSAC	<p>RWA has canceled our MOSAC tour scheduled for January 28<sup>th</sup>, it will be rescheduled. We are working on two different methods to provide access to students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepaid tickets/online coupon code. This will allow agencies to provide discounted tickets to schools.</li> <li>• Water Focused guided classroom tours. This is an option MOSAC is working on with corporate sponsors. The tours will be packaged and include student transportation and entry fees. This is still in the development stage.</li> </ul>
Water Spots Video Contest	The deadline for submitting videos is March 11, 2022. The theme is "When in drought..." It was the intent to cancel this program once MOSAC opened to the public. We should reassess our options for future years.
EPA WaterSense Partner of the Year	The Water Efficiency Program received an USEPA WaterSense Partner of the Year award in 2021. The award was accepted by Greg Bundesen at the WaterSmart Innovations Conference in October.
Shout outs from the State!	WEP was asked to help present our "Water Trees, Stress your Lawn" campaign at a State Water Board meeting focused on drought. Our partnership with the Sacramento Tree Foundation adds credibility to the campaign.
Special RWA Board Meeting	There is a Special RWA Board Meeting scheduled for January 18, which will focus on the Water Conservation Regulations. The purpose of this meeting is to provide board members with a basic understanding of the upcoming regulations and what it could mean for their agencies. We recommend that all water coordinators to attend.
Budget Meeting	The RWA budget meeting will occur in either March or May. There will not be a dues increase for WEP.
Indoor Saturation Study	We have received grant funding from Prop 1 for an indoor study. We are focusing on an Indoor Saturation Study. The goal is to work on the RFP in mid-2022. If you are interested in working on this, please contact Amy.
SB 606 / AB 1668	DWR will hand off the draft outdoor and CII regulations to the State Water Board some time in 2022 for the second phase of the public process and eventually final approval. We are not sure when this will happen, more information to come, expect more meetings.

	AB 1434 – This bill purposes more aggressive indoor targets than the current law – changing the indoor target from 50 gpd to 42 gpd in 2030. Ryan is tracking this bill closely and will provide Amy with updates as warranted.
CII DIM Regional Contract	We scheduled a meeting for February 24 to discuss CII Dedicated Irrigation Meters (DIM) requirements. There is currently Prop 1 grant funding available for an Outdoor Study and we are looking in to see if we could use this funding for measuring CII DIM landscapes.
Drought Update	WEP messaging has switched to indoor savings for the winter with Free Leak Detection tabs available for mailing and no watering while it is raining messaging. Additionally, we are promoting tree care. All associated outreach materials are available in the WEP toolkit.

#### **5.0 Presentation: Green Media Creations by Armando Salas**

#### **7.0 Agency Announcements**

Agency Announcements	Agencies provided information to group about upcoming events.
----------------------	---

Meeting Adjourned at 11:05 a.m.