

Committee Request for Board Action: None

43 attendees participated remotely, including representatives from 13 member agencies, the Regional Water Board, consulting firms, and two guest speakers.

Cross Connection Control Policy Handbook

Steven Garner, Director of Certification for the American Water Works Association California-Nevada Section ([CA-NV AWWA](#)), provided information about upcoming changes to backflow prevention and cross-connection control programs for [public water systems](#) and, by extension, to recycled water systems serving the same customers ([link to slide deck](#)). Per the [Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook \(CCCPH\)](#) that went into effect in 2024, updated cross connection control plans are due July 1, 2025. CA-NV AWWA is using an online collaboration tool (Basecamp) to allow programs to share cross-connection control plans and hazard assessments.

There are also new requirements for staff certification, and after July 1, 2027 there will also be stricter requirements on the organizations that offer certification. CA-NV AWWA currently has a backlog of training requests and exams are filling up fast, so Steven encouraged everyone to keep their account information up-to-date and to act swiftly if their certification is about to expire. Attendees were encouraged to use the [credential lookup tool](#) to make sure that contractors are appropriately certified and not suspended due to disciplinary action. Unfortunately, CA-NV AWWA is not able to notify agencies when a contractor faces disciplinary action.

After Steven's presentation, attendees discussed use of the swivel-ell, which is included in the new handbook. An attendee requested sample agreement language with a public water system. Rosario Cortes reported that WateReuse is working on a swivel-ell fact sheet. Attendees shared examples of agencies using swivel-ells (e.g., SFPUC, Hayward, and Delta Diablo, and others in southern California).

Funding Updates

Sachi Itagaki (Kennedy Jenks) reported that State Water Board recycled water facilities planning are now able to provide a match for projects up to \$300,000 (down from \$500,000) ([link to Intended Use Plan](#)). The [governor's draft budget for 2025](#) calls for \$153M of new Prop 4 bond funding for recycled water. For federal funding, there may be Title XVI planning grants offered in 2025, but the situation is uncertain.

Update on Expansion of Recycled Water in San Jose

Pedro Hernandez, now Senior Program Manager with the City of San José Purified Water Program, provided an update on a potential expansion of non-potable recycled water deliveries via the [South Bay Water Recycling](#) system ([link to slide deck](#)). South Bay Water Recycling is already the largest recycled system in the Bay Area, with deliveries of about 11,000 AFY. Per a [new agreement](#) with San Jose Water, deliveries could increase by an additional 5,000 AFY over the next ten years, mostly to serve landscape irrigation demands.

BACWA Updates

- BACWA has selected HDR to assist with completing tasks required by the [Nutrient Watershed Permit](#). By February 19th, agencies will need to respond to a [Request for Information](#) that will ask whether recycled water projects are an alternative that could be used to comply with the permit's final effluent limits for Total Inorganic Nitrogen. BACWA and HDR will compile this information into the Group Annual Report due April 1st. BACWA is also leading development of a Regional Plan, starting with a scoping plan for the effort due July 1, 2025.
- The [State Water Board](#) has released data from 2023 Volumetric Annual Reports (see summary in [slide deck](#)). In 2023, deliveries decreased statewide and in the Bay Area due to wet conditions.
- The truck fill station [online map](#) has been updated, but attendees were not interested in pursuing edits to the [2021 guidebook](#).

Legislative and Regulatory Updates

[Onsite Non-potable Reuse regulation rulemaking](#) is expected to begin in April 2025 and must be completed within one year. State Water Board staff recently presented to WateReuse on the proposed rulemaking (see [slide deck](#)). The regulations will likely not go into detail on how they are to be implemented by local jurisdictions. Per the [California Water Code](#), local jurisdictions will need to consult with local water and sewer service providers as they establish their programs. Regional Water Board staff, BACWA staff, and WateReuse have all expressed a need for additional guidance on this topic.

Next Meeting: April 2025, TBD