

BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes

EBMUD Headquarters – 2nd Floor Board Annex

October 30, 2018

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

1. Introductions – Olson

Roanne Ross – West Yost
Tom Francis – BAWSCA
Leah Walker – Petaluma
Rhodora Biagtan – DSRSD
Justin Waples – CCCSD
Sindy Mulyono-Danre – Redwood City
Cheryl Munoz – SFPUC
Jan Lee – Hayward
Lorien Fono – BACWA
Tom Hall – EOA
Blair Allen – Regional Water Board
Jackie Zipkin – EBDA
Reena Thomas – EBMUD
Adrienne Carr – BAWSCA
William Burrell – Regional Water Board
Paul Gilbert-Snyder – EBMUD
Linda Hu – EBMUD
Medi Sinaki – Santa Clara Valley Water District
Eric Rosenblum - Enviroinspectives
On phone
Steven Garner – AWWA
Eric Hansen – SVCW
Melissa Gunter – Regional Water Board
Andrew Damron – Napa
Melanie Tan – Kennedy Jenks
Samantha Englage – Palo Alto
Jayne Strommer – Delta Diablo
Sarah Rhodes – Woodard Curran
Melody LaBella - CCCSD

2. Recycled Water Policy & State General Order, State Board Conference Call Recap – Fono & participants

The committee held a conference call with State Water Board staff on 10/2. Staff are committed to the termination of Regional Recycled Water permits, such as 96-011, but internally they are proposing extending the deadlines. They believe that transitioning agencies with pre-2001 Title 22 engineering reports will be more effort than those with newer engineering reports, and are considering a longer deadline for the older projects. The questions of recycled water production was also addressed on the call. The State Water Board does not believe that a separate permit would be required to cover production of recycled water at facilities not already covered by NPDES permits. Facilities such as satellite/scalping plants could simply apply for coverage under the State General Order. After the Recycled Water Policy is adopted, the State Water board will consider whether the General Order needs to be clarified.

Blair Allen, Regional Water Board, distributed a [spreadsheet](#) of the projects that are permitted under 96-011, and what information the Regional Water Board already has. He is considering a 'group enrollment' process that would effectively enroll all of our current inventory '96-011' cases into the new State General Order with one regulatory action (most likely, an authorization letter signed by RWQCB Executive Officer). To make this happen he will need good scanned copies of the following documents from each project:

- Technical Report (CCR title 22 Engineering Report)
- Report of Waste Discharge / NOI

- DDW/ CDPH /DOHS review /approval comment letter
- RWQCB Enrollment Authorization (in CIWQS, "Effective Date")

Some of the engineering reports may need updating. Melissa Gunter has a list of changes to Title 22 in 2001 that could be used to do the updates. We will discuss providing updates at our next meeting.

Leah Walker reported on meetings with State Water Board staff pertaining to the Section 1211 Wastewater Change Petition. Every recycled water project must be evaluated to determine whether a change petition is necessary. The Division of Water Rights is considering procedures to use and the supporting material that needs to be submitted to support a determination.

3. Funding Opportunities

a. Federal (Strommer)

On October 23, the President signed the Water Infrastructure act of 2019, including the Water Resources Development Act. With respect to WFIA loans, it removes reference to it being a "pilot" program and allows full project loans. It only applies if the 2019 appropriation is greater or equal to the 2018 appropriation. This program is in addition to the SRF and allocates \$50M to WFIA.

Title 16 and WIIN programs are not yet announced. Recycled Water funding under WIIN has reached its cap and needs to be reauthorized. WateReuse sent a letter to the appropriations committees to encourage reauthorization.

b. State

i. [2018 Prop 1 Round 1 IRWM grants – proposals due Nov. 20th](#) – Munoz

- Draft 2018 IRWM Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package were released on 10/5/18
 - Major changes from previous rounds include:
 - Funding Pre-application Workshop
 - Solicitation Schedule will be determined by Funding Area Need and Readiness
 - Available Funding based on Funding Area Need and Readiness
 - Standardized application
 - Changes made to CEQA and Labor Compliance requirements
 - Comments are due on 11/20/18
 - The divisions in functional areas and geographical area is not yet determined for the Bay Area
- Information from each funding area regarding by close of public comment date
 - Point of Contact (POC) – required to have one POC
 - Determine amount of funding for Round 1 by 11/20/18
 - Determine Workshop Date and Location – respond by 2/1/19
- Available Funds
 - Round 1 – General Implementation is \$22,750,000, with \$2,275,000 for DAC projects.
 - Split between for functional areas (Water Supply/Water Quality, WW/RW, Flood protection/Stormwater, Watershed Management/Habitat Protection) and regions (north, south, east, west).
- Prop 1 Grant Implementation Funds Project Concept Submittals
 - Sent out request on 10/1/18, and they are due by 11/16/18
 - Go to website at <http://bayareairwmp.org/> and submit online
 - Purpose is to give the CC and the PnP an idea of the interest, provide an opportunity for feedback, and facilitate increased regional collaboration.
- Schedule
 - PnP is drafting a schedule. Release DWR PIF template by the end of the year.

ii. [Update Clean Water SRF Policy Amendment – submitted comment letter – Biagtan](#)

BACWA submitted [comments](#) to the State Water Board on the proposed amendments to their Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Policy. BACWA recommended changes to the primary scoring criteria to avoid penalizing recycled water projects. BACWA also recommended that loan allocations should be structured to ensure that some funding reaches smaller projects, and not just a small number of larger projects, as has happened in the past.

iii. [Water Recycling Funding Program, Pilot Project Grant Application](#) - Walker

The Water Recycling Funding Program provides grants to assist public agencies with the construction of pilot projects for new potable reuse. The applicant must demonstrate that the pilot project will

develop new information that does not currently exist and increase the body of knowledge regarding technologies that help the understanding of how potable reuse can effectively be achieved through the innovative application of current and new technologies.

Eligible pilot projects may receive grant funds in the amount of up to 35% of actual eligible pilot study construction costs incurred up to a maximum of \$1 million.

4. Legislation and Regulatory Update (Olson/Walker)

a. [*SB 966 - Onsite treated nonpotable water systems*](#)

This bill passed, and will direct the State to work with the Building Standard and Housing and Community Development to develop recycled water for onsite systems by December 1, 2013. There was a question about whether the standards would be retroactive, or previous projects should be grandfathered in.

b. *Active Legislation –*

None, since the Legislature is in recess. Proposition 3 on the Ballot has \$400 allocated for recycled water but not funds for IRWM. (Update: Prop 3 did not pass)

5. Nutrient Watershed Permit

The 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit will likely contain “planning level targets” for nutrient loads that may be used to establish load caps in 2024. These targets may include loads that are currently diverted via recycled water projects. Agencies should be thinking about what new projects or changes in recycled water users may change their nutrient loads to the Bay.

A Regional Study looking at non-grayscale reduction in nutrient loads, such as wetlands and recycled water, will likely be managed through SFEI

6. AWWA Advance Treatment Operator Certification Update – Steven Garner, AWWA Certification Manager

A committee to develop an Advanced Treatment Operator certification was formed in 2015, in response to a need indicated by a 2014 survey of the industry. The program was developed and MOUs were recently signed by Cal/NV AWWA Boards. The first exams will be held in Spring, 2019. All Grades 3 to 5 operators that are qualified can start by taking the Grade 3 Advanced Treatment Operator exam. Having certified operators will not be mandatory for advanced treatment facilities. WRF is in the process of producing modules for DPR operators.

7. Announcements/Agency Updates – All

WaterReuse Northern California Chapter Meeting, December 7 at EBMUD

BAWSCA reported that the NRDC is looking for information on Recycled Water in the Bay Area. Information is currently available via the State Water board and BACWA’s Nutrient Group Annual Reports.

Future Agenda Topics:

Issues Permitting Onsite Reuse Facilities, Mountain View Area

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 15, 2019, EBMUD Small Admin Training Room