

**BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes**  
**EBMUD Headquarters – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Small Training Conference Room**  
**March 5, 2019**

**1. Introductions – Olson**

Stefanie Olson – DSRSD  
Leah Walker – City of Petaluma  
Rhodora Biagtan – Hydrosience  
Alina Constantinescu – LWA  
Lorien Fono – BACWA  
Eric Rosenblum – Envirospectives  
Melanie Tan – Kennedy Jenks  
Reena Thomas – EBMUD  
Linda Hu – EBMUD  
Sindy Mulyano – City of Redwood City  
Jan Lee – City of Hayward  
*On phone*  
Dave Williams - BACWA  
Cheryl Muñoz - SFPUC  
Sarah Rhodes – Woodard & Curran  
Lei Hong - SCVWD  
Anita Jain – West Yost  
Courtney Rubin - Hydrosience  
Melissa Gunther – RWQCB  
Jayne Strommer – Delta Diablo  
Tom Hall – EOA  
Kevin Booker – SVWD  
Adrienne Carr – BAWSCA  
Brian Kuhn – SFO  
Medi Senaki – Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Andrew Damron – Napa San  
Eric Hansen – SVCWA  
Justin Waples - CCCSD

**2. Funding Opportunities**

*a.* Federal (Strommer)

*i.* *Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act*

We are waiting to learn which project applications received grants from FY18, submitted in July 2018. No plants from Bay Area were funded. Reclamation has not publicly posted the list of FY18 awardees, but has made individual notifications. Based on verbal information, there are 6 selected to receive the \$20 M, which are:

- San Buenaventura (Ventura WaterPure Project) \$2.4M
- Monterey One Water (Pure Water Monterey), \$4.1M
- WRD of Southern CA (GRIP Project), \$4.1M
- Del Puerto, North Valley Regional RWP, \$4.1M
- Sacramento Regional Sanitation District, \$4.1M
- City of Pismo (Central Coast Blue), \$796K

FY 19 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): The release of the FOA for the \$20M appropriated for FY19 WIIN recycled water grants is still pending.

[H.R. 1162](#): On February 13, Congresswoman Napolitano introduced the “Water Recycling Investment and Improvement Act” which would make the WIIN Act Title XVI grant program permanent and increase the authorization to \$500 M. It would also increase the per project cap from \$20 M to \$30 M, and make some program improvements.

EPA recently announced [Water Reuse Action Plan](#). At this time it is not clear whether this is just a policy initiative, or whether there may be funding opportunities involved.

*ii. Title 16*

BoR has posted FY18 grant recipients and FY19 opportunity. \$35.3 M awarded for authorized projects includes:

- City of Escondido \$5M
- City of San Diego \$9M
- City of San Jose, S. Bay Water Recycling Phase 1B Infrastructure Improvements, \$2.5M
- Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, \$2.7M
- Hi-Desert Water District, \$8.7M
- Padre Dam Municipal Water District, \$7.4M

[FY19 FOA](#) was just posted yesterday (BOR-DO-19-F007). It is for authorized projects only. There is \$35 M total available with applications due April 22, 2019.

On March 5, Congressman DeFazio, Chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (along with Subcommittee Chair Napolitano and Representatives Don Young and John Katko) introduced the "Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act". It

- Authorizes \$20 billion over five years for Clean Water SRF.
- Authorizes \$1.5 billion over five years for grants to implement state water pollution control programs.
- Provides \$600 million over five years for Clean Water pilot programs (including Federal technical assistance and/or grants) for watershed-based or system-wide efforts to address wet weather discharges, to promote storm water best management practices, to undertake integrated water resource management, and to increase the resiliency of treatment works to natural or man-made disasters.
- Authorizes \$375 million in grants over five years for alternative water source projects including projects that reuse wastewater and storm water to augment the existing sources of water.

b. State

*i. Update on BAIRWM Prop 1 – Munoz*

An email went out on Feb 26 on update of activities regarding Proposition 1. DWR will release final Guidelines and PSP in March. The formal solicitation will follow, followed by a 1-2 month window for submissions, followed by 1-2 month review window by project scoring committee. Then package will then be compiled for submission to the State. The State is updating their accounting system, which will delay agreements.

**3. [AB 1671 \(Caballero\) Title 17](#) and [AB 1180 \(Friedman\) Title 22](#) update – Olson**

The title 17 update will need to be complete by 2020. A single check valve needs to be put in fire line systems. WaterReuse's recommendations are counter to some agencies' practices. WaterReuse is proposing adding a swivel ell as a backflow device. Stefanie Olson is participating in the backflow workgroup. SVCW reported that the swivel elbow is concerning since residual recycled water from buildings could backflow and contaminate the drinking water supply, especially if there are higher floors. Since there really is no way to suitably purge the line before switching to potable backup, they opted to go with a break tank (or day tank) with an air gap as prescribed under Title 17. Many people don't like this option because it requires the building add their own energy to lift the water to higher floors or pressurize the building's supply, as opposed to using the city's pressure. SVCW saw this as a small cost to protect the drinking water supply and should be paid by the building, as part of the real cost for water.

Title 22 – WaterReuse will propose allowing swivel ell as changeover device. They are looking to allow new uses. The proposed changes would allow recycled water to be used in restrooms in food service facilities. WaterReuse wants specific examples of why Title 22 and 17 should be updated. Per AB2071, there is an ongoing study of using recycled water for animal care. The Bill has not yet, but will be referred to Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee.

**4. Recycled Water Regional Study Update – Fono**

The Regional Water Board has released the [Tentative Order for the Nutrient Watershed Permit](#). The TO includes:

- Increased support for the science program, from \$880K per year to \$2.2M per year;

- Continued effluent monitoring requirements for most constituents, excepting organic nitrogen and soluble reactive phosphorus, which are no longer required;
- New influent monitoring requirements for dischargers with a rated capacity of more than 10 mgd;
- Regional studies of 1) the potential for natural treatment systems to remove nutrients from the SF Bay, and 2) summary of nutrient loads projected to be removed via recycled water.

The Recycled Water study would include the following tasks:

- Description of all treatment plants, treatment plant processes, and service area;
- Estimation of nitrogen (total inorganic nitrogen) and phosphorous (total phosphorous) discharge reductions associated with each recycled water opportunity;
- Identification of ancillary adverse effects and ancillary benefits from each project (e.g., reduction of natural water resource diversion, reduction of potable water demand, or reduction of chemical fertilizer reliance);
- Assessment of the feasibility, efficacy, reliability, and cost-effectiveness of each opportunity; and
- Identification of potential challenges to implementing each opportunity (e.g., regulatory barriers).

Comments on the Tentative Order are due April 2.

## 5. 2016 State Recycled Water Use Permit Transition Update – Fono

The Regional Water Board is considering the following strategy for permitting production:

1. Make a regulatory connection in the Notice of Applicability letter (Notice) for coverage under the statewide Water Reclamation Requirements for Recycled Water Use Order No. 2016-0068-DDW (State General Order). The legal requirements for recycled water are included in California Code of Regulations Title 22 Water Recycling Criteria. The Title 22 Engineering Report and the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) describe the wastewater treatment system and are required for coverage under the State General Order. The State General Order requires compliance with Title 22. The proposal for addressing recycled water production is to include the following in the Notice:
  - a. Title 22 Engineering Report, ROWD reference, and the requirement of operating in accordance with the information provided in these documents;
  - b. Section in the Notice that lists the associated NPDES permits where applicable; and
  - c. Monitoring requirements required to determine compliance with Title 22.
2. When an associated NPDES permit is renewed, address the recycled water production and uses in the NPDES permit or Fact Sheet. The information may include, but is not limited to, a reference to the applicable recycled water use order and a description of the recycled water treatment system. The inclusion of recycled water use requirements and specifications is not preferred by NPDES staff at this time but may be included on a project-specific basis. Other regional water boards have incorporated the recycled water production requirements in a Recycling Specifications or Recycled Water Production section and included tertiary recycled water effluent limits.
3. For facilities producing less than 100,000 gpd, enrollment under the State Water Board General Waste Discharge Requirements for Small Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems Order No. 2014 0153 DWQ.

Melissa Gunther reported the Water Board may look for links to cover production and highlight NPDES item where there is one. NPDES team did not want to incorporate recycled water requirements into permits. The only concern brought up by Regional Water Board legal counsel was that if a project introduced waste stream going to surface water would need inclusion in an NPDES permit. SF Regional Water Board will ask State Water Board legal counsel about the basis for leaving production out of the State General Order in the first place. Tom Hall pointed out that Producers may apply for NOI to State General Order.

## 6. Legislation and Regulatory Update (Walker)

### **[SB 332 \(Hertzberg-Wiener\) Wastewater Treatment: Recycled Water](#)**

See [WaterReuse summary](#) of bill and comparison to SB 1634. Previous bill SB1634 focused on NPDES permit holders with Ocean outfalls, but SB 332 now applies also to affiliated water suppliers – with a broad definition stating that the affiliated water supplier provides water that is disposed of in sewers tributary to the NPDES permit holder. The Bill mandates 50% reduction by 2030, and 95% reduction by 2040, compared to a discharge baseline measured from 2010 to 2020. Conservation and recycled water are to be used to reduce discharges. There are penalties imposed on NPDES holders and water suppliers for not submitting reports on time as well as discharging in excess of limits.

CASA establishing an “oppose” position to the Bill. The deadline for letters to be sent to environmental quality committee is March 25. The Bill doesn’t take into account water already recycled, as well as wet weather discharges, or water rights. Some water can’t be recycled. It also doesn’t account for disposal of RO concentrate. Project funding would be drawn to coast away from inland areas. Note that DPR criteria are not yet adopted which would allow maximum recycled water, rather than an increase in purple pipe projects. WaterReuse has voted to oppose unless amended. Amendments would need consideration for economic and technical feasibility of recycled water projects.

**SB 166-** Advance recycling in breweries and wineries, to reuse recycled water onsite. Sponsored by SFPUC. Will be a 2-year bill.

**AB405** - Exempt chemicals for water/ww/rw treatment from sales tax.

**AB292** – Updates potable reuse terminology

NWRI is assembling an expert panel on source control

## **7. BACWA Recycled Water Commercial Truck fill Guide**

The committee agreed there is no need for updates at this time.

## **8. Announcements/Agency Updates – All**

WaterReuse Northern California Chapter Meeting, May 17, 2019 at Petaluma, CA

WaterReuse California Annual Conference, March 17-19, 2019 in Garden Grove, CA

BACWA has a spot on its monthly Bulletin for Member news. Send member news to [Lorien Fono](#). Additionally, there is a Wastewater Career Links spot on BACWA’s [website](#).

## **Future Agenda Topics:**

Issues Permitting Onsite Reuse Facilities, Mountain View Area  
Innovative technologies.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 EBMUD Small Admin Training Room