

**Committee Request for Board Action: None**

**36 attendees, representing 21 member agencies.**

**Regional Water Board report**

Jessica Watkins gave an update from the Regional Water Board. She listed the following as their enforcement priorities for FY20:

- Reporting violations
- Spills greater than 50K gallons
- CIPs

The Regional Water Board is no longer using a spreadsheet approach to identify agencies to select agencies for inspection, but is instead randomly selecting facilities from among the top bracket of agencies reporting high numbers of SSOs. This change is aimed at unbiasing the selection process.

There was a discussion about requiring PSL ordinances as a “feasible alternative” for agencies requesting permission to blend. Ross Valley Sanitary District reported that they adopted an ordinance in their District.

Jessica gave a summary of Region 2’s comments to the State Water Board regarding the SSS WDR:

- Recommended that the 48-hour water quality sampling deadline is too long, since water quality impacts will have dissipated
- Requested feedback on whether the 50K gall threshold for technical reporting is a net or gross volume
- Recommended requiring photographs of spills
- Requested feedback on the bacterial indicators that should be monitored for after a spill
- Recommended that the State Water Board develop a 1-page flow chart to summarize requirements

Region 2 did not comment on issues relating to exfiltration.

**SSS WDR Update (Paul Causey)**

The adoption date for the revised SSS WDR has been pushed back to 2021. There will likely be a stakeholder review draft in the next two to three months. State Water Board staff are developing metrics for well-performing agencies, but it is difficult to determine how to make apples-to-apples comparisons between agencies. The intention is to post the names of the well performing agencies. For those who are not well-performing, that State Water Board will want to see progress reducing SSO rates with every audit. There is a new definition proposed in the WDR: a “Non-Federal Water”, which would apply to groundwater. “Exfiltration” is now being referred to as “leakage”. NGOs have been pushing for the the SSS WDR to be an NPDES permits, but that has not gained traction so far. Diana Messina gave a presentation at the October 17 CWEA Sewer Summit that will be shared with the committee.

**PG&E’s Public Safety Power Shut-Offs**

Several agencies were affected by the first round of PSPS outages. Central San had 8 to 9 pump stations in areas without power, all of which had backup generators. Fuel distribution was the biggest concern. NapaSan lost power for 40 hours. Agencies discussed rescheduling routine maintenance and inspections during PSPS events.

**Enforcement – Smoke testing and illicit connections at private residences**

There was a discussion about different options for compelling homeowner compliance with sewer lateral ordinances, such as disconnecting service. Agencies may be able to do the work themselves, then charge the owner, or add the cost to property tax bills. State law requires agencies hold a hearing for noncompliance properties that can lead to condemnation of the noncompliant property. The Alto Sanitary District will provide information on related statute that can be used by other agencies.

**Next Collection System Committee Meeting**

Our next committee meeting will be held on January 23, 2020.