

BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting Notes

July 20, 2021

Meeting held via videoconference

1. Introductions (Olson)

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|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Reena Thomas, Co-chair | EBMUD | Maggie Monahan | Regional Water Board |
| Anita Jain | West Yost | Mark Grushayev | Sewerage Agency of South. Marin |
| Ben Glickstein | EBMUD | Mary Cousins | BACWA |
| Billy Dixon | Sonoma County Water | Medi Sinaki | Valley Water |
| Carrie Del Boccio | Woodard & Curran | Michael Falk | HDR |
| Cheryl Munoz | City of Hayward | Natasha Dunn | San Francisco Estuary Partnership |
| Dan Frost | Central San | Nick Steiner | Delta Diablo |
| Daniel Larsen | Redwood City | Pam Phillips | American Canyon |
| Diego Martinez Garcia | City of Palo Alto | Pedro Hernandez | South Bay Water Recycling |
| Eric Rosenblum | Enviroinspectives | Sindy Mulyono-Danre | Redwood City |
| Erik Desormeaux | Jacobs | Stefanie Olson | DSRSD |
| Jayne Strommer | Delta Diablo | Tom Hall | EOA |
| Henry Louie | South Bay Water Recycl. | Will Burrell | Regional Water Board |
| Lorien Fono | BACWA | | |

2. Funding Opportunities

Federal (Jayne Strommer, Delta Diablo):

A large infrastructure bill is currently being negotiated in the Senate and, if passed, will then go to the House. The Pilot Program for Alternative Water Sources, which would fund \$100M to fund pilot studies, is not part of the current large infrastructure bill, but is included separately in other active bills before Congress. Separately, a piece of legislation in Congress called the "Western Water Infrastructure Act" would reauthorize and fund programs at the Bureau of Reclamation.

State (Reena Thomas, EBMUD):

Update on BAIRWM Prop 1: City of Calistoga has a fully executed funding agreement. The other four funding agreements are still being worked on. The BAIRWMP Process and Planning Committee is working on how the group selects projects for funding. Recommendations were drafted on the regional criteria for the Coordinating Committee to consider for scoring projects in Round 2. The recommendations reflect the equity work ongoing in our region and project readiness.

3. Regional Recycled Water Evaluation Update

Mike Falk (HDR) provided an update on the Regional Recycled Water Evaluation. HDR/Woodard & Curran has prepared about 1/3 of the complete drafts of individual plant reports, and continues to reach out to individual agencies with questions.

As part of the Group Annual Report for the Nutrient Watershed Permit, HDR will ask agencies to provide monthly recycled water deliveries. This is essentially the same information as what is uploaded to Geotracker, but for a different time frame (Geotracker goes through December 2020; the Group Annual Report goes through September 2021). This approach allows agencies to confirm use of the correct data.

4. Bay Area Recycled Water Landscape Guide

Lorien Fono (BACWA) provided a brief overview of [Irrigating San Francisco Bay Area Landscapes with Recycled Water](#), an easy-to-use 20-page document that includes a list of [salt-tolerant plants](#) for the Bay Area. BACWA encourages recycled water producers to post the guide on their websites and make it available to customers.

Some of the detailed information available in a previous, longer draft is no longer included. BACWA could request using or re-formatting this content if desired – members should review the report and let BACWA know if this is the case.

5. Recycled Water Commercial Truck Fill Guide

The group discussed background about the [2015 Recycled Water Commercial Truck Fill Guide](#) and whether/how to update it. Development of the guide was originally led by Cheryl Munoz (Hayward) and Anita Jain (West Yost) using a member survey. The guide is currently used by Caltrans, at a minimum, as well as other BACWA members when they need to determine which neighboring agencies have truck fill programs.

BACWA will kick off the update with the following approach:

- Investigate whether the static map can easily be replaced with an online map. Ideally the map would also show jurisdictional boundaries where recycled water can be used without needing special agreements.
- Remove language specifying whether water can or cannot be used outside of agency service areas. Add up-front language specifying that this is up to each individual agency and the answer may differ depending on agency-specific service agreements.
- After that, provide pages (Excel files) from the 2015 version to individual agencies and request an update of agency-specific information.

There was also a related discussion about the reasons that barriers exist to greater use of commercial truck fill stations in the Bay Area. Sindy Mulyono-Danre explained that Redwood City only allows use outside of the City's service area if an agreement is in place with the water purveyor (e.g., if the use is approved by a nearby City). The group discussed that this is based mainly on liability and cross connection concerns, and to a lesser extent on concerns over competition. Ben Glickstein (EBMUD) further explained that collecting and transmitting information about permitted recycled water haulers to other Cities creates privacy concerns over personally identifiable information.

The group agreed that it would be useful to have standardized training across the region for issues such as commercial truck fill, which are largely the same from agency to agency. Funding would be needed to develop video training modules. A regional or statewide certification program would potentially be useful. Note that there are several different types of recycled water that would need to be included in such a program (tertiary, secondary-23, etc.).

The group agreed to relay some questions to the State Water Board / DDW via Maggie Monahan (Regional Water Board) on the following issues related to cross-jurisdictional use of recycled water:

- Section 13578 (b) of the [California Water Code](#) states that "A recycled water producer or recycled water wholesaler that has identified a potential use or customer pursuant to Section 13579 , that is within the service territory or jurisdiction of a retail water supplier, may, in writing, request a retail water supplier to enter into an agreement to provide recycled water to the potential customer." Does the requirement to have a written agreement between water suppliers apply to the use of truck fill stations?
- Has DDW / State Water Board considered the need for standardization or streamlining of commercial truck fill stations requirements across the state (i.e., when approving Title 22 reports) in order to reduce the bureaucratic hurdles to greater use of recycled water?
- Has DDW envisioned what the minimum requirements for an agreement for use of trucked recycled water across jurisdictional boundaries would be? If both agencies already run programs for Title 22 tertiary disinfected wastewater, would these requirements perhaps be simplified? Are there any unified approaches (other than individual agreements) that DDW would support to streamline the rules for commercial truck fill customers that operate in more than 1 jurisdiction?

6. Legislation and Regulatory Update

2022 California Plumbing Code: WateReuse CA and Irvine Ranch Water District recently provided a comment letter regarding DWR's effort in incorporating what was Appendix J of the Uniform Plumbing Code into the California Plumbing Code as directed by AB 371 (Goldberg, 2006). Comments on the [proposed amendments](#)

included support for requiring a licensed person to complete the design, and opposition to requiring recycled water systems have an operation and maintenance manual and opposition to language expanding the scope of “dual plumbed” to include an irrigation system connected to a dual plumbed building. (See comment letter [here](#)).

WaterReuse CA is working with legislators regarding the Drought Package Bill. Legislators are still negotiating the drought bill and will introduce it sometime after they come back from summer recess and before the session ends in September.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 28, 10:30 AM by Zoom. The meeting has been rescheduled from the original date of September 21 due to a conflict with the [WaterReuse CA Annual Conference](#) on September 19-21.