Recycled Water Committee

Report to BACWA Board

Committee Meeting on: 10/21/2025 Executive Board Meeting Date: 12/12/2025 Committee Chairs: Stefanie Olson (DSRSD)

and Sarah Rosenberg (EBMUD)

Committee Request for Board Action: None

44 attendees participated remotely, including two guest speakers and representatives from 15 member agencies, the Regional Water Board, and consulting firms.

Pure Water Silicon Valley - Direct Potable Reuse Demonstration Facility Project

Valley Water's Medi Sinaki (Senior Engineer) and Kristen Yasukawa (Civic Engagement Manager) presented on their agency's plans for constructing a Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) pilot project adjacent to the existing Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center in San José. The 200-gpm pilot will support eventual development of the Pure Water Silicon Valley project at the same site. Pure Water Silicon Valley would be the first DPR project in Northern CA, and would provide up to 24,000 acre-feet per year to raw water or treated water augmentation. Valley Water is currently evaluating the best option for managing the 5 MGD of RO concentrate that the full-scale facility will produce. The pilot/demonstration facility will be critical to fine-tune the design and operability of the DPR treatment train. The project is also being intentionally designed to build public support for the project; after initially operating out of a small pilot facility for 1-2 years, the treatment train will be moved to a larger demonstration and learning facility, where it will be available for public outreach. Kristen also shared other aspects of the Pure Water Silicon Valley outreach strategy, including partnerships with the medical community, outreach to youth and to older adults, taste testing, and many other opportunities for interactive engagement. Link to Presentation Slides

Funding Updates

Sachi Itagaki (Kennedy Jenks) reported that the State Water Board's recycled water planning grants can provide a 50% match for project costs, up to \$300,000 (FY26 SRF Intended Use Plan). In addition, approximately \$153M of recycled water grant funding from the Prop 4 Climate Bond (or about 1/3 of the total) is expected to be allocated. There are currently few federal funding options. Google has issued an RFI related to data center water usage, and has committed to invest in infrastructure projects that increase water efficiency in specific regions (including CA). See: https://datacenters.google/water-rfi/

Roundtable Discussion on Inspection Practices

Stefanie Olson (DSRSD) proposed a survey of BACWA member agencies regarding inspection practices for recycled water use sites, particularly the inspection frequency and the practices for inspecting irrigation sites. The committee leaders will develop a draft survey, and circulate it to members soon.

BACWA Updates (Link to Slides)

- Nutrients Watershed Permit Update: BACWA is working with the Regional Water Board to develop a
 Basin Plan Amendment that would provide a pathway for compliance schedules longer than 10
 years for certain "qualifying" projects, such as recycled water projects. BACWA plans to circulate a
 Request for Information in January 2026 requesting agency updates on nutrient removal plans.
- Southern California POTW nutrient loading and recycled water load reductions are now summarized in the October 2025 CASA report *Southern California Bight Nutrient Management Evaluation*.
- For recycled water programs in the San Francisco Bay region, annual reports to the Regional Water Board are now available in this <u>shared folder</u>.
- Volumetric Annual Report data for 2024 is now available from the State Water Board

Legislative and Regulatory Updates

- Onsite Non-potable Reuse regulation rulemaking is ongoing, and the State Water Board plans to consider adoption on November 18th.
- Governor Newsom signed <u>SB31</u>, which provide more flexibility for the use of disinfected tertiary
 recycled water in outdoor eating areas, residential common areas, decorative water bodies, and
 around food handling facilities. Agencies will need to update their permitting and inspection
 practices to reflect the changes to Title 22.

2026 Meetings: January 20, April 21, July 21, and October 20