
State Water Resources Control Board

Notice of Staff Workshop Proposed Lead and Copper Rule Improvement Regulation Adoption and Assembly Bill (AB) - 1096 Policy Handbook

On **June 11, 2026**, State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff will hold a staff-led workshop and accept public comments regarding a proposal for incorporating the federal Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) into California regulations and an outline of the policy handbook implementing Assembly Bill 1096 (AB 1096). State Water Board staff propose to adopt the LCRI through an emergency rulemaking process into the California Code of Regulations as a new chapter, Chapter 17.6, titled “Control of Lead and Copper”. The new Chapter 17.6 is proposed to become effective and existing Chapter 17.5, titled “Lead and Copper”, is proposed to be deleted simultaneously on November 1, 2027. State Water Board staff will also be presenting an outline of the policy handbook to implement AB 1096, designed to enhance public transparency of lead sampling efforts in schools and child care facilities conducted under the requirements of the proposed Chapter 17.6. Additional information about this effort is provided below.

Members of the State Water Board, including potentially a quorum, may be present at the workshop. But this is an informational item only and no decisions will be made.

Participation Options

Review the Available Documents

The proposed Control of Lead and Copper regulation text will be available for review by late May 2026, through the following link. Physical copies of the available documents may be mailed to you upon request by contacting staff as described below.

https://waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/lead-copper-rule/ca-lcri-regs.html

The proposed outline of the AB 1096 Policy Handbook will be available for review by early June 2026, through the following link. Physical copies of the available documents may be mailed to you upon request by contacting staff as described below.

https://waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/lead-copper-rule/ab-1096-handbook.html

Attend the Public Meeting (Virtual Only)

- Participate in the meeting remotely on Thursday, June 11, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. through Zoom. Please register for the meeting in advance through the following link and indicate if you intend to speak during the public comment session. Public comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.

https://waterboards.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BiZK4uAnRB-vZrhKtcXN9A

- Watch the meeting online through the CalEPA webcast on June 11, 2026:
(video.calepa.ca.gov)

Submit Written Comments

The written comment period on the Control of Lead and Copper Regulation and AB 1096 Policy Handbook closes **12:00 p.m. (noon) on June 22, 2026**. Please email your written comments in PDF format to: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov and include **"Control of Lead and Copper Regulation and AB 1096 Policy Handbook"** in the subject line. You may also mail, or hand deliver your written comments to the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board
Attention: Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (by mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

Language Services

This meeting will be offered in English. To request translation of a written document, interpretation services for the meeting, or sign language services, please use one of the following options at least ten (10) business days before the meeting, if possible:

- Submit an online request: bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov

Contact us to request information in your language.

Contáctenos para solicitar información en su idioma.

Liên hệ chúng tôi để yêu cầu thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.

ਆਪਣੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਭ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

请联系我们，以您的语言获取相关信息。

Accessibility & Reasonable Accommodations

Users of a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or the teletype (TTY) voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Any person who requires a reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should email contact@waterboards.ca.gov or call (916) 341-5254, at least ten (10) business days prior to the meeting. Learn more about accessibility within Zoom at www.zoom.com/en/accessibility.

Background

As the latest in a series of regulations to limit exposure to lead and copper through drinking water, the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) was finalized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) on October 8, 2024, with a compliance date of November 1, 2027. State Water Board staff propose to adopt provisions of the LCRI into the California Code of Regulations as a new chapter, Chapter 17.6, "Control of Lead and Copper" through emergency regulations pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section 116365.03.

The LCRI strengthens requirements to protect children and adults from lead in drinking water. Lead is a toxic metal that can cause negative and irreversible health effects, and there is no safe level of exposure in drinking water. The key provisions of the LCRI include requirements to locate existing lead pipes, replace service lines classified as lead and galvanized requiring replacement within 10 years, improve lead and copper tap sampling, lower the lead action level, strengthen public health protection through the use of at-home filtration units, and improve communication. California's adoption of the LCRI through emergency rulemaking does not materially alter the federal LCRI.

The LCRI also requires community water systems to offer lead testing to schools and child care facilities constructed before January 1, 2010, where plumbing has not already been fully replaced. California Assembly Bill 1096 (AB 1096) builds on LCRI protections by ensuring lead sampling information collected by community water systems be made publicly available on the State Water Board's website. The State Water Board Lead and Copper Rule Unit are developing a policy handbook to implement AB 1096, in coordination with the proposed Control of Lead and Copper regulations, that adhere to the LCRI.

Purpose of the Staff Workshop

The intent of the staff workshop is to inform and obtain public input regarding the proposed adoption of the Control of Lead and Copper regulation and the development of the AB 1096 Policy Handbook. The staff workshop presentation by the Division of Drinking Water's Lead and Copper Rule Unit on June 11, 2026, will include the following:

1. Regulatory background on the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), and Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)

2. Overview of the emergency rulemaking process and usage of California Health and Safety Code section 116365.03
3. Summary of changes from the LCRI in the Code of Federal Regulations to Control of Lead and Copper in the California Code of Regulations
4. Outline of LCRI/Control of Lead and Copper requirements and differences from existing lead and copper regulations
5. LCRI compliance deadlines
6. Outline of the AB 1096 Policy Handbook

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Any person interested in receiving additional information about the Control of Lead and Copper regulation and AB 1096 Policy Handbook including any change to the date, time, or meeting location in this public notice, should subscribe to the email distribution list.

Contact Information

- Staff contact: Sarah Adler at Sarah.Adler@waterboards.ca.gov
- Program contact: Lead and Copper Rule Unit, ddw-lcr@waterboards.ca.gov
- Website: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/lead-copper-rule/

May 18, 2026

Date



Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board