

Final Report to Legislature

Feasibility of Developing Uniform Recycling Criteria for Direct Potable Reuse

Information Item No. 9
State Water Board Meeting
December 6, 2016



Presentation Overview

- Legislative mandate
- Public participation
- Comments received
- Next steps
- Questions

Legislative Mandate

- Investigate the feasibility
- Report to the legislature
 - Consider input from Expert Panel and Advisory Group
 - Consider other important information



Public Participation

- Public comment period
- 2 Public workshops
- 3 Special briefings
- 39 Comment letters
were received





Public Comments

- 23 Utility agencies and 17 environmental groups
- 2 Coalition letters
 - Industry associations: WaterReuse California, American Water Works Association California – Nevada Section, California Water Environment Association, California Association of Sanitation Agencies, California Urban Water Agencies, Association of California Water Agencies
 - Environmental groups: Los Angeles Waterkeeper, The River Project, Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter, Surfrider Foundation, Heal the Bay, Southern California Watershed Alliance, Surfrider Foundation West LA/Malibu Chapter, Tree People, Natural Resources Defense Council, Council for Watershed Health



Specificity and Details

Seeking specificity on the recommendations and associated timeline for research and regulation development in the Implementation Plan

- Milestones and metric for success
- Additional description of the work
- DDW to refine Implementation Plan in 2017

Chemicals of Concern (CEC)

CECs that are either not currently detectable or harmful at very low concentrations

- Scientific panels
- Research recommendations
- Existing programs
- DDW ongoing review



Phased Approach

Support of phased approach for regulation development

- Deliberate and phased approach
- Develop a strategy for regulating DPR
- Framework for phasing of regulations



Case-by-Case Approval

Consideration for case-by-case approval of DPR projects as regulations are developed

- A policy decision
- Regulatory criteria developed first
- Evaluate other options first





Suggestions for Criteria

For example:

- DPR-specific TMF capacity
 - Non-reverse osmosis alternatives
 - Impact of DPR water
-
- Outside scope for report
 - Will be considered as we develop criteria

Operator Certification

Clear support and timely communication on operator certification program

- DDW staff currently supporting this effort
- Ongoing communication with DDW
- Comment letter forwarded



Definitions of 3 types of DPR

Request for clear definitions of the three types of DPR

- There are statutory definition for two
- The third will be in regulation





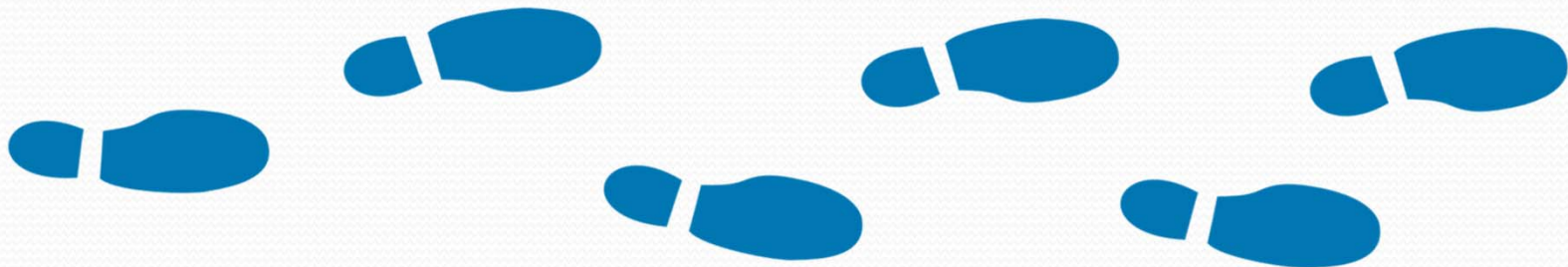
Align DPR with SWA

Define DPR and align the Report with the upcoming draft SWA regulations

- Continuum in criteria
- Report reflects findings of EP and AG
- Draft SWA regulations – expect release for public comment first quarter 2017

Next Steps – Developing Criteria

- How to approach DPR regulation
- Ensure DPR will be safe, in every case, all the time.
- Our Implementation Plan
- The findings from research are needed





Phased Approach

- Develop criteria framework for three types of DPR
- Work first on criteria for DPR projects with a small environmental barrier – not meeting requirements of Surface Water Augmentation Regulations
- Meanwhile, gain experience from Surface Water Augmentation projects that are moving forward
- Develop Technical, Managerial and Financial (TMF) criteria to ensure that agencies understand the challenges of DPR and are capable and committed to meet the high standards

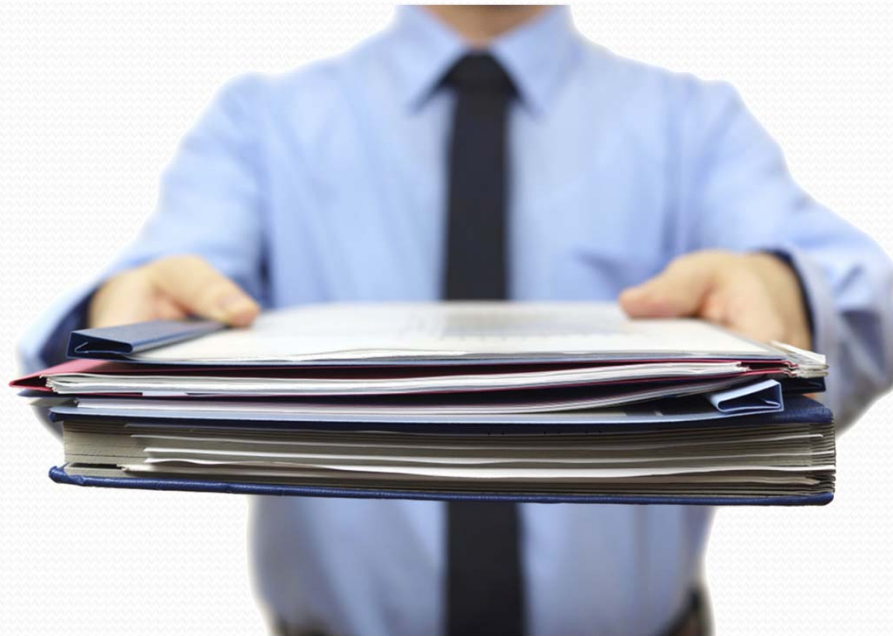


Draft Implementation Timeline Goals for 2017

- Analyze SWRCB staffing needs (Early 2017)
- Develop DPR Criteria Framework Document
- Determine TMF elements essential to the success of DPR projects
- Report on Implementation Plan progress to State Water Board

Next Steps to finalize DPR Report

- Brief CalEPA and Governor's Office
- Submit Final Report to the Legislature



Questions?



Subscribe to SWRCB listserve for updates:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml

Drinking Water → “Recycled Surface Water Augmentation & Direct Potable Reuse”

DDW Report to the Legislature:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/rw_dpr_criteria.shtml