

WateReuse California Los Angeles Chapter Meeting



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Legislation & Regulation Update

Raymond Jay
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
(213) 217-5777 or rjay@mwdh2o.com

2016 Legislative Dates

- Jan. 1 Statutes take effect
- Jan. 4 Legislature reconvenes
- Jan. 22 Last day for committees to hear and report floor bills
- Feb. 19 Last day for bills to be introduced
- June 3 Last day for bills to pass house of origin
- Aug. 31 Last day for any bill to be passed
- Sept. 30 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills
- Nov. 30 Adjournment
- See: <http://assembly.ca.gov/legislativedeadlines>

2015 Recycled Water Legislation

- SB 88 – Budget Committee on Water -> Chaptered
- SB 163 – WWTP: Recycled Water -> Held in Committee
- AB 606 – State Property Water Use -> Chaptered
- AB 786 – CID's use of Recycled Water-> Enrolled
- AB 888 – Waste Mgmt.: plastic micro beads -> Chaptered
- AB 954 – Water/Waste Loan Program -> Held in Comm.
- AB 1173 - Backflow: certification -> Held in Committee
- AB 1463 - Onsite Recycled Water -> Held in Committee
- AB 1531 - Env. Safety & Toxics: SWRCB-> Chaptered

SB 163: Wastewater Treatment: Recycled Water (Hertzberg)

- Declares ocean wastewater discharge a “waste and unreasonable use”
- Requires ocean dischargers to reuse $\geq 50\%$ by 2026.
- Prohibits ocean dischargers after 2036, except as a “backup discharge”.
- Last Action: 9/03/15 Amended in Assembly -> 2 year bill
- Concerns include: timeline, cost, uncertain regulatory requirements, equity among WWTP dischargers, seasonal RW demand, and public acceptance of RW.
- Draft coalition letter being prepared

AB 1463: Onsite Treated Water (Gatto)

- Establish WQ standards, distribution, monitoring, & reporting requirements for onsite treated water systems (OSTW)
- OSTW is defined to mean water including graywater, rainwater, and other water captured or recycled onsite, that has been sourced, treated, and used onsite in a building in a manner that is protective of public health, safety and the environment. Does not include blackwater.
- Last Action: 9/4/15 – Amend and re-refer to committee
- Sierra Club and BIA among supporters; no known opposition
- Concerns: clear distinction between graywater or OSTW and municipal recycled water quality and distribution requirements.

AB 1738: Building Standards – Dark Graywater (McCarty)

- Defines “dark graywater” as wastewater that comes from kitchen sinks and dishwashers.
- Require State to adopt building standards at next triennial review for construction, installation, and alteration of dark graywater systems for indoor and outdoor uses.
- Convene stakeholder group to ensure protection of water quality, existing research, use for irrigation, etc.

AB 1749: CEQA Exemption for Recycled Water Pipelines (Mathis)

- Existing law exempts recycled water pipelines from CEQA during declared drought or until January 1, 2017.
- RW pipeline and related infrastructure construction or expansion projects within existing right-of-way, directly related to groundwater replenishment, where project avoids wetlands or sensitive habitat, and construction impacts are fully mitigated
- This bill extends sunset provision for 5 years (until 2022).
- No reimbursement by state or local agencies or schools
- Last Action: 02/02/16 – Read first time; may be heard in committee on 03/04/16

Federal Legislative Update

- House/Senate bills to address drought
- House bills to revise Title XVI
- 2016 Omnibus spending bill
- Waters of the Untied States

2016 Regulatory Items

- Reservoir augmentation regulations
- Direct potable reuse feasibility
- SWRCB emergency conservation regulations
- Recycled water general permit
- Recycled water use for animals
- Operator certification framework
- Drinking water permit fees

Recycled Water General Permit

- Use for all non-potable uses except GW recharge
- Limited use of permit since introduction in June 2014
- Concerns over monitoring above existing permits
- Proposed changes to address:
 - Reporting of agronomic rates for landscape irrigation
 - Reduce quarterly reporting
 - Monitoring & reporting of priority pollutants
 - 4-year testing of cross-connections
 - Required consultation for adding new users
- Comments due February 22, 2016
- SWRCB hearing in April 18, 2016

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact:

Raymond Jay, President



c/o Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 N Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90054
(213) 217-5777
rjay@mwd.h2o.com

