

# Leg/Reg Update

Northern California WaterReuse Chapter  
Oakland

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# AB 292 (Quirk) – Potable Reuse Terminology

- WRCA looking for letters of support
- March 12 – Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee hearing
- Removes terminology of “indirect” and “direct” potable reuse
- Working on amendments that will incorporate minor changes to the definition of “Treated Drinking Water Augmentation”

# AB 1180 (Friedman)

- WRCA looking for letters of support
- Not yet referred to a committee
- Requires State Board to:
  - include provisions in Title 17 for the use of a swivel or changeover device to supply potable water to a dual-plumbed system during an interruption in recycled waste service
  - update Title 22 regulations by January 1, 2023.

# SB 332 (Hertzberg-Wiener) Ocean-Bay Wastewater Discharges

- WRCA reviewing (will discuss on 3/5 Leg/Reg call & 3/17 Board mtg)
- Agency by agency mandate to reduce ocean and bay wastewater discharges:
  - 50% reduction by 2030
  - 95% reduction by 2040
- Baseline would be average flow between 2010 and 2020
- “Affiliated water districts” in the service area of the NPDES holder must develop plan with the discharger on how to meet and finance the reductions; due to State Board by January 2024; updates every 4 years; \$10K penalty for not submitting plan
- Penalties to discharger & affiliated WDs: \$2,000 for every AF in excess of reduction target

# AB 231 (Mathis) CEQA Exception for RW

- CEQA exemption for RW pipeline construction/expansion when used to mitigate drought conditions during Governor-declared emergency
- Only for projects related to groundwater replenishment or in/adjacent to critically overdrafted basin
- Also exempts development/approval of building standards by state agencies for recycled water systems
- WRCA watching this bill

# Tracking beneficial uses of recycled water

- Current Policy for Water Quality Control for Recycled Water requires reporting treated wastewater under a category of “discharge,” even wastewater going for beneficial uses such as enhancement of natural systems, wetlands, and wildlife habitat
- WRCA supports adding new reporting category: “other beneficial uses”
- Some concerns about calling it “beneficial” if that recycled water is later used for other purposes
- WRCA drafting letter w/CASA, Coastkeepers, Irvine Ranch

# Bioassay Implementation Advisory Group

- Recycled Water Policy requires 2 new bioassay tests for potable reuse projects; State Board adopted a phased approach to implementing the tests
- 1st meeting on January 10
  - 74 participants, chair from UC Davis
  - public & closed door sessions
  - public presentations on WRCA website
- This group is coming up with SOPs for the 2 bioassay test and 3-year monitoring phase
- WRCA is fully funding this group, high priority for WRCA

# Upcoming Events

- WateReuse California Leg/Reg Committee calls
  - March 5, 10-12
  - March 15, 12:30-2:30
  - April 5, 12:30-2:30
  - April 26, 12:30-2:30