

Insight on Onsite: State Board Schedules first Public Hearing on May 8

On Friday, March 21, 2025, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) released the [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) regarding the long anticipated Onsite Treatment and Reuse of Nonpotable Water Regulations.

The California Administrative Procedure Act (APA) establishes rulemaking procedures and standards for state agencies in California. Per the APA, the State Board has scheduled a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 8. The hearing will begin with a staff presentation summarizing the proposed regulations, followed by an opportunity for public comment.

The rulemaking has begun with a 45-day comment period which ends on Friday, May 9, but the entire process takes a year. WateReuse California's Legislative-Regulatory Committee has reviewed and analyzed the [Text of the Proposed Regulation](#).

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California Water Code section 13558 requires the State Board to adopt regulations for risk-based water quality standards for the onsite treatment and reuse of nonpotable water for nonpotable end uses in multifamily residential, commercial, and mixed-use buildings.

As signed into law, [Senate Bill 966 \(Weiner, 2018\)](#) requires that local jurisdictions that wish to establish an onsite reuse program first adopt a local program through a local ordinance. SB 966 also requires local jurisdictions that do not provide water or sewer services to consult with agencies that provide water and sewer services within the jurisdiction boundaries prior to adopting a program to ensure there are no adverse impacts to the sewer collection system, planned recycled water projects, or receiving waters. The onsite reuse local program adoption and consultation [requirements](#) from the original bill remain key as we continue to see a significant reduction in wastewater flows statewide. WateReuse California will remain engaged on this issue to advocate for effective standards that promote onsite reuse where appropriate and protect municipal wastewater and recycled water operations.

The State Board has already provided a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document that was originally made available in 2022 but remains a great resource.

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