
State Water Resources Control Board

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE (SAFER) ADVISORY GROUP MEETING and QUESTION AND ANSWER WEBINAR MATERIALS PACKET Thursday April 30, 2020

Table of Contents

<i>Advisory Group Meeting #3 Agenda</i>	2
<i>Question and Answer Webinar Agenda</i>	3
<i>WEBCAST INSTRUCTIONS</i>	4
<i>Breakout Session Overview and Instructions</i>	5
Breakout Session 1: Water Systems Needs	6
Spreadsheet 1: Solutions for “Out of Compliance” Water Systems (Handout 1, Part 1)	7
Spreadsheet 2: Solutions for At-Risk Systems (Handout 1, Part 2).....	9
Breakout Session 2: Proposed Distribution of Funding (Handout 2)	10

**SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE (SAFER)
ADVISORY GROUP MEETING AGENDA**

Thursday, April 30, 2020

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Remote Participation Only

Access the webcast online: video.calepa.ca.gov/

Time	Topic
9:30am	Welcome and Meeting Logistics
9:35am	Introductions & Warmer
9:45am	SAFER Review and Updates
9:50am	Fund Expenditure Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Breakout Session 1: Water systems needs2. Large group report out3. Breakout Session 2: Proposed distribution of funding4. Large group report out
11:20am	Public Comment
11:50am	Closing Remarks & Next Steps
12:00pm	Adjourn

State Water Resources Control Board

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE FUNDING FOR EQUITY AND RESILIENCE (SAFER) QUESTION AND ANSWER WEBINAR AGENDA

Thursday, April 30, 2020

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Remote Participation Only

Access the webcast online: video.calepa.ca.gov/

Time	Topic
2:00pm	Welcome and Meeting Logistics
2:15pm	SAFER Overview and Updates
2:30pm	SAFER Question and Answer Session
2:55pm	Adjourn

SAFER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
WEBCAST INSTRUCTIONS
THURSDAY APRIL 30, 2020
9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

This meeting will occur via remote presence only as a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor’s Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings, requiring social distancing, and suspending certain provisions of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

There are two methods for participating in the meetings:

1. Watch and Listen Only

You can watch and listen to the webcast online at video.calepa.ca.gov/.

2. Watch, Listen, and Comment

You can comment on agenda items via the Zoom meeting platform or telephonically.

To join the Zoom meeting and speak on an agenda item, please complete the following instructions on the day of the Advisory Group meeting:

Send an email to safer@waterboards.ca.gov.

In the subject line, indicate “April 30, 2020 Speaker Comment”.

In the body of the email, include the following information:

- Your name
- Who you represent (i.e., self, another person, an organization)
- The agenda item number and topic you wish to speak on.
- If you definitely want to speak or if you are unsure and will decide during the item if you want to speak.
- The last three digits of the phone number you will be calling from.

The Meeting Coordinator will respond to your email with instructions on how to join the webinar. Public comments on agenda items will be limited to three (3) minutes.

Additional Information:

This webcast will be recorded and housed online at calepa.ca.gov/calepa-video-archive/. Your meeting coordinator will advise when the recording is available to watch.

Make sure you can connect to the webcast before the meeting begins. Visit video.calepa.ca.gov/#player/teststream/LiveVideo and use this link to Test Your Connection at any time before the day of the meeting. On 4/30/20 (the day of the meeting) webcast video and audio buttons will be active about 15 minutes prior to the meeting.

Email safer@waterboards.ca.gov with questions.

SAFER Advisory Group Meeting #3

Breakout Session Overview and Instructions

Overview:

During the Advisory Group meeting on April 30, Advisory Group members will be divided into small breakout groups that will discuss information in the Fund Expenditure Plan. Each group will have a State Water Board facilitator that will assign one member of the group to report out key takeaways to the larger group. After the small group discussion, the meeting facilitator will bring the small groups back to the main video screen and each group reporter will share the group's top 3 takeaways or questions. This document provides explanation of the spreadsheets Advisory Group members will be reviewing during the small group discussion. *Please review these documents prior to the April 30 meeting and come prepared to discuss or ask questions.*

Timeline During Advisory Group Meeting:

Breakout Session 1 – Water System Needs -- 35mins

Overview	5mins
Small Group Discussion	15mins
Large group report back	15mins

Breakout Session 2 – Proposed Distribution of Funding -- 35mins

Overview	5mins
Small Group Discussion	15mins
Large group report back	15mins

Breakout Session 1: Water Systems Needs

Problem Statement: The funding needs for drinking water systems exceed the funds available through the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund and complimentary funding sources administered by the State Water Board. The Fund Expenditure Plan will need to indicate how much funding will be allocated for each type of drinking water solution category.

Instructions:

1. Review the two spreadsheets (Handout 1, parts 1 & 2).
 - a. Both spreadsheets show information on some water systems and an overview of current solutions being implemented and potential cost estimates for future solutions.
 - b. The purpose of these spreadsheets is to help quantify what current solutions are being funded and what the identified funding needs of water systems are. The list of water systems and potential solutions is based on the limited information the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) and Division of Drinking Water (DDW) currently have available. The Drinking Water Needs Assessment currently being overseen by DDW will provide a more comprehensive picture next year.
 - c. These estimates will help the Division of Financial Assistance develop a proposed budget for how to prioritize and spend funds from the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund.
2. Discuss these questions:
 - a. **What questions, concerns, or comments do you have about current and future funding needs?**
 - b. **Do you have recommendations for the best way to share this information? Is there any other information you wish you had available to review?**

Spreadsheet 1: Solutions for “Out of Compliance” Water Systems (Handout 1, Part 1)

- a. This spreadsheet is for water systems that are out of compliance on the human right to water list.
- b. It gives an overview of the current solutions being implemented and the proposed funding costs estimates for future solutions for those systems that have currently applied for funding.
- c. Technical Assistance (TA) row:
 - a. Grey squares= no cost estimates, no applications for TA funding have currently been submitted
 - b. Green squares=Currently being funded. Cost estimates come from funding application the water system has submitted to DFA.
- d. Interim row:
 - a. Grey squares= no cost estimates, no applications for TA funding have currently been submitted
 - b. Blue squares= water system is currently NOT receiving interim replacement water. These numbers are cost estimates developed by DFA staff using the number of people served by the water system and the cost to provide replacement water for two years.
 - c. Green squares= Currently being funded. Cost estimates come from funding application the water system has submitted to DFA.
- e. Planning row:
 - a. Grey squares= no cost estimates, no applications for TA funding have currently been submitted
 - b. Green squares= Currently being funded. Cost estimates come from funding application the water system has submitted to DFA.
 - c. Blue squares= Not currently funded. Cost estimate comes from the funding application submitted to DFA.
- f. Construction row:
 - a. Grey squares= no cost estimates, no applications for TA funding have currently been submitted
 - b. Green squares= Currently being funded. Cost estimates come from funding application the water system has submitted to DFA.
 - c. Blue squares= Not currently funded. Cost estimate comes from the funding application submitted to DFA.
 - d. Orange squares= Potentially requesting funding in this category next year.

Key terms used in this spreadsheet:

- **Administrator**—An entity that is appointed to support failing water systems get on a path towards providing safe water. Can include acting as a general manager or leading a water system through the planning of an infrastructure project.
- **Consolidation**—A solution where two or more water systems are joined together, physically or for managerial purposes.

- **Construction**—Can include costs associated with the physical construction of projects; ex drilling a well, building a treatment facility, increasing water pipe infrastructure, etc.
- **Direct O&M Support**—Operations and maintenance support. Can include: administrative costs; financial services; energy and insurance costs; permit and water quality monitoring fees.
- **Interim**—Short-term, temporary solutions. Can include providing bottled water or water tanks.
- **O&M Support**— Types of assistance that can be provided to a water system that indirectly helps with general operations and maintenance (O&M) costs.
- **Planning**—Can include funding for feasibility studies or other scoping costs associated with planning for a project.
- **Technical Assistance (TA)**—Technical assistance. Can include the cost for hiring a provider to assist water systems in applying for funding or planning for projects, engineering assistance, and project management .

Spreadsheet 2: Solutions for At-Risk Systems (Handout 1, Part 2)

- a. This spreadsheet is for water systems that are currently in compliance with primary MCLs but are identified as being “at-risk”.
- b. The spreadsheet includes information for water systems that have applied for funding through the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA). It gives an overview of the current solutions being implemented and proposed funding costs for future solutions, where systems have provided a cost estimate through their funding application.
- c. DFA is still in the process of gathering the information for this spreadsheet, so the information is not complete. The spreadsheet also does not have information on state small water systems or domestic wells.
- d. Description of the spreadsheet key:
 - Green squares= Currently being funded. Cost estimates come from funding application the water system has submitted to DFA.
 - Blue squares= Not currently funded. Cost estimate comes from the funding application submitted to DFA.

Key terms used in this spreadsheet:

- **Emergency repair funding**—the water system has needed to use emergency funding for repairs. This can include funding to drill a deeper well or repair water system infrastructure.
- **History of past violations**—the water system has had drinking water contaminants that exceed the maximum contaminant level for safe drinking water.
- **Inadequate TMF**—the water system does not have consistent or adequate technical, managerial, or financial capacity.
- **Other identified factors**— the water system has deficiencies, other than those covered above, that may lead to future violations. This can include lack of water meters and inadequate storage capacity.
- **Risk Categories** – risk categories as mentioned in the Fund Expenditure Plan
- **Secondary risks**—the water system has secondary contaminants that are not considered to affect public health but may affect the taste, color, or odor of the water. Ex: sulfate, manganese, chloride, etc
- **Source water contaminants**—the untreated water the water system is using has drinking water contaminants.
- **System/Water supply vulnerability**—the water system experiences issues with accessing a consistent amount of water. This can include wells being too shallow or issues with limited water availability in that area.

Breakout Session 2: Proposed Distribution of Funding (Handout 2)

Feedback Statement: The budget table attached displays the proposed distribution of funding for the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund resources for the years 2020-2021. The text under the table is a summary from the draft Fund Expenditure Plan that explains staff's rationale for the draft budget.

Instructions:

1. Review the budget table and summary document (Handout 2). Review the proposed funding amounts for the different solution types.
2. Discuss the following questions
 - a. **Based on your review of the spreadsheets in Breakout Session 1, is the proposed distribution of funding in alignment with the needs of communities?**
 - b. **Are there any categories that you recommend be allocated more/less funding? If so, which categories and why?**

Key terms used in the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund Proposed Distribution:

- **Administrator**—appointed to support failing water systems get on a path towards providing safe water. Can include acting as a general manager or leading a water system through the planning of an infrastructure project.
- **Construction**—Can include costs associated with the physical construction of projects; ex drilling a well, building a treatment facility, increasing water pipe infrastructure, etc.
- **Direct O&M support**—operations and maintenance support. Can include: administrative costs; financial services; energy and insurance costs; permit and water quality monitoring fees.
- **Interim water supplies**—short-term, temporary solutions. Can include providing bottled water or water tanks.
- **Planning**—can include funding for feasibility studies or other scoping costs associated with planning for a project.
- **Technical assistance (TA)**—can include assisting water systems in applying for funding or planning for projects.