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## State Water Resources Control Board

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

## COVID-19 EMERGENCY

### PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM FINANCIAL STATUS SURVEY

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public workshop to provide details on data received from public water systems during its COVID-19 public water system financial status survey, and explain how that data was used to produce the results presented at the January 19, 2021 State Water Board meeting.

State Water Board staff will conduct one public workshop at the times and place described below. At the workshops, any person may ask questions regarding the data collected or methods used to analyze the data. The workshop will begin with a staff presentation detailing steps taken to assess the quality of the data gathered during the survey and to apply this data in statewide projections. During the question period, members of the public will be allowed to ask clarifying questions concerning the data and analysis methods.

**Wednesday, January 20, 2021 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Video and Teleconference Participation Only  
No Physical Meeting Location**

As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, this workshop is scheduled at this time to occur via remote presence. The workshop will be recorded and made available for future viewing.

For those who wish to take part in the workshop and ask questions pre-registration is required. Additional information on pre-registering and about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here:

[https://waterboards.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0qduChqjwEtHHcs\\_YOWSPNdIxLpg551w9](https://waterboards.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0qduChqjwEtHHcs_YOWSPNdIxLpg551w9)

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This workshop is for the public to ask questions of staff who performed the data quality checks and analysis of the data. The Board will not take formal action. Additional information regarding State Water Board meetings, hearings, and workshops is available on the Board's Internet web page at [Board Meeting Information](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/) [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/calendar/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/).

Special Accommodation Request

Consistent with California Government Code section 7296.2, special accommodation or language needs may be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the workshop;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language; or
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerk to the Board at (916) 341-5600 as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled workshop. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia
- Documentos disponibles en un formato alternativo u otro idioma
- Una acomodación razonable relacionada con una incapacidad

Para solicitar estas comodidades especiales o necesidades de otro idioma, por favor llame a la oficina del Consejo al (916) 341-5600 lo más pronto posible, pero no menos de 10 días de trabajo antes del día programado para la audiencia del Consejo. TTY/TDD/Personas que necesiten este servicio pueden marcar el 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Mensajes de California.

**BACKGROUND**

Throughout November 2020, the Board collected data on water system financial impacts and household water bill debt accumulation during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey responses are to allow the Board to formulate statewide estimates for water systems that may be facing financial crisis and the number of households with water bill debt, including the level and geographic distribution of debt. The survey questions and the reason for each question are listed below. The Board is collecting this data to inform policymakers of options for financial assistance and emergency response for water systems and households experiencing economic hardship.

Two separate surveys were created, one for community water systems (CWS) serving up to 10,000 connections and another for CWS serving more than 10,000 connections.

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A total of 500 CWS were contacted to take the survey developed for the smaller CWS which will gather data on water system financial impacts.

- [Survey form/question for water system impact survey \(<10,000 connections\)](#)
- [List of water systems for water system impact survey \(< 10,000 connections\)](#)

A total of 150 CWS were contacted to take the survey developed for the larger CWS which will gather data on the number of households with water bill debt.

- [Survey form/questions for household debt survey \(>10,000 connections\)](#)
- [List of water systems for household debt survey \(>10,000 connections\)](#)

### **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

A report detailing the quality checks and analysis performed on the data received from COVID-19 Public Water System Financial Status Survey will be posted on January 19, 2021 on the Internet Web page at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/covid-19watersystemssurvey.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/covid-19watersystemssurvey.html)

Requests for copies of the report, or other inquiries concerning the survey analysis or results of may be directed to:

Max Gomberg  
Environmental Program Manager  
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water  
1001 I Street, 13th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Telephone: (916) 322-3052  
Electronic mail: [max.gomberg@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:max.gomberg@waterboards.ca.gov)

**Please identify the correspondence by using the State Water Board identifier, “COVID Water System Survey Inquiry” in any inquiries.**