
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, BOARD WORKSHOP, AND BOARD CONSIDERATION OF AMENDED STATE FISCAL YEAR (SFY) 2021-22 (FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2021) INTENDED USE PLAN (IUP) FOR THE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (DWSRF); AMENDED SFY 2021-22 (FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2021) IUP FOR THE CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (CWSRF); AND DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION PLANS FOR ADMINISTERING THE DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER ALLOCATIONS FROM THE BUDGET ACT OF 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept public written comments on proposed amendments to the SFY 2021-22 DWSRF and CWSRF IUPs, which are proposed to serve as Draft Implementation Plans for administration of the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021.¹

Public written comments must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, February 7, 2022. Public written comments must be submitted per the procedures in the “Submission of Comments” section of this public notice.

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that State Water Board will have a Board Workshop on the proposed amendments to the 2021-22 DWSRF and CWSRF IUPs, which include Draft Implementation Plans for the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021, on Thursday, January 20, 2022. A quorum of the State Water Board may be present, but the State Water Board will take no action. The Board Workshop will be held on:

State Water Board Workshop
Thursday, January 20, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Remote Participation Only

¹ Throughout the proposed amended DWSRF and CWSRF IUPs, the shorthand term “2021 Budget Act Infrastructure Appropriation” is used to refer to the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Appropriations from the General Fund, Item 3940-106-0001, Provision 1, of Section 2.00 of the Budget Act of 2021. This Notice refers to “the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021,” and is considered synonymous with “the 2021 Budget Act Infrastructure Appropriation.”

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Board will consider adoption of amendments to the SFY 2021-22 DWSRF and CWSRF IUPs, which include Draft Implementation Plans for the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021, on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at the State Water Board Meeting. The anticipated date, time, and location of the Board Meeting are provided below:

State Water Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 15, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Remote Participation Only

BACKGROUND

The Budget Act of 2021 (Senate Bill 129 and Senate Bill 170) appropriated \$1.55 billion to the State Water Board in Item 3940-106-0001, which must be encumbered by June 30, 2024 and liquidated by June 30, 2026. Of this amount, \$650 million is designated for drinking water projects, \$650 million for wastewater projects.

Per the 2021 Budget Act, drinking water project priority will be given to disadvantaged communities (DACs) and wastewater project priority will be given to septic-to-sewer conversions. In addition, up to ten percent of the drinking water and wastewater funds may be used for technical assistance and capacity building in DACs.

The State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2021-0030 on August 18, 2021 that delegated necessary authorities for the administration of an initial \$200 million (\$100 million for drinking water and \$100 million for wastewater) to the Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA).

DFA staff are proposing to rely on existing funding processes outlined in the DWSRF and CWSRF IUPs, as amended, as the basis for administering the remainder of Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021. If adopted, the amended DWSRF IUP and CWSRF IUP would serve as the Implementation Plans for the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the 2021 Budget Act, respectively. The amendments to the SFY 2021-22 IUPs are proposed to streamline funding processes and maximize opportunities for eligible projects. If adopted, the proposed amendments will apply to multiple funding sources currently administered under the IUPs, not just the allocations from the Budget Act of 2021.

DFA staff coordinated with the Division of Drinking Water, the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, drinking water and wastewater system representatives, environmental justice groups, technical assistance providers, and other stakeholders to develop the Draft Implementation Plans.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed DWSRF IUP and CWSRF IUP amendments, which serve as Draft Implementation Plans for the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021, respectively, are available for review online at:

- Drinking Water:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/docs/2021/dw-infrastructure-appropriation-fact-sheet.pdf

- Wastewater:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/docs/2021/ww-infrastructure-appropriation-fact-sheet.pdf

You may also request a copy of these plans by contacting Ms. Bridget Chase at Bridget.Chase@waterboards.ca.gov.

After reviewing public comments, updated versions of the proposed IUP amendments will be posted for public comment prior to the State Water Board Meeting. This will occur as part of the regular State Water Board Meeting Agenda process, at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept both written and oral comments on the proposed DWSRF IUP and CWSRF IUP amendments (Draft Implementation Plans). To submit written comments, please use the subject line: “**Comment Letter – Draft Implementation Plans for the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021**”. Written comments must be received by **12:00 noon on Monday, February 7, 2022** and should be submitted to the attention of:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comment letters may be submitted to Clerk to the Board via email (if less than 15 megabytes) at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the electronic comment letter is greater than 15 megabytes, it may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620. Couriers delivering hard copies of comment letters must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At the January 20, 2022 State Water Board Workshop, a quorum of the State Water Board may be present; however, no Board action will be taken at the workshop. At the March 15, 2022 State Water Board Meeting, the Board will consider adoption of the proposed DWSRF and CWSRF IUP amendments, which serve as Draft Implementation Plans for the Drinking Water and Wastewater Allocations from the Budget Act of 2021. Participants will be given the opportunity to speak to the Board directly during the Board Workshop and to summarize and supplement their written materials with oral presentations during the Board Meeting. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. To ensure a productive and efficient Board Meeting, the Board may limit the time for oral comments.

For recommendations regarding presentations to the Board, please go to: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.html.

ACCESSIBILITY

Telecommunications devise for the hearing impaired (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922. A broadcast of the hearing will be available via internet and can be accessed at <https://video.calepa.ca.gov>.

FUTURE NOTICES

Any change in the workshop date, the public comment period, or to the intended date for State Water Board consideration of adoption will be provided via the State Water Board's email distribution list. Any person desiring to receive future notice of any changes must be subscribed to the State Water Board's email list.

The subscription form is located at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html.


To subscribe, select the "General Interests" category, then check the box for "Board Meetings", and provide the required information.

Alternatively, any person desiring to receive future notices concerning drinking water and wastewater funding, including allocations from the Budget Act of 2021, may subscribe to the following email lists:

- Drinking Water: To subscribe, use the above link and select the "Financial Assistance (Grants and Loans)" category, then check the box for "Drinking Water State Revolving Fund," and provide the required information.
- Wastewater: To subscribe, use the above link and select the "Financial Assistance (Grants and Loans)" category, then check the box for "Clean Water State Revolving Fund," and provide the required information.

Please direct all questions regarding this notice to Ms. Bridget Chase at (916) 956-9523 or Bridget.Chase@waterboards.ca.gov.

January 6, 2022
Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board