STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2025-0020

ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL POLICY HANDBOOK

WHEREAS:

- 1. Health and Safety Code section 116270 et seq., (California Safe Drinking Water Act (Act) requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to administer provisions related to drinking water to protect public health. The Act allows the State Water Board to adopt regulations that include requirements for the control of cross-connections;
- 2. On October 6, 2017, Assembly Bill 1671 was filed with the Secretary of State, adding section 116407 to the Health and Safety Code;
- 3. Health and Safety Code section 116407 directed the State Water Board to adopt standards for backflow protection and cross-connection control by January 1, 2020, and allows those standards to be implemented through a policy handbook that is not subject to the requirements of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code:
- The State Water Board adopted the standards for backflow protection and cross-connection control through a policy handbook titled the Cross-Connection Policy Control Policy Handbook on December 19, 2023;
- 5. The December 19, 2023, resolution included an anticipation of making future revisions to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook in response to stakeholder input and engagement. The resolution also included an instruction from the State Water Board to the Executive Director to make nonsubstantive changes deemed necessary for clarity or consistency;
- 6. The State Water Board has identified a need for an extension of specific due dates and other minor corrections in the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook. The State Water Board shared the proposed changes to an external advisory workgroup on December 13, 2024, and April 11, 2025; the external advisory workgroup did not request any edits to the proposed amendments.

7. On April 25, 2025, the State Water Board posted the proposed changes for public comment to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook on the State Water Board's website at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/cccph.html and notified public water systems and interested public through the State Water Board email subscription lists. Written comments were due no later than May 8, 2025. The State Water Board received nine comments for consideration.

In addition to receiving written comments, the State Water Board held a virtual public hearing at 2:00 p.m. on May 8, 2025, and received ten oral comments. No changes to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook were made in response to the comments.

- 8. Following this first public hearing and comment period, the draft amendments to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook were circulated for an additional public comment period from May 13, 2025, to June 10, 2025.
- 9. The adoption of the amendments to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the following categorical exemptions: (1) Class 1 projects, which consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing or minor alteration of existing public and private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use; and (2) Class 2 projects, which consist of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities. Additionally, because prior to the adoption of the amendments to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook, public water systems were already subject to cross connection and backflow prevention requirements, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the adoption of the revisions to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook will have a significant effect on the environment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

- 1. Directs State Water Board staff to file a CEQA Notice of Exemption consistent with paragraph 9, above.
- 2. Adopts the revised Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook as appended to this resolution with an effective date of June 17, 2025.

 Authorizes the Executive Director or their delegee to make any nonsubstantive corrections to the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook deemed necessary for clarity or consistency, and to effectuate the update of any existing regulations in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations to reference the updated Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on June 17, 2025.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel

Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo Board Member Laurel Firestone Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: Board Member Sean Maguire

ABSTAIN: None

Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board