

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS
DECEMBER 6, 2016**

ITEM 10

SUBJECT

UPDATE ON TEMPORARY WATER RIGHT PERMITS FOR UNDERGROUND STORAGE

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this item is to provide the Board with an update on activities related to water right permitting of underground storage (i.e., groundwater recharge) projects. In Water Year 15/16, the Division of Water Rights issued two temporary permits for underground storage and subsequent beneficial use under the direction of [Executive Order B-36-15](#) (T032564 of Scott Valley Irrigation District and T032581 of Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District). This experience raised questions about how to apply permitting requirements to different types of underground storage projects.

This item will include presentations from the parties involved in the two temporary permits and from Division of Water Rights staff. The presentations will:

- Describe the two temporary permits and associated outcomes; and
- Examine program-level questions and associated recommendations related to underground storage permitting processes.

The two temporary permits, associated outcomes, and program-level questions and recommendations are described in more detail in the attached staff report ([Attachment 1](#)).

POLICY ISSUE

In Executive Order B-36-15, Governor Brown directs the Board to prioritize temporary water right permits to accelerate approvals for projects that enhance the ability of a local or state agency to capture high precipitation events for local storage or recharge. The California Water Action Plan also calls for increased regional self-reliance and integrated water management, including conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water supplies.

FISCAL IMPACT

None. This is an informational item only and no decisions will be made.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None. This is an informational item only and no decisions will be made.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None. This is an informational item only and no decisions will be made.

<p>State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goals 3 and 5 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to increase sustainable local water supplies available for meeting existing and future beneficial uses and improve transparency and accountability by demonstrating and explaining results achieved with respect to the goals and resources available.</p>
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