



# DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

## **Water Data Management: Past, Present, and Future**

California Public Utilities Commission

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# Presentation Overview

- **Where We've Been**
  - State Agency Data Collection
  - Recent Legislation and Policy
- **Where We Are**
  - Provisions of SB X7 7
  - DWR Pilots
- **Where We're Headed**
  - Better data for all, easier process to submit data
- **The focus here is on urban water use**

# State Agencies Collect Data

- **State Water Resources Control Board**
  - Collection Focuses on Water Right Holders
- **Department of Water Resources**
  - Voluntary Annual Public Water System Survey
  - Urban Water Management Plans Every Five Years
- **Department of Public Health**
  - Includes Information from Smaller Suppliers
- **California Public Utilities Commission**
  - Limited to Investor-owned Utilities

# State Agency Data Challenges

- Existing Data Systems
  - Antiquated
  - Incompatible
  - Sometimes Still Paper-based
- Information Sharing, Cooperation
  - Limited
  - Budget Constraints Make Cooperation Harder

# Legislative Attention to Water Data

- AB 1404 (Laird, 2007) directed SWRCB, in collaboration with DWR, DPH, CALFED to investigate feasibility and costs of coordinated water measurement database.
- CPUC not mentioned in legislation.
- Draft Report Recommends Hub and Spoke System, Single Point (Hub) of Data Entry
- Estimated Cost is \$10 M + \$2M/yr.

# Governor's 20% by 2020 Goal

- Part of Governor's Comprehensive Delta Plan
- Calls for "20 percent reduction in per capita water use statewide by 2020"
- Governor directed state agencies "to develop this more aggressive plan and implement it"
- Draft plan released April 2009, final plan in press now

# 20x2020 Agencies

- **Dept of Water Resources**
- **State Water Resources Control Board**
- **Dept of Public Health**
- **CA Public Utilities Commission**
- **CA Energy Commission**
- **CALFED Program**
- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation**
- **CA Urban Water Conservation Council**

# Approach

- Determine Current Per Capita Use by Region
- Set Per Capita Targets by Region
  - Assume Every Region Conserves
  - Assume Regions with High Water Use Conserve More than 20%
- Identify Actions That Would Achieve Regional Targets
- Recommend a Plan to the Governor



# Recommendations

- **9 Major Recommendations Including:**
  - **Lay a strong foundation:**
    - **Mandate uniform data collection and establish a statewide database**
    - **Put the goal in statute as a backstop**
  - **Focus Attention landscape irrigation demand**
  - **Reduce water waste, especially in unmetered areas**
  - **Implement Best Management Practices**
  - **Provide financial incentives**

# 20x2020 Website

- Draft plan posted now
- Final plan contains same regional targets  
[www.swrcb.ca.gov/water\\_issues/hot\\_topics/20x2020/index.shtml](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/hot_topics/20x2020/index.shtml)
- From the SWRCB home page, click:
  - “Water Issues” tab
  - “Hot Topics”

# Conservation Turns a Corner

- SB X7 7 enacted as part of “water package”
- Requires ag suppliers to plan, measure deliveries and charge by volume
- Places 20% goal in statute, establishes complex processes to achieve savings
- Ties future state water grants to compliance
- Directs state agencies to work together and standardize data collection

# New Law is Data Intensive

- Directs suppliers to set per capita targets
- Directs DWR to provide technical guidance to improve data consistency
- Directs suppliers to report per capita reductions in their 5-year urban water management plans
- Directs DWR to review 2015 plans, recommend additional actions if CA is not “on track” to meet per capita targets

# Standardized Data Collection

**WC 10608.52 (a) DWR, in consultation with SWRCB, CALFED, DPH, CPUC, shall develop a single standardized water use reporting form to meet the water use information needs of each agency...**

# DWR Pilots

- DWR will test a simple Adobe web-based data input process this year:
  - Public Water System Survey – one-page form distributed to 1000 suppliers
  - Urban Water Management Plans – up to 36 tables of data, submitted by nearly 450 urban suppliers
- Electronic submittal will be voluntary, will speed grant processing, etc.

# DWR Pilots

- **Considerations:**
  - **Confirm authorized users**
  - **Save and modify draft information**
  - **Accommodate various units**
  - **Check for reasonableness**
  - **Protect any confidential information**
  - **Support export of formatted data for local use**
  - **Support SB X7 7 compliance**
  - **Accommodate Data Imports (e.g. CUWCC, AWE)**

# Where We're Headed

- Standardized data collection must address each state agency's concerns and needs
- Benefits are enormous:
  - Simpler and cheaper for local agencies to comply
  - Better and more complete water use data
  - Better water management information for locals, state, all
- Requires close cooperation among all of us



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