



**AGENDA
COMMUNITY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY***

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023
9:00 A.M.**

**AGENCY HEADQUARTERS
BOARD ROOM
6075 KIMBALL AVENUE, BUILDING A
CHINO, CALIFORNIA 91708
VIEW THE MEETING LIVE ONLINE AT IEUA.ORG
TELEPHONE ACCESS: (415) 856-9169 / Conf Code: 661 389 278#**

PURSUANT TO AB361 AND RESOLUTION NO. 2022-12-6, ADOPTED BY THE IEUA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON DECEMBER 21, 2022, IEUA BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED THROUGH TELECONFERENCE.

The public may participate and provide public comment during the meeting by dialing the number provided above. Comments may also be submitted by email to the Board Secretary/Office Manager Denise Garzaro at dgarzaro@ieua.org prior to the completion of the Public Comment section of the meeting. Comments will be distributed to the Board of Directors.

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public may address the Board on any item that is within the jurisdiction of the Board; however, no action may be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by Subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2 of the Government Code. Those persons wishing to address the Board on any matter, whether or not it appears on the agenda, are requested to email the Board Secretary/Office Manager no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time or address the Board during the public comments section of the meeting. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker. Thank you.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

In accordance with Section 54954.2 of the Government Code (Brown Act), additions to the agenda require two-thirds vote of the legislative body, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted.

1. ACTION ITEMS

A. MINUTES

Approve Minutes of the November 9, 2022 Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting.

B. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2023-1-1, AUTHORIZING THE AGENCY-WIDE ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/24

Staff recommends that the Committee/Board:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2023-1-1, authorizing the Agency-wide organizational memberships and affiliations for Fiscal Year 2023/24; and
2. Authorize the General Manager to approve all Agency-wide membership fees that are \$10,000 or less.

C. ADOPTION OF THE 2023 – 2024 FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES & POLICY PRINCIPLES

Staff recommends that the Committee/Board adopt the 2023 – 2024 Legislative Priorities and Policy Principles.

2. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT – CARPI AND CLAY (WRITTEN)

B. STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT – WEST COAST ADVISORS (WRITTEN)

C. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION (WRITTEN)

3. GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENTS

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURN

DECLARATION OF POSTING

I, Denise Garzaro, CMC, Board Secretary/Office Manager of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency*, a Municipal Water District, hereby certify that, per Government Code Section 54954.2, a copy of this agenda has been posted at the Agency’s main office, 6075 Kimball Avenue, Building A, Chino, CA and on the Agency’s website at www.ieua.org at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting date and time above.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Board Secretary at (909) 993-1736 or dgarzaro@ieua.org, 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting so that IEUA can make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

**ACTION
ITEM
1A**



**MINUTES
COMMUNITY AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY*
AGENCY HEADQUARTERS, CHINO, CA**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022

9:00 A.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT via Video/Teleconference

Steven J. Elie, Chair
Michael Camacho, Director

STAFF PRESENT

Shivaji Deshmukh, P.E., General Manager
Christiana Daisy, P.E., Deputy General Manager
Jerry Burke, Director of Engineering
Denise Garzaro, Board Secretary/Office Manager
Brandon Gonzalez Contreras, Technology Specialist I
Michael Larios, Technology Specialist I
Alyson Piguee, Director of External & Government Affairs

STAFF PRESENT via Video/Teleconference

Tony Arellano, Safety Officer
Javier Chagoyen-Lazaro, Director of Finance
Stephanie Chancellor, Acting Communications Officer
Kristine Day, Assistant General Manager
Warren Green, Manager of Contracts & Procurement
Don Hamlett, Director of Information Technology
Michael Hurley, Director of Planning & Resources
Jennifer Hy-Luk, Executive Assistant
Nolan King, Manager of Information Technology
Lisa Mejri, Government Affairs Intern
Jeanina Romero, Executive Assistant
Teresa Velarde, Manager of Internal Audit

OTHERS PRESENT via Video/Teleconference

Channon Hanna, Carpi and Clay
Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Steven J. Elie called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He gave the public the opportunity to comment and provided instructions for unmuting the conference line. There were no public comments received or additions to the agenda.

1A. ACTION ITEM

The Committee:

- ◆ Approved Minutes of the September 14, 2022 Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting.

2A – 2C. INFORMATION ITEMS

The following information items were presented or received and filed by the Committee:

- ◆ Federal Legislative Report – Carpi and Clay
- ◆ State Legislative Report – West Coast Advisors
- ◆ Public Outreach and Communication

3. GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

General Manager Shivaji Deshmukh stated that a Joint IEUA Board and Policy Committee Workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16 at 12:00 p.m. to discuss the Regional Contract negotiations.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Committee member comments.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Committee member requests for future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Committee Chair Elie adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Garzaro
Board Secretary/Office Manager

*A Municipal Water District

APPROVED: JANUARY 11, 2023

**ACTION
ITEM
1B**

Date: January 18, 2023

ADD

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

From: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Committee: Community & Legislative Affairs

01/11/23

Staff Contact: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Subject: Adoption of Resolution No. 2023-1-1, Authorizing the Agency-Wide Organizational Memberships and Affiliations for Fiscal Year 2023/24

Executive Summary:

Each year in preparation for IEUA's Fiscal Year budget, the Board of Directors, by four-fifths vote, approved a Resolution authorizing memberships and affiliations with certain organizations (California Water Code - Section 71597).

A listing of the proposed Agency-wide memberships of more than \$5,000, along with a brief summary of the benefits associated, is attached for the Board's review. The attached membership dues are estimates provided by the organizations. Agency-wide memberships are due throughout the Fiscal Year and can fluctuate from the provided estimates. Due to the unknown fluctuations in renewal costs, staff proposes that a 5% contingency be included in the total for the Board's approval. Any individual membership renewal with an increase greater than 10% will be brought back to the Board for approval. The attached Resolution authorizes the General Manager to approve all Agency-wide membership fees that are \$10,000 or less. This is a change in the threshold, which was previously \$5,000, and is being made in alignment with recent changes to IEUA's procurement ordinance.

Staff's Recommendation:

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 2023-1-1, authorizing the Agency-wide organizational memberships and affiliations for Fiscal Year 2023/24; and
- 2) Authorize the General Manager to approve all Agency-wide membership fees that are \$10,000 or less.

Budget Impact Budgeted (Y/N): Y Amendment (Y/N): Y Amount for Requested Approval:

Account/Project Name:

Agency-wide Memberships

Fiscal Impact (explain if not budgeted):

The estimated total for FY 2023/24 Agency-wide memberships amounts to \$349,817; 5% contingency totaling \$17,490.85 brings the requested amount to \$367,307.85.

Prior Board Action:

On January 19, 2022, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-1-2, authorizing the Agency-wide memberships for FY 2022/23.

Environmental Determination:

Not Applicable

Business Goal:

Approving the Agency-wide memberships is in line with IEUA's business goal of supporting effective public outreach and education, and advocating for the development of policies, legislation and regulations that benefit the region.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Resolution No. 2023-1-1

Attachment 2 - List of Agency-wide Organizational Memberships

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-1-1

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY*, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING AGENCY-WIDE ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Inland Empire Utilities Agency* authorized Agency-wide memberships in and affiliations with various organizations which benefit the Agency; and

WHEREAS, Section 71597 of the California Water Code requires that Agency-wide memberships must be approved by at least four-fifths (4/5) majority of its Directors.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of Inland Empire Utilities Agency* does hereby RESOLVE, DETERMINE, AND ORDER as follows:

Section 1. That this Board of Directors does hereby approve and authorize the fiscal year Agency-wide annual memberships in and affiliation with, and authorize the General Manager to execute payment of membership fees to these organizations (see attachment).

Section 2. That this Board of Directors does hereby approve and authorize the General Manager, or in his/her absence, his/her designee, to approve all Agency-wide annual memberships in and affiliations with, and payment of membership fees to these organizations that are \$10,000 and less.

Section 3. That the appropriation of funds necessary for the dues and/or fees associated with the Agency-wide memberships is hereby authorized.

Section 4. That the appropriation of funds necessary for the dues and/or fees associated with the Agency-wide memberships and employee professional memberships be authorized by the Board of Directors in the budget each fiscal year.

Section 5. Upon adoption of this resolution, Resolution No. 2022-1-2 is hereby rescinded in its entirety.

ADOPTED this 18th day of January 2023.

Marco Tule, President of the Inland Empire
Utilities Agency* and the Board
of Directors thereof

ATTEST:

Jasmin A. Hall, Secretary/Treasurer of the Inland Empire
Utilities Agency* and the Board
of Directors thereof

*A Municipal Water District

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)SS
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO)

I, Jasmin A. Hall, Secretary/Treasurer of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency*, DO
HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution being No. 2023-1-1, was adopted at a regular
meeting on January 18, 2023, of said Agency by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Jasmin A. Hall, Secretary/Treasurer
of the Inland Empire Utilities
Agency* and of the Board of
Directors thereof

(SEAL)

* A Municipal Water District

Agency-wide Memberships Over \$10,000

Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA):

ACWA is the lead water policy advocacy organization in California and provides members with cost savings through an additional voice in state and federal and legislative and regulatory arenas. Staff serve on ACWA committees and sub-committees, including: Water Management, Water Quality, Water Use Efficiency, State Legislative, Energy, and various topic-specific regulatory matters.

ACWA's federal and state legislative and regulatory activities advance bills and issues of concern to members, while halting potentially damaging measures. Initiatives have included determining components of water bond legislation, Voluntary Agreements for the Bay Delta and Delta Conveyance Plan advocacy, long term water infrastructure financing, and renewable energy policy. IEUA Board and staff members regularly attend annual conferences and workshops.

American Water Works Association (AWWA) Utility:

The American Water Works Association is an international, nonprofit, scientific and educational society dedicated to providing total water solutions assuring the effective management of water. Founded in 1881, the Association is the largest organization of water supply professionals in the world.

The AWWA membership includes over 4,300 utilities that supply roughly 80 percent of the nation's drinking water and treat almost half of the nation's wastewater. Our 51,000 total members represent the full spectrum of the water community: public water and wastewater systems, environmental advocates, scientists, academicians, and others who hold a genuine interest in water, our most important resource.

AWWA also takes great pride in helping establish two preeminent organizations dedicated to safe water, the Water Research Foundation in 1966, Water For People in 1991 and Water Equation in 2015. AWWA unites the diverse water community to advance public health, safety, the economy, and the environment.

California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA):

CASA serves as the lead advocacy group for wastewater agencies in California on legislative and regulatory issues. Since CASA employs legal representation, it is extremely effective on regulatory issues, particularly before the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and California Air Resources Board (CARB). CASA provides excellent technical, policy and regulatory guidance and lobbying support for sanitary districts throughout the state. CASA also maintains lobbyists in Sacramento and Washington, DC, in addition to a Director of Regulatory Affairs.

Most recently, some of CASA's priorities include federal and state labeling requirements of wet wipes, technical evaluation and regulatory support on PFAS, the extension of NPDES permit terms to 10 years, and addressing clean fleet vehicles issues and concerns. Also, CASA and WaterReuse have been effective at thwarting recent efforts to legislate ocean discharge requirements.

IEUA Board members and staff have worked closely with the CASA Executive Officer on several industry initiatives and have attended CASA conferences and meetings. Director Hall currently serves on the CASA Board of Directors; the General Manager serves as Vice Chair of the Federal Legislative Affairs Committee; and staff serves on the State Legislative Affairs Committee.

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA):

GFOA represents public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada. The association's more than 20,000 members are federal, state/provincial, and local finance officials deeply involved in planning, financing, and implementing thousands of governmental operations in each of their jurisdictions. GFOA's mission is to advance excellence in public finance.

The GFOA membership includes six individual memberships and additional memberships at a rate of \$150/person. Staff regularly attends trainings and webinars hosted by GFOA. The Agency has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by GFOA for 24 successive years.

Isle Utilities:

Isle is an independent technology and innovation consultancy comprised of highly skilled engineers and scientists that work to identify new innovative technologies in water, waste, the built environment, energy, and carbon. Isle provides water and wastewater technology evaluation and screening for cities and municipalities such as IEUA, IRWD, OCSD, and others in California, US, and around the world.

The Isle membership includes participation in their global innovation forum, the Technology Approval Group (TAG). TAG is focused on evaluating technologies that may be applicable to our industry. As a member, we are presented with the evaluations and can participate in information sharing pertaining to the technology, as well as application of the technology at other agencies. IEUA can also submit potential technologies of interest to TAG who will vet the supplier as well as experience in our industry, gathering a significant amount of information on our behalf that we can use in determining applicability. Once Isle has determined the technologies have potentials, they will send a list and a brief description of each technology to the member for a vote. The top vendors will be invited to present to the members during a TAG meeting. After the presentation, without the vendors' presence, the TAG member will discuss their thoughts on the technology and determine if they want to invite the vendor for a demo at their facilities. Prior to the pandemic, TAG members would typically meet the group in OCSD's office in Fountain Valley. Due to the pandemic, Isle has

switched everyone to virtual meetings and because of the ease of these meetings, they invited wastewater TAG members to participate in the water TAG meetings. TAG helps the Agency to maintain awareness of new ideas, new opportunities, and/or new technologies. IEUA staff regularly participates in TAG and workshops. IEUA has been participating in the western wastewater TAG for many years and our staff has found this resource to be valuable for keeping up with the current wastewater related technologies. IEUA has had a few staff that attended both this past year and found them to be valuable, especially considering the merging of water and wastewater treatment requirements and advanced treatment is in Agency's near future.

National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA):

NACWA has represented public wastewater and stormwater agencies of all sizes nationwide for over 40 years. As the recognized leader in legislative, regulatory, and legal advocacy, NACWA is the clean water sector's collective voice to EPA, Congress and government agencies nationwide. NACWA also provides a wide array of publications of practical and usable information for clean water utilities. Their advocacy alerts, legislative and regulatory news and updates, legal references, white papers, and more, ensure that clean water utilities have the knowledge base to make the right decisions and plan for a clean water future.

A main objective of NACWA is to evaluate clean water as a top national priority. This membership provides the Agency with a forum to discuss clean water and utility management with fellow utilities and industry leaders across the country.

National League of Cities (NLC):

NLC is an organization composed of city, town and village leaders that are focused on improving the quality of life for their current and future constituents. NLC has gained support from more than 2,700 cities across the nation with nearly 100 years of dedication to strength and advancement of local governments. Their mission is to relentlessly advocate for, and protect the interests of, cities, towns and villages by influencing federal policy, strengthening local leadership and driving innovative solutions.

Staff plans on attending the Annual Conference and division meetings to build a broader network with other jurisdictions in the region and support customer agency needs.

National Water Research Institute (NWRI):

NWRI provides valuable research and policy guidance to the industry on important issues affecting the usage of water, wastewater, and recycled water. NWRI is highly regarded by the environmental regulatory community and often collaborates with regulators such as the California Division of Drinking Water and the Regional Water Quality Control Board at their request to provide expert panel support on water quality related issues. Through strategic partnerships with leading organizations in the water and wastewater industries, NWRI sponsors projects and programs focused on ensuring safe, reliable, sources of water for current and future generations. Notable areas of focus are treatment technology and regulatory

aspects of recycled water use.

Director Elie currently serves as Chair of NWRI's Board of Directors. NWRI is active in research in the field of water reuse and has produced guidelines for such projects as development of direct and indirect potable reuse projects. NWRI provides technical expertise and is a respected venue for development of technical review panels, both of which assist the Agency to advance its programs. Specifically, IEUA will utilize an NWRI expert panel for its recycled water injection effort and has previously used an expert panel to further its recycled water recharge program. NWRI includes IEUA staff in its formation of technical panels, as appropriate, giving IEUA an opportunity to provide leadership in selected fields.

Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP):

SCAP is organized under the "strength-in-numbers" concept in order to ensure that environmental regulations applied in southern California are appropriate, reasonable and cost-effective. Through the committee efforts information is gathered and disseminated to all members using the SCAP Monthly Update, published committee reports and periodic SCAP Alerts. SCAP provides specific leadership on key regulatory focus areas, such as air, water, energy, biosolids and collection systems, and works closely with CASA to communicate these issues at the state and federal level. Specialized committees have played an integral part in proactively affecting the outcome of proposed regulations that would have had significant economic impacts to the Agency.

IEUA participates in SCAP both with a seat on the Board and this year an IEUA staff member is chair of the Energy Management Committee.

Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC):

SCWC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public education partnership dedicated to informing Southern Californians about our water needs and our State's water resources. Through measured advocacy, SCWC works to ensure the health and reliability of southern California's water supply.

In 2017, IEUA became one of seven founding members of SCWC. A founding membership includes all of the current basic membership benefits, as well as membership in the Stormwater Task Force, two tables at the annual dinner, including annual meeting and dinner recognition and a full-page ad in the tribute book, complimentary invitations to all quarterly meetings, workshops, briefings, special events, four guest columns in the weekly E-Newsletter at each agencies' discretion, prominent logo placement on SCWC's website, and promotional displays at the annual dinner and quarterly meetings. Director Elie currently serves as co-chair of the SCWC Legislative Task Force, which assists in educating members about advancing legislation and issues of concern to water agencies and associated members.

Water Research Foundation (WRF):

WRF is a charitable corporation seeking to identify, support, and disseminate research that enhances the quality and reliability of water for natural systems and communities with an integrated approach to resource recovery and reuse; while facilitating interaction among practitioners, educators, researchers, decision makers, and the public.

This organization supports research that enhances water quality and reliability. Agencies that practice resource recovery, especially water recycling, benefit from such integrated research that guides practitioners and regulators

WateReuse Association:

WateReuse Association is the lead advocate for water recycling in the nation. Membership in WateReuse includes state section membership. WateReuse has proactive programs including legislative advocacy, government relations, regulatory agency oversight, technology transfer and public education/outreach. At the national level, WateReuse is an advocate for Title XVI funding and works closely with IEUA to ensure continued federal support for recycled water programs. The California section is active in legislative and regulatory affairs and played a pivotal role in securing passage of IEUA's historic water softener legislation (AB 1366).

IEUA benefits from membership in the WateReuse Association. The General Manager is Chair and a voting member on the California Chapter's Legislative-Regulatory Committee for the 2023-24 legislative session. The Agency participates in the bimonthly chapter meetings which cover a range of water topics including recycled water projects, potable reuse efforts, pilot and research projects, lessons learned, facility tours, funding opportunities, and other industry news and events. Many IEUA staff and Board members attend WateReuse conferences, attend in-person workshops, and participate in webinars. WateReuse advocates statewide and nationally for IEUA's goal of increased use of recycled water.

Agency-wide Memberships Over \$10,000

Membership	Estimated Dues
Association of California Water Agencies	\$41,840 (16% increase)
American Water Works Association (AWWA) Utility	\$23,898 (3% increase)
California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA)	\$29,500 (44% increase)
Isle Utilities	\$21,780 (10% increase)
National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)	\$42,515 (12% increase)
National Water Research Institute (NWRI)	\$50,000
Southern Cal. Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP)	\$15,001
Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC)	\$25,000
Water Research Foundation (WRF)	\$21,781 (5% increase)
WaterReuse Association	\$15,015 (16% increase)

Agency-wide Memberships \$10,000 and Under

Membership	Estimated Dues
Americas' SAP Users' Group	\$1,725
Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE)	\$1,617 (5% increase)
Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts	\$375
California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP)	\$3,800
California African American Water Education Foundation	\$5,000
California Data Collaborative	\$10,000
California Special Districts Association (CSDA)	\$8,810 (8% increase)
Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce	\$360
Fontana Chamber of Commerce	\$400
Greater Ontario Business Council	\$750
Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)	\$3,050*
Montclair Chamber of Commerce	\$425
National League of Cities (NLC)	\$5,000*
National Safety Council	\$650 (22% decrease)
Public Agency Risk Management Association (PARMA)	\$150
Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce	\$395
Southern California Salinity Management Coalition	\$10,000
Upland Chamber of Commerce	\$180 (6% increase)
Urban Water Institute	\$1,500
Water Education Foundation (WEF)	\$3,800 (4% increase)
Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center (WaterISAC)	\$5,500

**New membership for consideration*

**ACTION
ITEM
1C**

Date: January 18, 2023

ADD

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

From: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Committee: Community & Legislative Affairs

01/11/23

Staff Contact: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Subject: Adoption of the 2023 - 2024 Federal and State Legislative Priorities & Policy Principles

Executive Summary:

Each year, the IEUA Board of Directors adopts Federal and State Legislative Priorities and Policy Principles for the upcoming year. The External & Government Affairs Department conducted a thorough review of the existing Legislative Policy Principles and has revamped the priorities and principles for the 2023-2024 legislative session to ensure that this document addresses current issues and opportunities, as well as provides flexibility to address a myriad of administrative, regulatory, and legislative activity. It is recommended that moving forward, this document align with the two-year State legislative session and Congressional terms.

The adoption of the Legislative Priorities and Policy Principles allows staff to be more efficient and effective when taking positions on legislation, regulatory actions, and funding opportunities. This document is designed to provide staff with the necessary guidelines in order to make recommendations if actions need to be taken quickly, as well as making position recommendations to the Community and Legislative Affairs Committee and the Board of Directors.

Staff's Recommendation:

Adopt the 2023-2024 Legislative Priorities and Policy Principles.

Budget Impact Budgeted (Y/N): Y Amendment (Y/N): ☒ Amount for Requested Approval:

Account/Project Name:

Not Applicable

Fiscal Impact (explain if not budgeted):

Not Applicable

Prior Board Action:

On January 19, 2022, the Board of Directors adopted the 2022 Legislative Policy Principles.

Environmental Determination:

Not Applicable

Business Goal:

Approving the Legislative Priorities & Policy Principles is in line with IEUA's Business Goal of advocating for development of policies, legislation, and regulations that benefit the region.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - 2023-2024 IEUA Legislative Priorities & Policy Principles

Legislative Priorities & Policy Principles





IEUA serves approximately 930,000 residents over 242 square miles in western San Bernardino County.

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Regional Plant (RP)-5 in Chino, CA treats up to 15 million gallons of wastewater per day, equivalent to 22 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

Mission

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) is committed to meeting the needs of the region by providing essential services in a regionally planned and cost-effective manner while safeguarding public health, promoting economic development, and protecting the environment.

Key Areas of Service

1. Securing and supplying imported water.
 2. Collecting and treating wastewater.
 3. Producing high-quality renewable products such as recycled water, compost, and energy.
 4. Promoting sustainable use of groundwater and development of local water supplies.
-

Values

Leading the way. Planning for the future. Protecting the resources of the communities we serve. The Inland Empire Utilities Agency is committed to:

1. Applying ethical, fiscally responsible, transparent, and environmentally sustainable principles to all aspects of business and organizational conduct.
 2. Working with integrity as one team, while celebrating the region's diversity.
 3. Staying in the forefront of the industry through education, innovation, efficiency, and creativity.
-

Introduction/Overview

IEUA has adopted Legislative Priorities and Policy Principles to provide a foundation for a highly productive advocacy program that will effectively influence legislation, regulations, and funding in alignment with IEUA's mission and values. The IEUA External and Government Affairs Department uses the following four principles as a basis for taking positions on legislation, regulations, and funding opportunities.

1. Principle of Water Supply Reliability
2. Principle of Water-Energy Nexus
3. Principle of Clean and Safe Drinking Water
4. Principle of Finance, Administration, and Operations

Principle of Water Supply Reliability

Policy Goal

Maintain and protect the reliability and cost-effectiveness of local and imported sources of water. Advocate for groundwater storage and management, brackish desalination, wastewater treatment, recycled water, and conservation as effective and efficient drought response efforts.



Water Supply & Storage

1. Support local water supply and storage projects that ensure future reliability, increase local flexibility, reduce reliance on imported water and oppose efforts that constrain these opportunities.
2. Support administrative and legislative actions that promote resiliency, improved operability of IEUA and regional systems, and respond to and plan for drought conditions while maintaining the necessary environmental protections.
3. Support administrative, legislative, and funding opportunities to ensure the reliability of imported water supplies including, but not limited to, conveyance and storage projects, salinity control measures, and cleanup for contaminated sites.
4. Support funding opportunities for local water supply development and water quality improvement projects benefiting IEUA, IEUA customer agencies, the Chino Basin, and the Santa Ana Watershed.
5. Support funding for drought relief and adaptive water management opportunities in California that promote sustainability and reliability.
6. Support administrative and legislative actions that facilitate the adoption of practical uniform water recycling criteria and expanded application for direct and indirect potable reuse.

Water Use Efficiency & Shortage Response

1. Support a definition of "efficient use of water" that includes local hydrologic conditions and protects trees and healthy soils that also minimizes the impacts on wastewater flows and treatment operations.
2. Support conservation actions and efforts during declared water shortage emergencies that reduce outdoor use of potable water while protecting trees and healthy soils.
3. Support administrative and legislative actions that recognize local hydrologic conditions and local/regional efforts in meeting statutory Urban Water Use Objectives or other water-use efficiency goals.
4. Support funding opportunities and incentive programs that promote water-use efficiency and permanent water-use restrictions including, but not limited to turf transformation, tax exemptions, and technical assistance.

Principle of Water–Energy Nexus

Policy Goal

Promote science-based, environmentally sustainable practices that respond to climate change, ensure water resilience, and promote emissions reductions and renewable energy.

Energy Supply and Reliability

1. Support diverse energy supply options and oppose constraints on energy supply development.
2. Support actions and investments in renewable energy to reduce reliance on grid power, increase energy reliability, and reduce overall energy costs.
3. Support voluntary investment in wildfire system hardening and efforts to insulate IEUA from Public Safety Power Shutoffs.
4. Support actions that would increase the value of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) generated and sold by wastewater treatment agencies that utilize on-site renewable energy.
5. Support legislation, regulations, and administrative policies that ensure that power costs reflect the cost of energy procurement, infrastructure, and maintenance.
6. Support projects and funding for renewable energy resources and peak energy management that provide direct benefits for water resource sustainability.

RP-4 & Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility (IERCF) in Rancho Cucamonga, CA - 1 megawatt
Wind Turbine generates 1,500 MWh per year, equivalent to powering 130 homes per year.

Composting

1. Support legislation, regulations, and funding that promote compost as a use for, but not limited to, erosion control to protect water resources, water-use efficiency, fire-ravaged land remediation, and healthy soils.
 2. Support administrative and legislative approaches for connecting carbon sequestration with healthy soils and the use of compost.
 3. Support regulations that restrict the use of uncomposted and contaminated organics in commercial compost products.
-



Right: Install water champ disconnect at RP-5.

Left: RP-1 Plant



Principle of Clean and Safe Drinking Water

Policy Goal

To preserve the delivery of safe and reliable water for all Californians in an affordable, economical, and transparent manner.

Water Quality

1. Support reasonable and scientifically significant administrative and legislative actions that promote and/or improve source water quality and regulate constituents of emerging concerns that consider factors such as stakeholder input, feasibility, laboratory capacity, analytical methods, and implementation costs.
2. Support legislative and administrative approaches promoting “polluter pays” principles, extending responsibility for contamination to chemical manufacturers and promoting consumer product responsibility.
3. Support actions and investments to help public water systems defray the costs of monitoring and/or remediation of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and ensure drinking water and wastewater facilities are not held liable for the cleanup of contamination.
4. Support administrative and legislative action to identify and promote the use of salt-less water softening technology. Oppose any efforts to endorse salt-based technologies.

Accessibility

1. Support alternative efforts to a sustainable approach to ensure every Californian has access to safe, clean, and reliable water.
2. Support sensible, long-term solutions that assist underrepresented communities with increased access to safe and affordable drinking water.

Public & Environmental Health

1. Support funding opportunities for septic-to-sewer conversion projects.
2. Support modernization for the Endangered Species Act that allows for the best available science, adaptive management, and flexible implementation to be used.
3. Support legislation and administrative actions to secure funding for public water systems and laboratories to defray costs associated with declared federal, state, or local emergencies.
4. Support administrative and legislative actions for environmental compliance (e.g., air, water, hazardous materials, and waste) that provide for regulatory compliance flexibility, promote consistency, and reduce regulatory redundancy.



Quality Control Analyst performing Sulfonates testing, a methylene blue color reaction to detect the existence of anionic substances in water that may cause water corrosion or contamination.

Principle of Finance, Administration, and Operations

Policy Goal

Preserve ethical and transparent principles that maintain and support fiscal responsibility, local control, employee engagement and retention, and diversity and accessibility.

Administrative Processes

1. Support efforts that align with IEUA's commitment to applying the highest standards of fiscal responsibility, integrity, ethical, and transparent business practices and principles.
2. Support streamlining of federal, state, and regional permitting; environmental review; regulatory and reporting mandates; and other duplicative, burdensome, or cumbersome processes.
3. Support cooperative efforts between public agencies and regulators in the development of state and federal policies and regulatory requirements.
4. Support legislative and regulatory efforts that minimize cost impacts of new or expanded regulations and discourage measures that impose an undue burden on ratepayers.
5. Support legislation and administrative actions that would provide funding or reimbursement for enhanced chemical and physical security and cybersecurity for water, wastewater, biosolid, and power infrastructure.
6. Support administrative and legislative actions and funding for research and partnerships benefiting water, recycled water, wastewater, composting, and energy management.



Top Left: RP-1 Polymer Pump Repair

Bottom Left: RP-1 Z- Chlorine Calibration

Top Right: Managers' Unit All -Hands Meeting

Bottom Right: Bleach Tank Installation

Financial

1. Support measures to reduce costs, risks, and burdensome administrative processes, and streamline approvals of financing IEUA and regional projects.
2. Support reauthorization, extension, and/or expansion of federal and state funding for essential water, sewer, and energy infrastructure.
3. Support efforts to reinstate public agency advanced bond refunding.
4. Support legislation establishing an approach that proactively validates that an agency's rate-setting process conforms with all legal requirements, thereby minimizing uncertainty.
5. Support measures and efforts that protect local revenue sources and reserve funds and that maintain tax-exempt status for municipal debt.
6. Support the development of general obligation bonds or other funding streams that provide flexibility to local entities to leverage funds within other states, federal, or local resources.
7. Oppose policies and efforts that would jeopardize IEUA's bond rating and standing in the municipal bond market.
8. Support legislation and administrative actions to achieve tax-exempt status for water treatment chemicals and ensure access to water treatment chemicals.
9. Support actions and investments that promote prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery of emergencies to enhance IEUA and community resilience and ensure effective response and recovery capabilities.

Local Control

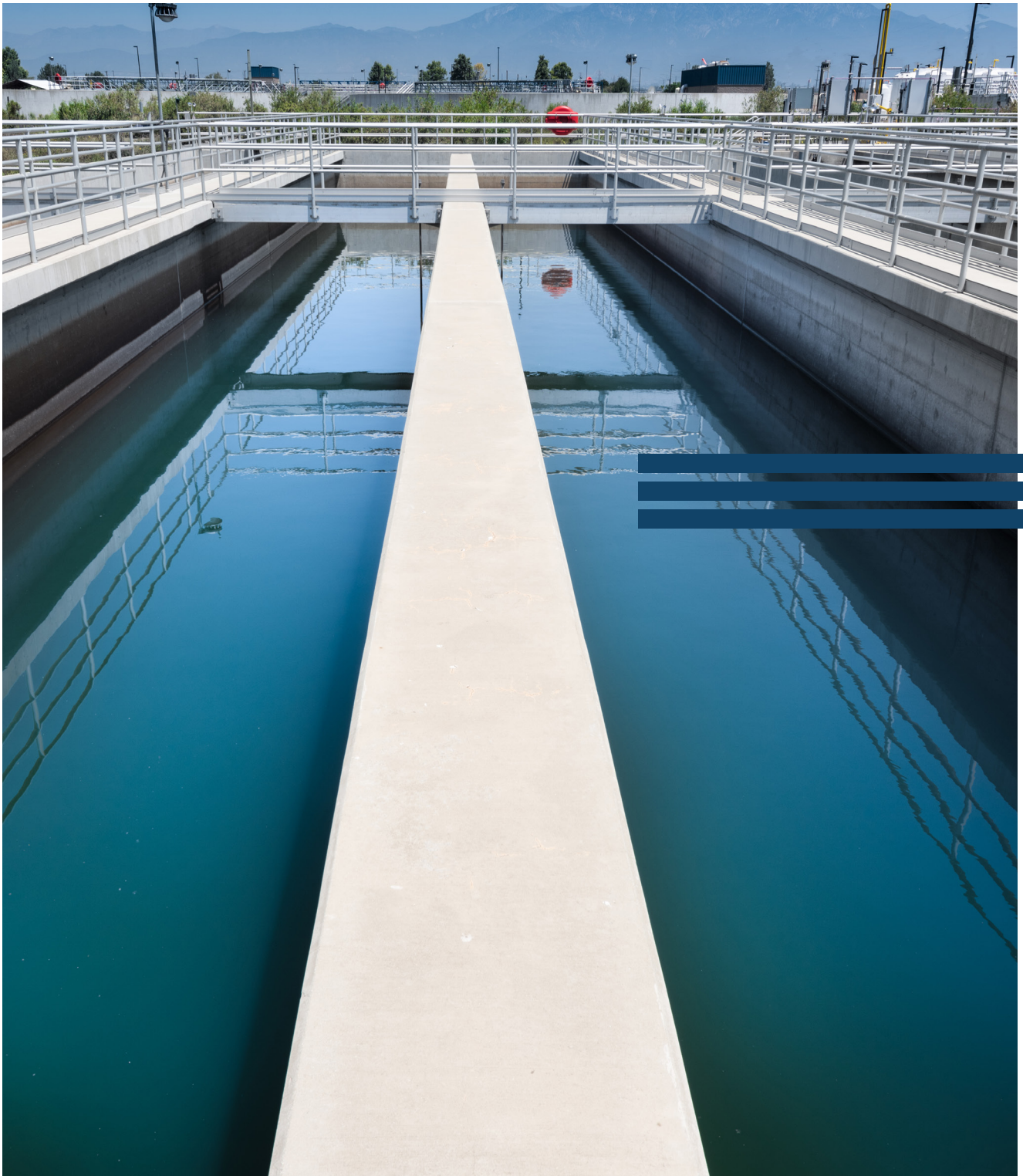
1. Support customer agency and regional legislative positions that align with IEUA's legislative priorities and policy principles.
2. Support measures that encourage decision-making at the local level.
3. Oppose efforts to impose a public goods charge or other burdensome fees.

Human Resources/Employment

1. Support measures and funding opportunities that promote efforts to advance workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion.
2. Support legislation that encourages collective bargaining.
3. Support legislation that increases local control and limits additional financial burdens related to labor relations and collective bargaining that can be appropriately negotiated at the bargaining table.
4. Support funding for local government efforts to establish workforce engagement, succession planning, mentoring programs, and apprenticeships and education programs.
5. Support legislation that streamlines the Workers' Compensation system and makes it easier for employers, employees, and healthcare providers to navigate.
6. Support reform measures that provide sustainable and secure public pensions and other post-retirement benefits to ensure responsive, recruitment retention and affordable public services.
7. Support measures that help local governments with their unfunded liability.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, and Transparency

1. Support investments and a distribution of funding that ensures a fair and equitable financing process for the public and includes provisions to ensure diversity in the process and equity for financially distressed and underrepresented populations.
2. Support legislation that allows for greater access to public meetings to the public.
3. Support measures that encourage the streamlining of processes to respond to public records requests.
4. Support measures that allow for access to meaningful data which balance the cost of public resources to implement.
5. Support measures that protect and advance local governance and transparency.



RP-5 in Chino, CA - The water stays in the chlorine contact basin for 1.5 hours. Following this treatment process, a portion of the water is utilized for recycled water.

Connect with us:

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INFORMATION
ITEM
2A

Inland Empire Utilities Agency, a Municipal Water District Federal Update

December 22, 2022

FY23 Omnibus Appropriations Package Signed Into Law

Right before the Christmas holiday, Congress passed and the President signed into law the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 [omnibus appropriations package](#). The \$1.7 trillion package contains all twelve FY23 appropriations bills, totaling over 4,155 pages, and includes increases in funding for both defense and non-defense discretionary programs. Community projects (formerly known as earmarks) are also included in the omnibus package. Here are some programmatic funding levels of particular importance to IEUA:

Bureau of Reclamation Funding

Agency/Program	FY22 Enacted	FY23 Omnibus	Change from FY22 Enacted
Bureau of Reclamation	\$1.901 billion	\$1.931 billion	Increase of \$30 million
Water & Related Resources	\$1.747 billion	\$1.787 billion	Increase of \$40 million
WaterSMART Grants	\$45.5 million	\$65 million	\$19.5 million
Title XVI Program (Legacy Projects)	\$43.617 million	\$40 million	Decrease of \$3.617 million
Title XVI Program (WIIN)	\$17.5 million	\$20 million	Increase of \$2.5 million

Environmental Protection Agency Funding

Agency/Program	FY22 Enacted	FY23 Omnibus	Change from FY22 Enacted
EPA	\$9.56 billion	\$10.135 billion	Increase of \$576 million
Clean Water State Revolving Fund	\$1.638826 billion	\$1.638861 billion	Increase of \$35 million
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	\$1.126088 billion	\$1.126101 billion	Increase of \$13 million
WIFIA	\$69.5 million	\$75.640 million	Increase of \$6.14 million

Administration Releases Inflation Reduction Act Guidebook

The White House has released an Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) [guidebook](#) entitled “Building a Clean Energy Economy: A guidebook to the Inflation Reduction Act’s Investments in Clean Energy and Climate Action.” This guidebook is like what the Administration released after the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Additionally, in the coming months, the Administration will be launching a website for the IRA (www.cleanenergy.gov) that will provide additional and updated information on the implementation of the IRA.

Congress Passes WRDA Bill

On December 15th, the Senate passed the House-amended Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022 as part of the National Defense Appropriations Act (NDAA) ([H.R. 7776](#)). WRDA provides project authorization and policy updates for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The bill authorizes \$38 billion for 25 new and five existing USACE water infrastructure projects across the country. The bill has been sent to President Biden for his signature. A bill summary of WRDA can be found [HERE](#), and a section-by-section summary can be found [HERE](#).

Senate Committee Holds Hearing on DOI IJA Implementation

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to examine the Department of the Interior’s (DOI) implementation for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The hearing featured Tommy Beaudreau, Deputy Secretary for the Department of the Interior. In Beaudreau’s opening remarks, he highlighted during the past year, DOI has done the following regarding to IJA implementation:

- Hired Winnie Stachelberg to serve as Senior Advisor/Infrastructure Coordinator
- Held numerous webinars with stakeholders
- In FY22, allocated \$6.4 billion in infrastructure projects
- Meets on a bi-weekly basis with the DOI Inspector General to ensure proper use of the IJA funds

While most questions from Senators dealt with the issues of oil and gas production, the following issues related to water were raised during the hearing:

- Drought in the West—All three Western Senators who attended the hearing, Sens. Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NM), and Mark Kelly (D-AZ), raised the drought in the West as the first issue during their five-minute Q&A with Beaudreau. The Senators all encouraged DOI to focus on increasing efficiencies within the Colorado River system, provide funding for both short-term and long-term solutions, and use all available tools in their toolbox to help alleviate the drought impacts.
- Reclamation Staffing—Sen. Kelly focused much of his questions about Reclamation’s staffing challenges. Beaudreau stated that for Reclamation staffing is currently an issue. The goal is to bring on a total of 400 new staff at Reclamation to help implement the \$8.3 billion in IJA. To date, Reclamation has hired roughly 100 of the 400 staff they need. Beaudreau indicated that the biggest challenge to hiring staff is finding qualified engineers and individuals who understand the complex hydrology. He said

Reclamation is optimistic that it can substantially close the gap of the additional staff needed in the coming year.

- **Large-Scale Water Recycling Program Update**—Sen. Cortez Masto, who authored legislation in the Senate to create the Large-Scale Water Recycling Program that was included in IIJA, pressed Beaudreau for an update on the status of that program. He reminded the Committee that Reclamation published guidelines for the program last month but did not provide any additional update on next steps or future action, including whether Reclamation would be issuing the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the study portion of the program as it had indicated it planned to do in stakeholder webinar last month.

Western Senators Send Letter to USDA on Drought

A bipartisan group of Western Senators, including Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla, sent a letter to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack urging the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that its programs are funded and administered to address the drought conditions throughout the West. The letter urges USDA to support the efforts of Western farmers and ranchers to conserve water, improve water infrastructure and efficiency, reduce erosion, and provide technical assistance for growers in regions affected by drought. The letter can be found [HERE](#).

Senators Send Letter to USDA on IRA Funding for Drought Mitigation

Senators Feinstein and Padilla led a letter to USDA and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) urging that funding from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) be used to address drought-related issues, including enhancing groundwater recharge, reducing salinity, improving irrigation efficiencies, reducing groundwater pumping, and utilizing organic practices. The letter was also signed by Sens. Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), and Patty Murray (D-WA) and can be found [HERE](#).

Senate Releases 2023 Schedule

Following the conclusion of the runoff election in Georgia, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) released the Senate calendar for 2023. Last month, incoming House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA) released the House calendar for 2023. A combined House and Senate calendar can be found [HERE](#).

Treasury Publishes Guidance on IRA Labor Requirements

The Department of Treasury (Treasury) released [initial guidance](#) on the prevailing wage and apprenticeships requirement for energy tax credits authorized by the IRA. The guidance will apply to the following tax credits:

- Advanced Energy Project Credit
- Alternative Fuel Refueling Property Credit
- Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration
- Clean Fuel Production Credit
- Credit for Production of Clean Hydrogen
- Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings Deduction
- Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit
- Renewable Energy Property Investment Tax Credit

Federal Funding Opportunities/Announcements

DOE Releases NOI to Award \$750 Million for Clean Hydrogen Technologies. The Department of Energy (DOE) released a Notice of Intent (NOI) to award \$750 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding to reduce the cost of clean hydrogen technology. More information can be found [HERE](#).

DOE Publishes NOI for Underserved and Indigenous Community Microgrids Program. DOE's Office of Electricity released an NOI for the Underserved and Indigenous Community Microgrids program. This program would provide funding for coordinated research, development, and implementation of replicable microgrid solutions for underserved and Indigenous communities in remote and islanded regions. DOE plans to award \$9.1 million in funding for six to eight projects. More information can be found [HERE](#).

DOE Publishes NOI for Carbon Conversion Program. DOE published an NOI for the Carbon Utilization Procurement Grant program. The program, established in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, would provide grants to states, local governments, and public utilities to support the commercialization of technologies that reduce carbon emissions while also procuring and using commercial or industrial products developed from captured carbon emissions. More information can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Announces Small and Rural Communities Water Systems Grant. EPA announced the availability of \$25.7 million in grant funding to provide technical assistance and training to support small and rural drinking water and wastewater systems. Applications are due January 26th and more information can be found [HERE](#).

Reclamation Announces Drought Resiliency Grant Awards. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) announced the award of over \$84 million in funding for drought resiliency projects. The awards fund 36 projects located in eight western states. The full list of awards can be found [HERE](#).

Federal Agency Personnel/Regulatory Announcements

DOE Releases Proposed Rule to Phase Out Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs. DOE released a proposed rule to phase out compact fluorescent lightbulbs. DOE is hosting a webinar on February 1st at 1:00 pm EST on the proposal and registration can be found [HERE](#). More information on the proposed rule can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Announces Senior Advisor for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. EPA announced Jahi Wise will serve as Senior Advisor to the Administrator and Acting Director for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund program. Wise previously served as Special Assistant to President Biden for Climate Policy and Finance in the White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy. More information on GGRF can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Issues Guidance to States on PFAS. EPA issued a memo to states regarding the monitoring of PFAS discharges in water systems. The guidance will prompt states to align wastewater and stormwater permits issued through the National Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System. Under the memo, EPA is recommending that states use EPA's most current sampling and analysis methods to monitor for PFAS. The memo will also help EPA obtain comprehensive information through monitoring on the sources and quantities of PFAS discharges. The memo can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Updates New Chemical Review Program Webpage. EPA announced a redesign and updates to the statistics webpage for the New Chemicals Review Program. The update includes additional information and metrics on the Agency's review of new chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), increasing transparency for the public, the regulated community, and other stakeholders. The new information and features will help users understand EPA's new chemicals review process, throughput, and trends. The webpage can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Publishes Updated Emissions Rule for Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles. EPA published a Final Rule on emissions standards for heavy-duty engines and vehicles to further reduce ozone and particulate matter emissions. By 2045, the new rule is expected to cut emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) from the heavy-duty vehicle sector by about 48 percent. The new standards are scheduled to take effect for model year 2027 vehicles. The Final Rule can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Proposes Rule on Reporting of PFAS Data to the Toxics Release Inventory. EPA has released a proposed rule to require industrial facilities to report PFAS releases at lower thresholds and concentrations that would improve reporting to the Toxics Release Inventory. Additionally, the proposed rule would eliminate an exemption allowing facilities to avoid reporting information on PFAS when those chemicals are used in small or de minimis concentrations. Public comments are due February 3rd, and more information can be found [HERE](#).

EPA to Host Water Recycling Webinar. EPA has announced that it will be holding a webinar entitled "Water Recycling in Israel: US lessons from Israel's Water Reuse Approach." The webinar will be held on January 18th at 2:00 pm EST and registration for the webinar can be found [HERE](#).

##

INFORMATION
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2B



December 27, 2022

To: Inland Empire Utilities Agency

From: Michael Boccadoro
Beth Olhasso
Maddie Munson

RE: December Report

Overview:

Water managers throughout California are breathing a little easier after back to back storms brought heavy, wet, cold snow to the Sierras. The statewide snowpack is at 145 percent of average for this time of year and 45 percent of April 1 averages. In a positive shift from last year, the Sierra's have remained cold, keeping the snow from melting and soaking into the parched earth or into streams and rivers. Because the snow is staying frozen there has not been significant increase in reservoir levels. Key reservoirs are hovering around 50 percent of average. Mother nature needs to do some more work to help make up for the deficits the last few years.

Disputes between environmental justice advocates and regulators in the Delta continue with a coalition of tribes and environmental justice advocates filing a civil rights complaint against the State Water Resources Control Board, charging it with discriminatory water management practices that have led to the ecological decline of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

After more than a year of workshops, modeling, and public input the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted its [Final 2022 Scoping Plan for Achieving Carbon Neutrality](#). The Scoping Plan is essentially the state's master planning document for climate change, required by Assembly Bill 32, which is updated every five years.

The Legislature returned to Sacramento in early December to "organize" ahead of the 2023-24 Legislative Session. Both Speaker Rendon and Pro Tem Atkins retain their leadership posts. However, with both hitting their term limits in 2024, both will transition away from leadership at some point in the session.

Speaker Rendon recently announced committee chair assignments for the Assembly. Highlights include Asm. Chis Holden (D-Pasadena) remains Appropriations Chair, Asm. Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) as Budget Chair with Steve Bennett (D-Santa Barbara) takes over as Budget Sub Committee on Resources and Transportation, Rebecca Bauer Kahan (D-Orinda) remains chair of Water, Parks and Wildlife, Luz Rivas (D-Arleta) remains chair of Natural Resources and Alex Lee (D-San Jose) takes over as chair of Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee.

Members have been introducing bills for the last several weeks, a small preview of the several thousand bills we will see before the February 15 bill introduction deadline.

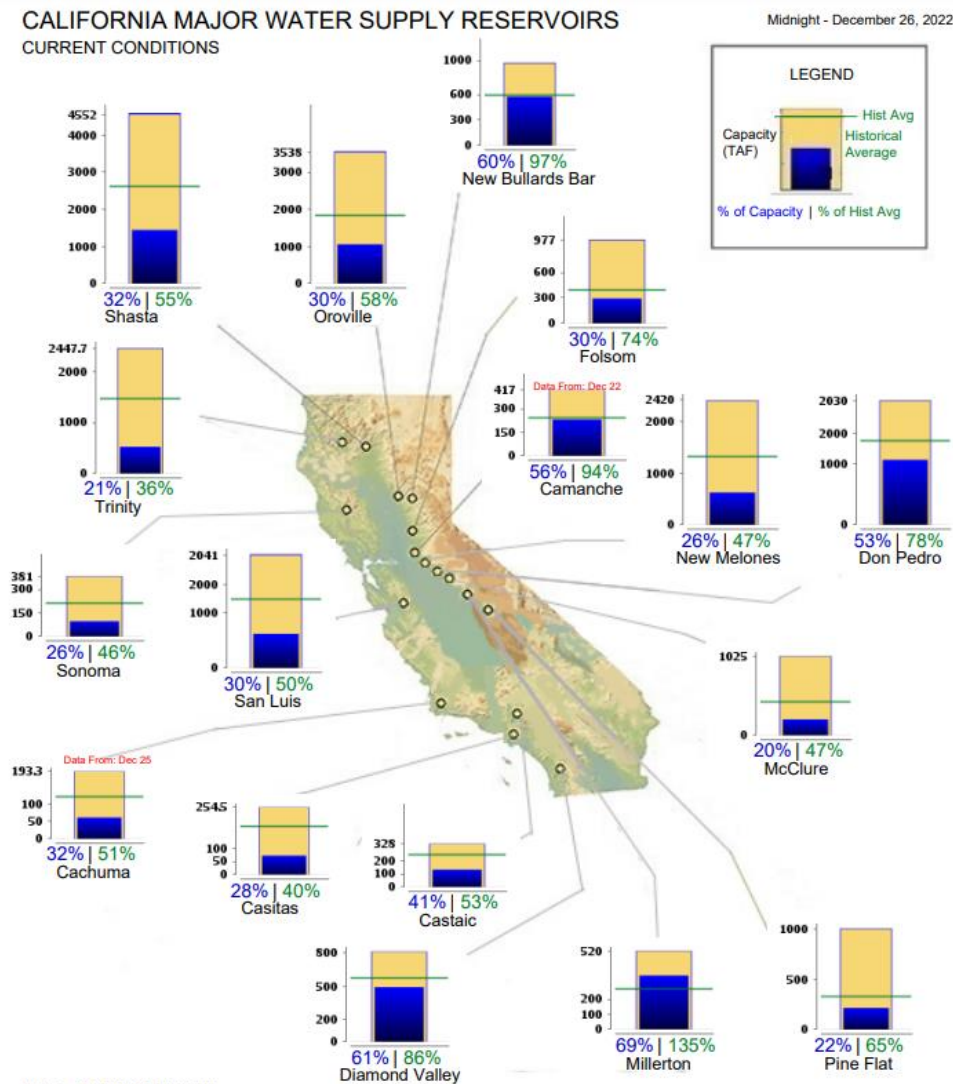
All eyes are on the Governor's January 10 budget release. With a projected \$25 billion deficit for FY 23-24, what cuts he proposes are the opening bell for budget negotiations.

Inland Empire Utilities Agency Status Report – December 2022

Water Supply Conditions

The first several weeks of December have made up for a relatively dry fall with significant precipitation throughout California. Storms have brought heavy, wet snow forms the frozen base layer of snowpacks. Cold weather has also prevented the early melt we saw last year. The statewide snowpack is sitting at 145 percent of average for this time of year and 45 of April 1 averages.

With the snow staying in the mountains, reservoirs haven't seen significant increases. Lake Oroville is sitting at 58 percent of historical average and 30 percent capacity. San Luis Reservoir, the main south-of-Delta storage facility for the State Water Project, is at just 50 percent of average for this time of the year and 30 percent capacity.

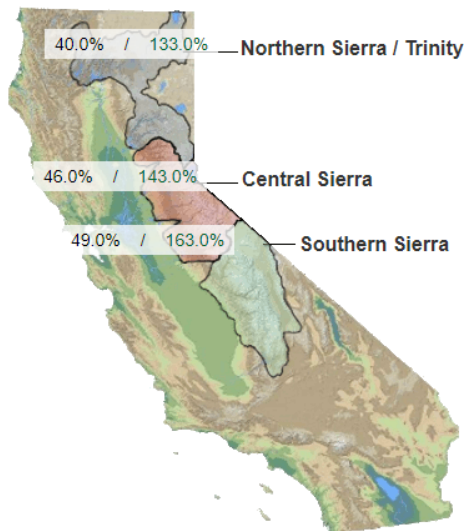


Snow Water Equivalents (inches)

Provided by the California Cooperative Snow Surveys

Data For: 27-Dec-2022

% Apr 1 Avg. / % Normal for this Date



Change Date :

NORTH	
Data For: 27-Dec-2022	
Number of Stations Reporting	32
Average snow water equivalent	11.1"
Percent of April 1 Average	40%
Percent of normal for this date	133%

CENTRAL	
Data For: 27-Dec-2022	
Number of Stations Reporting	54
Average snow water equivalent	12.8"
Percent of April 1 Average	46%
Percent of normal for this date	143%

SOUTH	
Data For: 27-Dec-2022	
Number of Stations Reporting	34
Average snow water equivalent	11.1"
Percent of April 1 Average	49%
Percent of normal for this date	163%

STATEWIDE SUMMARY	
Data For: 27-Dec-2022	
Number of Stations Reporting	120
Average snow water equivalent	11.9"
Percent of April 1 Average	45%
Percent of normal for this date	145%

State Water Resources Control Board Sued Over Lack of Action in Delta

A coalition of California tribes and environmental justice groups filed a civil rights complaint recently against the State Water Resources Control Board, charging it with discriminatory water management practices that it says have led to the ecological decline of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

They are calling for US EPA oversight of the State Board, including an investigation into its alleged failure to review and update water quality standards in compliance with the Clean Water Act.

The Title VI civil rights complaint comes about seven months after the same coalition petitioned the board to review and update its water quality plan for the delta and San Francisco Bay — a petition the groups said went largely ignored. They charged the board with giving preferential treatment to large agricultural interests and said the Delta's deterioration can be linked to the state's historical legacy of racism and oppression of Native people.

The complaint says the state water board could restore the estuary by releasing more water from the surrounding mountains into the area, but instead it "prevents more than half of that water from reaching the San Francisco Bay every year."

The coalition submitted its initial 169-page petition to the State Board in May, and demanded that the agency review and update the water quality plan for the delta, among other requests. In June, the state water board responded with a denial of the petition, stating that work to update the Bay-Delta Plan was already underway and was a high priority.

CARB Adopts 2022 Scoping Plan Update

After more than a year of workshops, modeling, and public input the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted its [Final 2022 Scoping Plan for Achieving Carbon Neutrality](#). The Scoping Plan is essentially the state's master planning document for climate change, required by Assembly Bill 32, must be updated every five years.

The Final Scoping Plan is an ambitious road map for California that incorporates directives from Governor Newsom and recently enacted legislation, including AB 1279 which requires the state to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. In addition, the plan sets out strategies to reduce anthropogenic GHG emissions by 85% below 1990 levels. Other high-level goals and strategies in the plan include:

- Supplying 90% of all retail electricity needs with renewable and zero-carbon resources by 2035, and 95% by 2040, and 100% by 2045 (as required by SB 1020, Laird 2022).
- Creation of the Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program, and a state permitting and approval process for carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) and carbon dioxide removal (CDR) projects by January 1, 2025 (as required by SB 905, Caballero 2022).
- Utilize CCUS and CDR to reduce GHG emissions by 20 million metric tons (MMT) in 2030, and 100 MMT in 2045.
- Evaluate the role of hydrogen production and use particularly in hard to electrify sectors (as required by SB 1075, Skinner 2022).
- Encourage development of 20 GW of offshore wind energy by 2045
- 20% clean aviation fuel demand met by electricity or hydrogen by 2045
- 3 million all-electric or electric-ready homes by 2030, and 7 million by 2035; 6 million heat pumps by 2030
- 100% ZEV sales for light duty vehicles by 2035; medium-heavy duty vehicles by 2040
- Reduce vehicle miles traveled by 25% below 2019 levels by 2030 and 30% by 2045

CARB staff will now begin work on implementing the plan through rulemakings that CARB already has the authority for, in addition to coordination with sister agencies who also have jurisdiction over issues addressed in the plan. The legislature will no doubt take queues from the plan, by either amending or expanding CARB's authority to carry out these ambitious plans.

Legislative Update

While some races were still being tallied, members of the Assembly descended on Sacramento briefly to "organize" and elect leadership. After hours of negotiations, Speaker Rendon emerged still clinching the Assembly Speaker gavel, but announced he will be transitioning the post to Asm. Robert Rivas (D-Salinas) in July. Senator Toni Atkins was easily re-elected as Senate President Pro Tempore.

January will begin the 2023-24 legislative session in earnest, with members having about six weeks to introduce bills in this first year of the two-year session. Members have been able to introduce bills for the last several weeks, however no significant water legislation has been submitted to date.

Speaker Rendon recently announced his committee leadership. The following are key water and energy chairs and any IEUA delegation members with leadership posts:

- Appropriations- Asm. Chris Holden (D-Pasadena)
- Budget- Asm. Phil Ting (D-San Francisco)
 - Sub Com. on Resources and Trans. Asm. Steve Bennett (D-Santa Barbara) **NEW Chair**
- Water, Parks and Wildlife- Asm. Rebecca Bauer Kahan (D-Orinda)
- Natural Resources- Asm. Luz Rivas (D- Arleta)
- Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials- Alex Lee (D- San Jose) **NEW Chair**

- Utilities and Energy- Eduardo Garcia (D- Coachella)
- Banking and Finance & Legislative Ethics- Vice Chair- Phil Chen (R-Chino Hills)
- Emergency Management- Freddie Rodriguez (D-Chino)

Pro Tem Atkins has not announced any changes to Senate Committee Chairs yet.

While many thought he would wait until January, Governor Newsom recently called for a Special Session to convene on December 5 to address the state's high gas prices and his proposal to tax oil and gas companies for their windfall profits. A Special Session can run concurrently with a normal session if business still extends into the new year.

On the budget front, the Assembly Budget Committee released its "[Blueprint](#)" for the 2023-24 session. It makes assumptions congruent with projections from the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office—there will be significantly less money in the state coffers this year than there have been in the past several budget cycles. The deficit is projected to be \$24 billion in 2023-24. While the state does have over \$37 billion in rainy day reserves, the increased General Fund spending of the last several years is not expected this year. The Governor will present his budget proposal on January 10.

INFORMATION
ITEM
2C

Date: January 18, 2023

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

SD
From: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Committee: Community & Legislative Affairs

01/11/23

Staff Contact: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Subject: Public Outreach and Communication

Executive Summary:

Filming was completed for the documentary series, “Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid,” on December 20. The documentary will focus on water supply challenges in California and IEUA’s mission of providing a high quality, reliable water source to the region by securing and increasing local supplies through investments in infrastructure projects, conservation, and education. The documentary is expected to air sometime in April.

Staff attended the Metropolitan Water District’s Water is Life Poster Contest virtual awards ceremony. Two students from IEUA’s service area, Ava Salisbury from Magnolia Elementary School in Upland and Veronica Graupner from Colony High School in Ontario, were announced as winners and were recognized on IEUA’s social media channels.

Staff released another reel in the Day in the Life video series. The feature followed External Affairs Interns Abigail Vara and Laura Rodriguez through a day in the of the Education Program and featured an inside look at a Water Discovery Field Trip. The video received over 700 views across all platforms within the first 24 hours of posting.

Staff's Recommendation:

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

Budget Impact *Budgeted (Y/N): Y Amendment (Y/N): Y Amount for Requested Approval:*

Account/Project Name:

Fiscal Impact (explain if not budgeted):

Prior Board Action:

N/A

Environmental Determination:

Not Applicable

Business Goal:

IEUA is committed to providing a reliable and cost-effective water supply and promoting sustainable water use throughout the region.

IEUA is committed to enhancing and promoting environmental sustainability and the preservation of the region's heritage.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Background

Background

Subject: Public Outreach and Communication

January

- January 24, International Day of Education

Media and Outreach

General

- IEUA recognized World Soil Day with a social media highlight on the Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility and the benefits of compost to cultivating healthy soil.
- Staff continues to work with the Chino Basin Program team leads, partners, and Arellano Associates to develop an outreach strategy for additional program communication, including developing a communication workgroup, identifying collaboration and partnership opportunities on shared media, and more.
- Staff shared timely water-wise reminders for the holiday season on social media and on the Agency's Water Education blog.
- Staff released another reel in the Day in the Life video series. The feature followed External Affairs Interns Abigail Vara and Laura Rodriguez through a day in the life of the Education Program and featured an inside look at a Water Discovery Field Trip. The video received over 700 views across all platforms within the first 24 hours of posting.
- Staff filmed with the production company representing the documentary series, "Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid," on December 20. The final documentary will focus on the water supply challenges in California and IEUA's mission of providing a high quality, reliable water source to the region by securing and increasing local supplies through investments in infrastructure projects, conservation, and education. Staff interviewed included Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager; Lucia Diaz, Manager of Facilities & Water Systems, and Scott Lening, Manager of Operations. Additionally, Adel Hagekhalil, General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, was interviewed as an IEUA partner. The documentary is expected to air sometime in April.

Drought Awareness Efforts

- Staff is coordinating with Customer Agencies on messaging geared towards conservation and the irrigation of trees.
- Staff is continuing to work closely with the Water-Use Efficiency team on promoting the turf replacement program.
- Staff will continue to work with Customer Agencies on drought messaging and outreach. Staff is drafting message points and creative for outreach and will be adding these assets to the drought communication toolkit for customer agencies.
- Staff continues to promote the "Time is Now" message through timely facts, video shorts, and water-saving tips shared to the Agency's social media channels.

Advertising/Marketing

- A “Time is Now” ad ran on December 24 in the Chino Champion.
- A “Time is Now” ad ran in the January issue of Inland Empire Magazine.

Social Outreach and Analytics

- The Agency continues to publish content on LinkedIn and has gained 43 followers since November, with 428 page views in the last 30 days.
- December: 20 posts were published to the IEUA Facebook page, 20 tweets were sent on the @IEUAWater Twitter handle, 20 posts were published to IEUA’s Instagram grid, and 8 posts were published to the IEUA LinkedIn page.
 - The top three Facebook posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of December were:
 - 12/13 Intern (Facilities) Hiring
 - 12/6 Facilities Technician I-Sr. (DOQ) Hiring
 - 12/5 World Soil Day
 - The top three Twitter tweets, based on reach and engagement, in the month of December were:
 - 12/7 MWD Water is Life Poster Contest Virtual Award Ceremony Winners
 - 12/13 IEUA/City of Chino Earth Day Highlight
 - 12/12 Time is Now
 - The top three Instagram posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of December were:
 - 12/19 External Affairs Intern Day in the Life
 - 12/7 MWD Water is Life Poster Contest Virtual Award Ceremony Winners
 - 12/5 World Soil Day
 - The top three LinkedIn posts, based on impressions and reactions, in the month of December were:
 - 12/6 Chino Basin Watermaster Board Workshop Attendance
 - 12/15 Acting Director of Operations & Maintenance Jeff Ziegenbein Re-elected as Treasurer to US Composting Council's Board of Directors
 - 12/15 Operations and Maintenance Training Coordinator Victor Rodriguez and Human Resources Specialist Daniel Zerda Presentation at the San Bernardino County Superintendent of School’s Regional Educational Leadership Academy
- For the month of December, there were 6,346 searches for a park in IEUA’s service area on Yelp and the Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park was viewed 727 times.

Education and Outreach Updates

- Staff has begun scheduling and facilitating in-person and virtual K-12 field trips for Fall.
- Staff has developed an educational program outreach plan and is beginning the process of scheduling another road show for school districts to learn about Agency programs.
- Staff is continuing to work on closing out the last year of the Garden in Every School® program.
 - Randall Pepper Elementary in Fontana is finishing up the final electrical work in preparation for construction to begin on their garden. Chino Basin Water Conservation District (CBWCD) will be completing the construction.

- Our Loving Savior's gardens construction is completed. The school has confirmed that the bunny fencing will be completed during the holiday break. Planting and the dedication can be scheduled at the beginning of the year.
- Staff is working with teachers on finalizing approximately nine mini grant approvals. Schools have submitted their receipts and reimbursements are being processed.
- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) has selected its winners for the 2023 Water is Life student art calendar. The Water is Life Student Art Poster Contest Recognition Event was held virtually on December 7, 2022, from 4 PM - 5 PM.
 - Two students from IEUA's service area, Ava Salisbury from Magnolia Elementary School in Upland and Veronica Graupner from Colony High School in Ontario were recognized for their winning poster submissions.

Agency-Wide Membership Updates

- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the Santa Ana River Dischargers Association (SARDA) Meeting on November 1.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner and Sarah Recinto, Associate Engineer, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Air Quality, Climate Change & Energy (ACE) Workgroup Meeting on November 15.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Air Toxics Subgroup Meeting on November 16.
- Pietro Cambiaso, Acting Director of Planning & Resources and Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Regulatory Workgroup (RWG) Biosolids Meeting on November 17.
- Pietro Cambiaso, Acting Director of Planning & Resources, Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner and Sarah Recinto, Associate Engineer, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Regulatory Workgroup (RWG) Water Meeting on November 17.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP) Air Quality Committee Meeting on November 29.