



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

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 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. 2023-1-2, ADOPTED BY THE IEUA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON JANUARY 18, 2023, 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.

*A Municipal Water District

1. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. **MINUTES**

Approve Minutes of the January 11, 2023 Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting.

B. **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, JANUARY 11, 2023

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
Kristine Day, Assistant General Manager
Jerry Burke, Director of Engineering
Denise Garzaro, Board Secretary/Office Manager
Brandon Gonzalez Contreras, Technology Specialist I
Michael Larios, Technology Specialist I
Randy Lee, Acting Director of Finance
Lisa Mejri, Intern
Alyson Piguet, 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
Robert Delgado, Manager of Maintenance
Lisa Dye, Director of Human Resources
Don Hamlett, Director of Information Technology
Michael Hurley, Director of Planning & Resources
Jennifer Hy-Luk, Executive Assistant
Joshua Oelrich, Deputy Manager of Maintenance
Cathleen Pieroni, Senior Policy Advisor
Yvonne Taylor, Administrative Assistant II
Ashley Womack, Grants and Government Affairs Officer
Jeff Ziegenbein, Acting Director Operations & Maintenance

OTHERS PRESENT via Video/Teleconference

Michael Boccadoro, West Coast Advisors
Channon Hanna, Carpi and Clay
Laura Morgan-Kessler, Carpi and Clay
Beth Olhasso, West Coast Advisors

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Steven J. Elie called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. There were no public comments received or additions to the agenda.

1A – 1C. ACTION ITEMS

The Committee:

- ◆ Approved Minutes of the November 9, 2022 Community and Legislative Affairs Committee meeting.
- ◆ Recommended that the Board adopt Resolution No. 2023-1-1, authorizing the Agency-wide organizational memberships and affiliations for Fiscal Year 2023/24; and authorize the General Manager to approve all Agency-wide membership fees that are \$10,000 or less; as a Consent Calendar item on the January 18, 2023 Board meeting agenda.
- ◆ Recommended that the 2023 – 2024 Legislative and Policy Principles be brought to the Board for review in February.

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 reiterated that staff will bring the Legislative Policy Principles back to Committee in February and will work on providing updates on Agency memberships.

General Manager Deshmukh stated that yesterday's storm was the second of five storms projected through mid/late January. Storms have resulted in Northern California precipitation levels of over 140% of average to date and snow/water content levels of over 180%. Reservoir levels are recovering quickly, but both Lake Oroville and San Luis Reservoir, which are key storage reservoirs in the State Water Project (SWP) system are still below normal levels at 88% and 62% of average for this date, respectively. While it is unquestionably an encouraging start to the year, there is still a great deal of uncertainty remaining. General Manager Deshmukh stated that staff does not expect any change to the SWP allocation until February and improving SWP supply conditions will not be utilized for the exclusive benefit of SWP Dependent Areas. Less than 40% SWP Allocation will require payback of some or all 2022 Human, Health and Safety supplies. Also, operational challenges (e.g., treatment plant minimums) and declining CRA flows will result in pressure to return to more typical operations with higher blended supplies. Staff is still expecting some type of shortage allocation from Metropolitan in 2023.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Committee member comments.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER REQUESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Committee member Camacho requested staff to coordinate with his MWD schedule prior to finalizing a date for state and federal trips.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Committee Chair Elie adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Garzaro
Board Secretary/Office Manager

*A Municipal Water District

APPROVED: FEBRUARY 8, 2023

DRAFT

**ACTION
ITEM
1B**



Date: February 15, 2023

ADD

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

From: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Committee: Community & Legislative Affairs

02/08/23

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 935,000 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, as the lead coordinating with all sectors within the Agency, 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 Responsive and Responsible 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, recovery, 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, storage, and recovery 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's Region, 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 concern 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 of 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 Responsive and Responsible Finance, Administration, and Operations

Policy Goal

Preserve ethical and transparent principles that maintain and support responsive 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 (including, but not limited to, CEQA and NEPA); 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, recycled water, 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

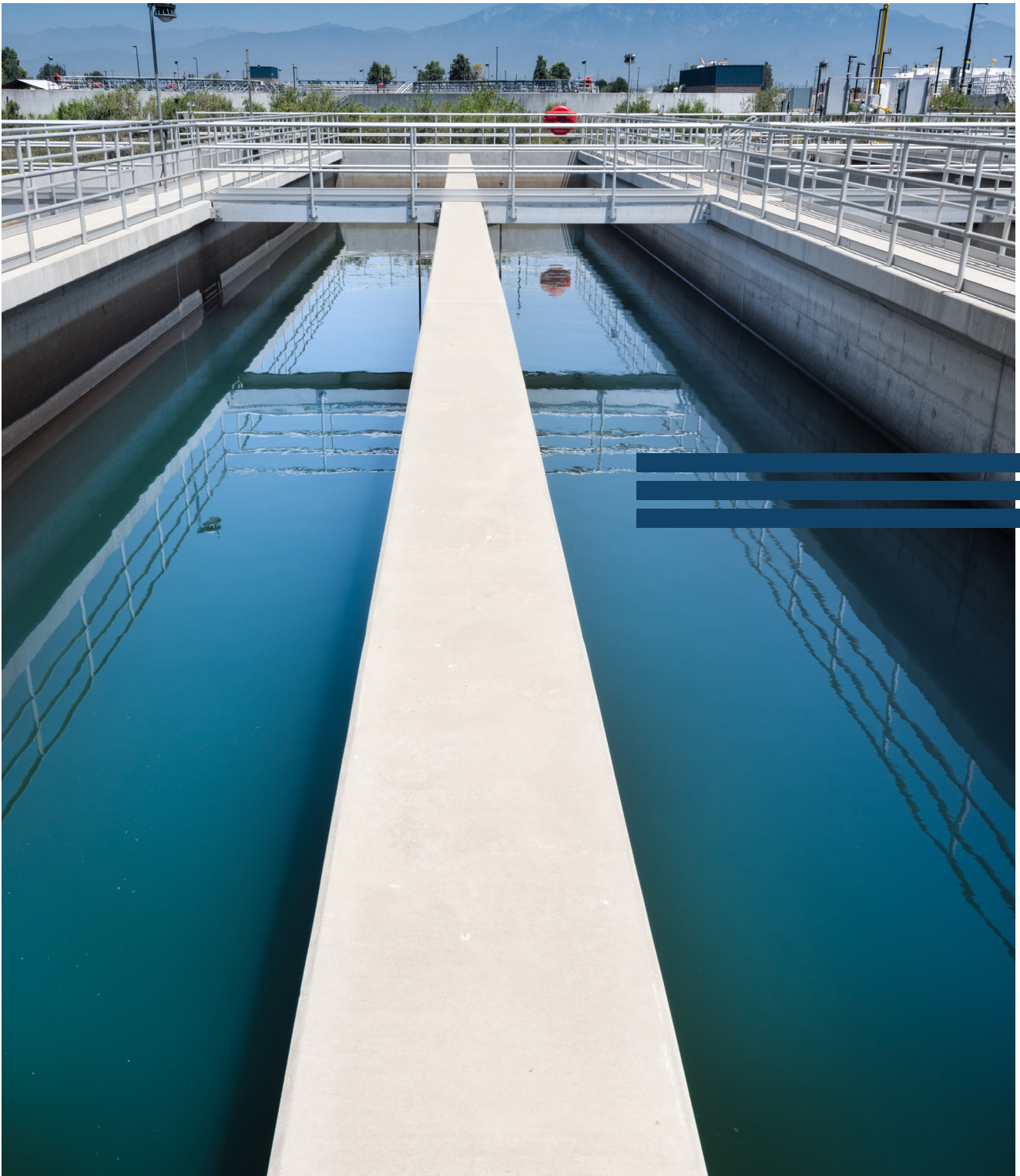
1. Support customer agency and regional legislative positions that align with IEUA's legislative priorities and policy principles.
2. Support measures that encourage decision-making at the local level.
3. Oppose efforts to impose a public goods charge or other burdensome fees.

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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@IEUAwater

INFORMATION
ITEM
2A

Inland Empire Utilities Agency, a Municipal Water District Federal Update

January 27, 2023

118th Congress Begins; McCarthy Elected Speaker of the House

On January 3rd, Congress officially began the 118th Congress. Senators were sworn in and immediately adjourned for a two-week recess. In the House of Representatives, the swearing in of Members was delayed for a few days as the first action the House needed to take was to elect a new Speaker. After five days and fifteen votes, Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) was elected to be the new Speaker of the House.

House Committee Leaders for 118th Congress

The House of Representatives has spent the last few weeks going through organizational activities, which include selected new Chairs and Ranking Members of Committees. Below is a chart outlining the Chairs and Ranking Members for each Committee for the 118th Congress:

Committee	Chair	Ranking Member
Agriculture	Rep. Glen Thompson (R-PA)	Rep. David Scott (D-GA)
Appropriations	Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX)	Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Armed Services	Rep. Mike Rogers (R-AL)	Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA)
Budget	Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-MO)	Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-PA)
Education & Workforce	Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC)	Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA)
Energy & Commerce	Rep. Cathy McMorris Rogers (R-WA)	Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)
Ethics	Rep. Michael Guest (R-MS)	Rep. Susan Wild (D-PA)
Financial Services	Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC)	Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA)
Foreign Affairs	Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)	Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-NY)
Homeland Security	Rep. Mark Green (R-TN)	Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-MS)
Administration	Rep. Bryan Steil (R-WI)	Rep. Joe Morelle (D-NY)
Judiciary	Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH)	Rep. Jerry Nadler (D-NY)
Natural Resources	Rep. Bruce Westerman (R-AR)	Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)
Oversight & Reform	Rep. Jim Comer (R-KY)	Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-MD)
Rules	Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)	Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA)
Science, Space, & Technology	Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK)	Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)
Small Business	Rep. Roger Williams (R-TX)	Rep. Nydia Valazquez (D-NY)
Transportation & Infrastructure	Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO)	Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA)
Veterans' Affairs	Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL)	Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA)
Ways & Means	Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO)	Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA)

House Appropriations Subcommittee Chairs for 118th Congress

House Appropriations Committee Chair Kay Granger (R-TX) announced the following House Appropriations Subcommittee Chairs for the 118th Congress:

Subcommittee	Chair
Agriculture	Rep. Andy Harris (R-MD)
Commerce, Justice, and Science	Rep. Hal Rogers (R-KY)
Defense	Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA)
Energy & Water	Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)
Financial Services and General Government	Rep. Steve Womack (R-AR)
Homeland Security	Rep. David Joyce (R-OH)
Interior and Environment	Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID)
Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education	Rep. Robert Aderholt (R-AL)
Legislative Branch	Rep. Mark Amodei (R-NV)
Military Construction and Veterans' Administration	Rep. John Carter (R-TX)
State and Foreign Operations	Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development	Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)

Capitol Complex Open to the Public

The House and Senate office buildings are fully reopened to the public and Congressional staff are no longer required to escort guests to meetings.

President Biden to Deliver State of the Union on February 7th

During the first three months of the new year, the Speaker of the House invites the President to Congress to provide a State of the Union speech. Speaker Kevin McCarthy has formally invited President Biden to give the State of the Union address to a joint session of Congress on Tuesday, February 7th at 9:00 pm ET.

Congressional and Federal Action Related to California Storms

Federal Disaster Declaration Declared Due to California Storms. On January 14th, President Biden signed the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) major disaster declaration for California in the wake of devastating storms over the past month. Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster. Federal funding for the approved cost-share programs will be made available at 100 percent of the total eligible costs for debris removal and emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance under the Public Assistance program, for 60 days from the start of the incident period. More information on the federal response to storm damage in California can be found [HERE](#).

IRS Announces 30 Day Extension for Federal Filings for Impacted Counties. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced that California storm victims now have until May 15, 2023, to file various federal individual and business tax returns and make tax payments. The IRS is offering relief to any area designated by FEMA. This means that individuals and households that reside or have a business in Alameda, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado,

Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Kings, Lake, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Mono, Monterey, Napa, Orange, Placer, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Ventura, Yolo and Yuba counties qualify for tax relief. More information can be found [HERE](#).

California Republicans Request Waiver to Pumping Restriction and Prioritization of Water Storage. Rep. David Valadao (R-CA) led a group of California Republicans in a letter to President Biden and California Governor Gavin Newsom urging them to waive impediments to Delta pump operations to ensure the current storm flows in California are utilized. The lawmakers also urged President Biden and Governor Newsom to prioritize and expedite water storage projects to help the state better prepare for future storm events. The letter can be found [HERE](#).

Rep. Costa Urges Maximum Pumping and Conservation of Surface Water. Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA) sent a letter to Governor Newsom, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, and California Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency Wade Crowfoot to advocate for the maximum conservation of available surface water in the wake of recent storms, including pumping at the southern Delta Central Valley Project and State Water Project pumping plants. The letter can be found [HERE](#).

California Members Call for Public Hearings on Delta Tunnel Report

California Democratic Representatives Josh Harder, Mike Thompson, Mark DeSaulnier, and John Garamendi sent a letter to Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Lieutenant General Scott Spellman calling for a reversal of the decision not to hold public hearings on the proposed Delta Tunnel project and extend the public comment period by an additional 60 days. The current Environmental Impact Statement for the project is open for public comment until February 14th. The letter can be found [HERE](#).

President Biden FY24 Budget Proposal Delayed

The President's annual budget proposal is supposed to be due to Congress on the first Monday in February; however, this is a deadline that is regularly missed. At the end of January, the Office of Management provided guidance to the federal agencies regarding the upcoming release of the President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget. Typically, there is about a six-week period between when OMB provides this guidance to the agencies and when the official budget document is released, setting up a potential timetable for the FY24 budget proposal to be out in mid-to-late March.

Treasury Outlines "Extraordinary Measures" to Prevent Debt Default

Department of Treasury (Treasury) Secretary Janet Yellen announced the implementation of "extraordinary measures" to extend the time when the United States from exceeding the current debt ceiling. Congress must raise the debt ceiling to prevent the United States from defaulting on debt payments. Secretary Yellen sent a letter to Congressional leadership

outlining steps Treasury will take to push the potential for default to June and urging action to “protect the full faith and credit of the United States.” The letter can be found [HERE](#).

Final WOTUS Rule Officially Released

At the end of December, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers announced the pre-publication notice for the Waters of the United States (WOTUS) final rule. The WOTUS rule defines the scope of federal jurisdiction over waters and wetlands under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act. On January 18th, the rule was officially published in the Federal Register. This action means that the rule now has an effective date of March 20th. A link to the Federal Register posting can be found [HERE](#).

Federal Funding Opportunities/Announcements

DOE Announces \$50 Million Clean Energy to Communities Program. The Department of Energy (DOE) announced the availability of \$50 million in grant funding for its new Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) Program. C2C will connect local governments, electric utilities, community-based groups, and others with the innovative modeling and testing tools developed at DOE’s national laboratories to further expand clean energy goals and programs at the local level. The application is expected to open in mid-February, and more information can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Announces Availability of \$100 Million in IRA EJ Grants. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the availability of \$100 million in environmental justice (EJ) grants through two programs:

- **Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement Program.** This program will provide an estimated \$30 million in funding directly to community-based nonprofit organizations and their partners, with \$5 million reserved for small community-based nonprofit organizations with five or fewer full-time employees. EPA anticipates funding 50 awards of \$500,000 and 30 awards of \$150,000. More information on the program can be found [HERE](#).
- **Environmental Justice Government-to-Government (EJG2G) Program.** This program will provide \$70 million in funding. \$20 million of the total funding for this program will be for local government. EPA anticipates funding 70 projects of up to \$1 million each for a 3-year project. More information on the program can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Announces Availability of \$50 Million in BIL Funding for Carbon Sequestration and Groundwater Protection. EPA announced the availability of \$50 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grant funding to help states, tribes, and territories develop and implement Underground Injection Control Class VI programs. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, Class VI programs ensure that groundwater resources are protected while supporting geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Letters of Intent for the program are due by March 20th and more information can be found [HERE](#).

Reclamation Announces \$7 Million in BIL Funding for WaterSMART Program. The Bureau of Reclamation awarded \$7 million in BIL funding to 82 small-scale water efficiency projects. These grants will support local community projects, including measuring water flow, automating water delivery, or lining canals. A list of awards can be found [HERE](#).

Reclamation Announces \$80 Million in BIL Funding for Environmental Water Resources Program. The Bureau of Reclamation announced the availability of \$80 million for the Environmental Water Resources Program for projects that address water conservation, water management and restoration projects that will result in significant benefits to ecosystem or watershed health. Funding is available for up to \$3 million per project and applicants must complete the project within three years. The total project cost is capped at \$6 million, and the projects must be part of a collaborative process to increase water resource reliability. Applications are due March by 23rd and more information can be found [HERE](#).

Federal Agency Personnel/Regulatory Announcements

White House Releases Unified Regulatory Agenda. The White House released the latest Unified Regulatory Agenda that outlines regulatory actions federal agencies are considering in the next six months. The Unified Regulatory Agenda which is released twice a year and can be found [HERE](#).

White House Announces New Deputy National Climate Advisor. The White House announced that Mary Frances Repko will serve as Deputy National Climate Advisor and Deputy Assistant to the President. Repko previously served as Majority Staff Director of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

White House Releases Strategy to Develop Statistics for Environmental-Economic Decisions. The White House released a 15-year strategy titled the “National Strategy to Develop Statistics for Environmental-Economic Decisions.” The plan will assess the value of natural assets like air and water alongside economic statistics like gross domestic product. The strategy document can be found [HERE](#).

White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy Announces New Hires. The White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy announced that Hannah Safford will serve as Senior Policy Advisor, and Heather Clark will serve as the Director of Building Emissions. Prior to joining the White House, Safford served as associate director for science policy at the Federation of American Scientists, and Clark was previously a manager in RMI’s carbon-free buildings program.

CEQ Announces New Director for Drought and Western Resilience. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) announced that Kristen Averyt will serve as the new Director for Drought and Western Resilience. Previously, Averyt served as Senior Climate Advisor for the State of Nevada.

CEQ Publishes Guidance on GHG Consideration and Climate Change. CEQ has published interim guidance to assist agencies in analyzing greenhouse gas and climate change effects

of their proposed actions under the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are due by March 10th and more information can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Announces Next TSCA Test Order for PFAS. EPA issued the next Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) test order requiring testing on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) under EPA's the [National PFAS Testing Strategy](#). The test is part of EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap to confront contamination from PFAS chemicals. More information can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Releases New PFAS Analytic Tool. EPA released a new interactive PFAS Analytic Tool that provides information about PFAS across the country. The PFAS Analytic Tools bring together multiple sources of information in one spot with mapping, charting, and filtering functions, allowing the public to see where testing has been done and what level of detections were measured. The webpage can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Announces New Senior Advisor for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility. EPA announced that Christopher Carr will serve as the agency's first Senior Advisor for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility. Carr was most recently the Chief Diversity Officer at the College of Engineering and Computing at George Mason University.

EPA Announces Appointments to LGAC. EPA announced that fifteen new members will join seven returning members on the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC). LGAC provides independent policy advice to the EPA Administrator on a broad range of issues affecting local governments. The list of appointees can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Releases Updated Legal Guidance on Cumulative Impacts to Address EJ. EPA released an updated guidance document titled "Cumulative Impacts Addendum to EPA Legal Tools to Advance Environmental Justice (EJ Legal Tools)." The guidance is a collection of legal authorities to identify and address cumulative impacts through a range of actions, including permitting, regulations, and grants to advance EJ priorities. More information can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Proposes Adding EJ, Climate Change, and PFAS to National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives. EPA announced it is seeking public comment on its proposal to address environmental justice, climate change, and PFAS contamination in its National Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives (NECIs). EPA proposes to continue four of the six current national initiatives during the FY 2024-2027 cycle and return two of the current national initiatives to the core enforcement and compliance program. In addition, EPA proposes to address environmental justice concerns in all NECIs, and to add two new NECIs on mitigating climate change and addressing PFAS pollution for the FY 2024-2027 cycle. Comments are due by March 13th and more information can be found [HERE](#).

EPA Announces Plans for Wastewater Regulations and Studies. EPA released Effluent Guidelines Program Plan 15 (Plan 15), which focuses on evaluating the extent and nature of both nutrient and PFAS discharges. Plan 15 announces EPA's determination that revised effluent limitations guidelines and pretreatment standards are warranted for reducing PFAS in leachate discharges from landfills. EPA also announced an expansion of the ongoing study of PFAS discharges by textile manufacturers, a new study of publicly owned treatment works

influent, and a new study on concentrated animal feeding operations. Plan 15 can be found [HERE](#).

USDA Rural Development, EPA, and HUD to Host Housing Solutions in Rural Recreation Communities Webinar. USDA Rural Development, EPA's Office of Community Revitalization, and HUD are hosting a webinar on February 15th at 2:00 pm ET on housing solutions in gateway communities. The webinar will cover USDA and HUD programs for housing projects. Registration can be found [HERE](#).

##

INFORMATION
ITEM
2B



January 27, 2023

To: Inland Empire Utilities Agency

From: Michael Boccadoro
Beth Olhasso

RE: January Report

Overview:

Significant storms the first several weeks of January have dramatically shifted the water supply and drought situation throughout the state. The Sierra snowpack is over 200 percent of average and reservoirs are starting to refill after three years of drought. DWR recently announced that it will increase State Water Project Allocations to 30 percent and hopes to further increase allocations after more snow surveys in February.

The State Water Resources Control Board recently released their draft workplan for 2023. They highlight several priority measures including prioritizing processing new water rights applications, holding necessary hearings and developing public benefit contracts needed to support Water Storage Investment Program projects.

The California Air Resources Board has indicated it intends to delay the Advanced Clean Fleets rules for public agencies and local governments because of significant concern that the needed distribution infrastructure upgrades will not be made in time to support the extra demand on the grid.

Members have been introducing bills at a slow rate for the past several weeks, a small preview of the several thousand bills we will see before the February 17 bill introduction deadline. There is already legislation regarding PFAS, drought monitoring, low income water rate assistance and other topics of interest to IEUA. Policy committee hearings will begin in late February, with significant hearings in March and April ahead of the late April policy committee deadline.

All eyes were on the Governor's January 10 budget release. With a projected \$25 billion deficit for FY 23-24, the Governor has decided not to tap into the over \$30 billion in reserves at this time. The significant spending seen in the past few years has come to a halt, with many previously proposed programs being cut or delayed. Recently the Legislative Analyst's Office indicated that if the economy continues to struggle, the state could see an *additional* \$20-40 billion shortfall. Budget committees will start to meet in the coming weeks and months to discuss individual budget items. The May revise will be especially telling this year following a more informed fiscal situation from the first quarter of 2023.

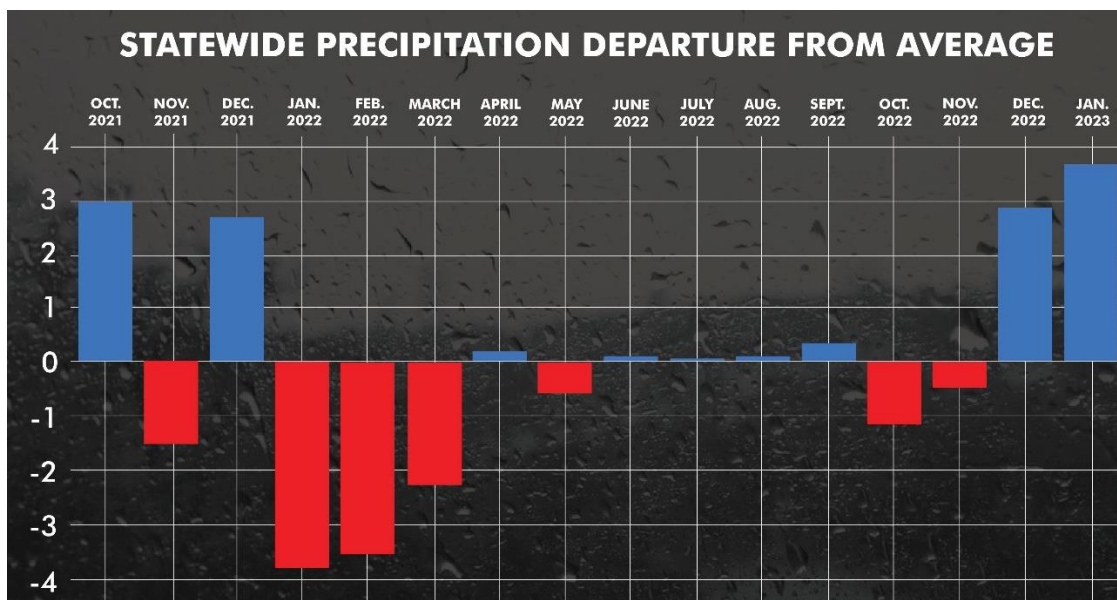
Inland Empire Utilities Agency Status Report – January 2023

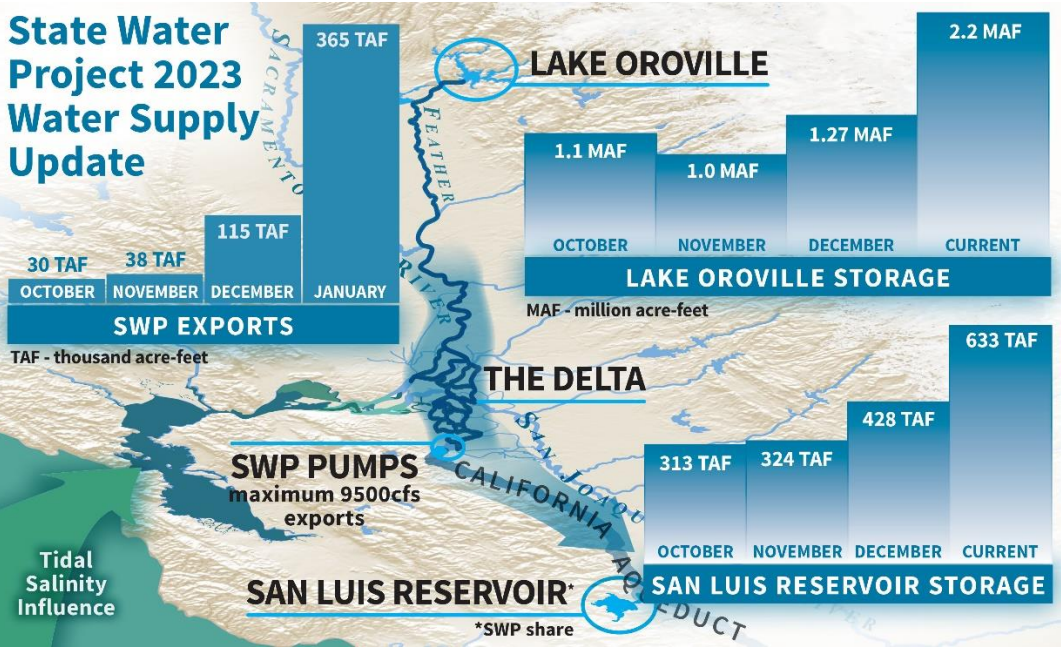
Water Supply Conditions

January storms have drastically improved the water situation statewide. The statewide snowpack is sitting at 214 percent of average for this time of year and 128 percent of April 1 averages. While the mountains are staying cold and holding the snowpack, significant rain has started to make its way into the state's main storage reservoirs. Lake Oroville is sitting at 110 percent of historical average and 63 percent capacity. San Luis Reservoir, the main south-of-Delta storage facility for the State Water Project, is at just 78 percent of average for this time of the year and 57 percent capacity. The two reservoirs combined have gained 1.62 million acre-feet of water in storage.

During the peak of the storms in Northern California, the Delta pumps were operating at minimum capacity to accommodate "first flush," where water is allowed to flow out to the San Francisco Bay, to move sediment and create good habitat for smelt and salmon. Since Jan 25, the pumps have been operating at maximum capacity.

On January 26, the Department of Water Resources announced an increase in State Water Project allocation to 30 percent. The increase is solely based on reservoir levels, not on snowpack. After a manual snow survey that helps determine snow water content and the ariel snow survey that looks at higher elevations and can better predict runoff forecast in late February, DWR expects to further increase the SWP allocation. The last time an allocation was above 30 percent was in 2019, and it was 2006 when State Water Contractors received a 100 percent allocation.

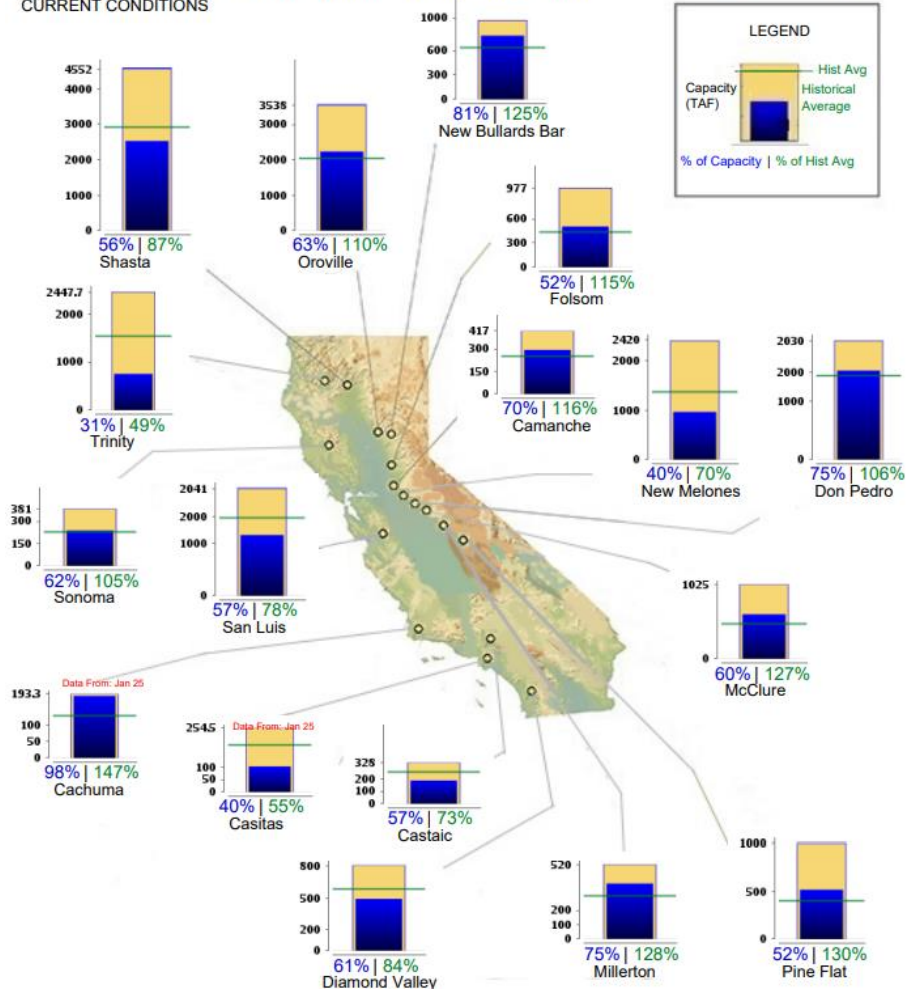




CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Midnight - January 26, 2023



SWRCB Releases Draft Strategic Workplan for 2023

The State Water Resources Control Board recently released their [draft strategic workplan for 2023](#).

This plan outlines four areas they plan to take action on in 2023:

- Protect public health by ensuring reliable access to safe, affordable drinking water and sanitation.
 - Highest priority actions:
 - Chrom 6
- Protect and restore watersheds, marine waters, and ecosystems.
 - Highest priority actions:
 - Clear Lake Hitch
 - Temperature management for fisheries
- Increase statewide water resilience in the face of climate change and other threats by expanding and integrating California's water supply portfolio.
 - Highest priority actions:
 - Implement water rights modernization efforts
 - TUCPs
 - Drinking water drought response program
 - Emergency urban water conservation
 - Direct potable reuse supply
 - Infrastructure funding programs
 - Urban water use efficiency framework
 - **Water Storage Investment Program**
 - Develop new water supplies (desal, recycled water, and stormwater capture)
 - SGMA
 - Process water rights permitting for underground storage
 - Forest health
 - Site specific objectives guidance for copper and zinc
 - Cost of municipal stormwater permit implementation
 - Stormwater: infiltration
 - Bay-Delta Plans
 - Delta Conveyance
- Strengthen internal capacity and systems to accomplish the State Water Board's mission, strategically, transparently, equitably, and efficiently.
 - Highest priority actions:
 - Modernize water rights data
 - Racial equity
 - Fi\$cal
 - DFA process improvements

Advanced Clean Fleets

As previously reported, the CA Air Resources Board's (CARB) Advanced Clean Fleets rule requires state and local governments to purchase 50 percent zero emissions vehicles (ZEVs) as part of truck additions they make between 2024 and 2026, and 100 percent starting in 2027. Because it is becoming increasingly clear that the state's electric utilities are struggling to provide power, distribution infrastructure upgrades and other power supply needs across the state, CARB is proposing to ease the rules for local governments and expects to have a proposal for consideration in the Spring.

Governor Releases January Proposed FY 2023-24 Budget

On January 10, the Governor released his [2023-24 proposed Budget](#). As expected, the Administration is responding to a significant \$22.5 billion shortfall, stemming from significant inflation, and declining personal income tax and capital gains tax revenues. There is minimal new funding for climate programs outside of what was previously appropriated in the last few years and most items in the Climate Change Budget are funding delays or reductions.

The Legislative Analyst Office recently testified at the Senate Budget Committee hearing outlining the Governor's proposed budget, that if the economy continues to decline the deficit increase by an *additional* \$20-40 billion.

In the Governor's press conference talking about the budget, he indicated that he is interested in talking about a potential resources bond. This could be a significant opportunity for water recycling and an increase for water storage funding. Interest in a bond was reiterated by Secretary Crowfoot in a subsequent call. Details of a bond have not yet been discussed.

Over the next several weeks and months, budget sub-commitments will meet to discuss the line items of the budget. After the May Revise, final changes will be made and a budget will be voted on before the June 15 deadline.

Legislative Update

The 2023-24 Legislative session has started in earnest with Legislators back in Sacramento working on their bill packages ahead of the February 17 bill introduction deadline.

Committee assignments for both houses are now out. There is not a strong presence of IEUA delegation members on any water or resources committees again this year. A full roster of committee assignments can be found here for the [Senate](#) and [Assembly](#).

Assembly Committee Chairs

- 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)

Senate Committee Chairs

- Natural Resources & Water- Chair- Dave Min (D-Irvine)- **NEW Chair**
- Energy & Utilities: Chair-Steve Bradford (D-Gardena)-**NEW Chair**
- Environmental Quality: Chair- Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica)
- Budget: Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)
 - Sub Committee on Resources: Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)- **NEW Chair**
- Appropriations: Anthony Portantino (D-La Canada Flintridge)

Legislation

Members have been introducing legislation slowly ahead of the February 17 bill introduction deadline. There are already bills introduced on many topics of interest to IEUA including; PFAS, discontinuation of residential water service, expedited permitting for water supply projects, drought modeling, CEQA, and others. After the bill introduction deadline, a more comprehensive report will be provided.

Policy committees will start to meet and hear bills ahead of the April 28 policy committee deadline.

INFORMATION
ITEM
2C



Date: February 15, 2023

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

From: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Committee: Community & Legislative Affairs

ADD
02/08/23

Staff Contact: Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager

Subject: Public Outreach and Communication

Executive Summary:

Staff attended the Chino Education Technology event to share some of IEUA's free education programs with educators in the Chino Valley Unified School District.

Staff is starting to promote the 2023 Water is Life poster contest. The contest will be a requirement in order for schools to participate this year's Earth Day event. The student field trip day will be held on Wednesday, April 19th.

A community Earth Day event will be held the following day on April 20th.

During the month of February staff plans to promote World Wetlands Day, Engineers Week and Skip the Straw Day throughout our social media channels.

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

February

- February 2, World Wetlands Day
- February 19-25, Engineers Week
- February 20, Presidents' Day
- February 24, Skip the Straw Day

Media and Outreach

General

- Staff continues to work with the Chino Basin Program team leads, partners, and Arellano Associates to develop an outreach strategy for additional program communication, implementing a roadshow, identifying collaboration and partnership opportunities on shared media, and more.
- Staff shared water-wise reminders related to January's rain events on Agency social media channels.
- Staff continues to promote the Agency's education programs and shared a post to Nextdoor and Agency social media channels in recognition of International Day of Education.
- Staff attended the Chino Education Technology (ChET) Day conference on January 20, 2023. The Agency held a vendor booth at the event to share some of IEUA's free education programs with educators in the Chino Valley Unified School District.

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

- An education program ad ran on January 12 in La Opinion.
- An education program ad ran on January 21 in the Chino Champion.
- A "Time is Now" banner ad ran in January in La Opinion.
- A "Time is Now" ad ran in the January issue of Inland Empire Magazine.
- An education program ad will run in the February issue of Inland Empire Magazine.

Social Outreach and Analytics

- The Agency continues to publish content on LinkedIn and has gained 48 followers since December, with 545 page views in the last 30 days (December 23-January 23).
- January: 17 posts were published to the IEUA Facebook page, 17 tweets were sent on the @IEUAWater Twitter handle, 17 posts were published to IEUA's Instagram grid, and 10 posts were published to the IEUA LinkedIn page.
 - The top three Facebook posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of January were:
 - 1/1 New Year's Office Closure Notice
 - 1/3 IEUA Board Workshop Reminder
 - 1/12 Education Program Promotion
 - The top three Twitter tweets, based on reach and engagement, in the month of January were:
 - 1/19 IEUA Board President Marco Tule at CBWCD Ribbon Cutting Event
 - 1/10 Rain Collection Tip
 - 1/20 Time is Now Video Short
 - The top three Instagram posts, based on reach and engagement, in the month of January were:
 - 1/21 Time is Now Video Short
 - 1/10 Rain Collection Tip
 - 1/19 IEUA Board President Marco Tule at CBWCD Ribbon Cutting Event
 - The top three LinkedIn posts, based on impressions and reactions, in the month of January were:
 - 1/12 Human Resources Water Leaders Networking Event
 - 1/13 New Splash Employee Feature
 - 1/17 New Splash Employee Feature
- For the month of January, there were 7,421 searches for a park in IEUA's service area on Yelp and the Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park was viewed 425 times.

Education and Outreach Updates

- Staff is coordinating with the city of Chino to plan for this year's in-person two-day Earth Day event.
- Staff attended the Chino Education Technology (ChET) Day conference on January 20, 2023. The Agency held a vendor booth at the event to speak and share some of IEUA's free programs with the nearly 100 educators in the Chino Valley Unified School District.
- 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 will be completing the construction.
 - Our Loving Savior's garden construction is completed. The school has confirmed that the bunny fencing will be completed in the month of January. Planting and the dedication will be scheduled this quarter.
- Staff has successfully completed the final year of the GIES mini grants.
- IEUA is now accepting entries for the Water is Life Student Art Poster Contest. The deadline for this year's contest will be March 9, 2023. Staff will be promoting the contest through email blasts and social media.

Agency-Wide Membership Updates

- Kristine Day, Assistant General Manager and Randy Lee, Director of Operations and Maintenance, attended the Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP) Clean Water SoCal Luncheon and Board Meeting on December 6.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Regulatory Working Group (RWG) General Committee Meeting on December 8.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Air Quality, Climate Change, and Energy (ACE) Workgroup Meeting on December 13.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Air Toxics Subgroup Meeting on December 14.
- Randy Lee, Director of Operations and Maintenance, attended the Isle Utilities PFAS Partnership Quarter 4 Meeting on December 14.
- Randy Lee, Director of Operations and Maintenance, attended the Isle Utilities Climate Adaptation Net Zero Meeting on December 14.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Air Quality Committee Meeting on January 11.
- Pietro Cambiaso, Acting Director of Planning & Resources and Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Air Quality, Climate Change, and Energy (ACE) Workgroup Meetings on January 18.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Regulatory Working Group Biosolids Meeting on January 19.
- Richard Lao, Senior Environmental Resources Planner, attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Regulatory Working Group Water Meeting on January 19.