



Water Storage Investment Program: Review of the Commission's *Ex Parte* Communication Policy

Introduction

The California Water Commission (Commission) administers the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) to fund the public benefits associated with water storage projects using funds from Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1), codified at Water Code section 79750 *et seq*, and supplemented by funds from Proposition 4, the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Proposition 4). Five projects are currently part of the WSIP. As the WSIP projects proceed to completing the remaining statutory requirements, the commissioners have requested a presentation from their attorney on the Commission's "[Ex Parte Communication Policy for the Water Storage Investment Program](#)" (Policy).

Background

Through the WSIP, the Commission will invest \$2.65 billion in the public benefits of water storage projects, consistent with the requirements of Proposition 1, Chapter 8. In 2017, the Commission adopted its Policy to protect the integrity and fairness of the WSIP decision-making process carried out by the Commission. Compliance with the Policy is also intended to ensure that all Commissioners may participate in all WSIP funding decisions.

This agenda item relates to the Commission's governance and to Goal One of the [Commission's Strategic Plan](#), which calls on the Commission to implement the WSIP to achieve public benefits.

Meeting Overview

At the February meeting, Anthony Austin, the Commission's attorney, will provide an overview and summary of the Policy. Following his remarks, the Commission will hear Tribal and public comment on the information presented. Commissioners will then have an opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

This is an informational item.

Contact

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