



101 Lucas Valley Road, Suite 300  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
Tel.: 415-472-1734  
Fax: 415-499-7715  
www.LGVSD.org

**MANAGEMENT TEAM**  
General Manager, Curtis Paxton  
Plant Operations, Mel Liebmann  
Collections/Safety/Maintenance, Greg Pease  
Engineering, Michael P. Cortez  
Administrative Services, Dale McDonald

**DISTRICT BOARD**  
Megan Clark  
Ronald Ford  
Craig K. Murray  
Gary E. Robards  
Crystal J. Yezman

The Mission of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District is to protect public health and the environment by providing effective wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling services.

## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

April 6, 2023

**MATERIALS RELATED TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 101 LUCAS VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 300, SAN RAFAEL, OR ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE [WWW.LGVSD.ORG](http://WWW.LGVSD.ORG)**

Estimated Time

**OPEN SESSION:**

4:30 PM

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Board on matters not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District. Presentations are generally limited to three minutes. All matters requiring a response will be referred to staff for reply in writing and/or placed on a future meeting agenda. Please contact the General Manager before the meeting.

4:35 PM

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

These items are considered routine and will be enacted, approved or adopted by one motion unless a request for removal for discussion or explanation is received from the staff or the Board.

- A. Approve the Board Minutes for March 16, 2023
- B. Approve the Warrant List for April 6, 2023
- C. Approve Hasa Inc. Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite
- D. Approve Kemira Water Solutions Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Ferric Chloride
- E. Approve Univar Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Sodium Bisulfite
- F. Approve Bid Award Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance Services
- G. Approve Murray attending WEF Residuals and Biosolids Conference May 16-19, North Carolina
- H. Approve Yezman attending CASA RWG Water Quality and Biosolids virtual meeting April 13, 2023

Possible expenditure of funds: Yes, Item B through H.

Staff recommendation: Adopt Consent Calendar – Items A through H

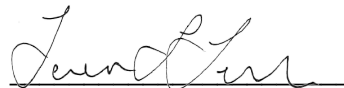
- 4:40 PM 3. INFORMATION ITEMS:**
  - STAFF/CONSULTANT REPORTS:
  - 1. General Manager’s Report – verbal
  - 2. General Manager Evaluation Process - Written
  
- 5:00 PM 4. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**
  - 1. CLARK
    - a. NBWA Board Committee, 2023 Operations Control Center Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports
  - 2. FORD
    - a. NBWRA, 2023 Operations Control Center Ad Hoc Committee, 2023 McInnis Marsh Ad Hoc Committee, 2023 Fleet Management Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports
  - 3. MURRAY
    - a. Marin LAFCO, 2023 Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, CASA Energy Committee, 2023 Development Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports
  - 4. ROBARDS
    - a. Gallinas Watershed Council/Miller Creek, 2023 Engineering Ad Hoc Committee re: STPURWE, 2023 McInnis Marsh Ad Hoc Committee, 2023 Development Ad Hoc Committee Other Reports
  - 5. YEZMAN
    - a. Flood Zone 7, CSRMA, 2023 Ad Hoc Engineering Committee re: STPURWE, Marin Special Districts, 2023 Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports
  
- 5:25 PM 5. BOARD REQUESTS:**
  - A. Board Meeting Attendance Requests – Verbal
  - B. Board Agenda Item Requests – Verbal
  
- 5:30 PM 6. VARIOUS INDUSTRY RELATED ARTICLES**
  
- 5:35 PM 7. ADJOURNMENT**

**FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES: APRIL 20 AND MAY 4, 2023**

AGENDA APPROVED:	Megan Clark, President	Patrick Richardson, Legal Counsel
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**CERTIFICATION:** I, Teresa Lerch, Board Secretary of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District, hereby declare under penalty of perjury that on or before April 3, 2023 4:30 p.m., I posted the Agenda for the Board Meeting of said Board to be held on April 6, 2023, at the District Office, located at 101 Lucas Valley Road, Suite 300, San Rafael, CA.

DATED: March 31, 2023



Teresa L. Lerch  
Board Secretary

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The Board of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District meets regularly on the first and third Thursday of each month. The District may also schedule additional special meetings for the purpose of completing unfinished business and/or study session. Regular meetings are held at the District Office, 101 Lucas Valley Road, Suite 300, San Rafael, CA.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District at (415) 472-1734 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Notification prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable accommodation to help ensure accessibility to this meeting.

## AGENDA ITEM 1

**4/6/2023**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Board on matters not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District. Presentations are generally limited to three minutes. All matters requiring a response will be referred to staff for reply in writing and/or placed on a future meeting agenda. Please contact the General Manager before the meeting.**

Agenda Item 2A  
Date April 6, 2023

## MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2023

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF THE LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT MET IN OPEN SESSION ON MARCH 16, 2023 AT 4:33 PM AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 101 LUCAS VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 300 CONFERENCE ROOM, SAN RAFAEL, CA. 94903

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Megan Clark, Craig Murray, Gary Robards and Crystal Yezman

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ron Ford

**STAFF PRESENT:** Curtis Paxton, General Manager; Teresa Lerch, Board Secretary; Dale McDonald, District Treasurer

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Patrick Richardson, District Counsel; Gregory Ramirez, IEDA.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** President Clark announced that the agenda had been posted as evidenced by the certification on file in accordance with the law.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**ACTION:**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION ON MARCH 16, 2023, AT 4:34 PM AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 101 LUCAS VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 300, CONFERENCE ROOM, SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA.

Lerch left the meeting at 4:34 pm.

**CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR** – Agency designated representative : Gregory Ramirez, IEDA; Employee organization: IUOE Local 3: pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**ACTION:**

The Board of Directors of the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District reconvened the Regular Session on March 16, 2023 at 5:25 pm.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Megan Clark, Craig Murray, Gary Robards, Crystal Yezman

**STAFF PRESENT:** Curtis Paxon, General Manager, Teresa Lerch, District Secretary; Dale McDonald, District Treasurer; Mike Cortez, District Engineer; Mel Liebmann, Plant Manager

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mark Hildebrand, Hildebrand Consulting

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION:** President Clark reported that there were no reportable actions in Closed Session.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

2. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

These items are considered routine and will be enacted, approved or adopted by one motion unless a request for removal for discussion or explanation is received from the staff or the Board.

- A. Approve the Board Minutes for March 2, 2023
- B. Approve the Warrant List for March 16, 2023
- C. Approve Board Compensation for February 2023
- D. Approve Murray attending the Implementing the Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Webinar March 9, 2023
- E. Approve Murray attending the 2023 Sustainable Energy in Amercia Webcast on March 15, 2023
- F. Approve Clark attending the CSDA Understanding Implicit Bias Webinar March 14, 2023
- G. Approve Aqua Contract for TWAS Enclosure/Sludge Basin and Reception Pad Project
- H. Approve Resolution 2023-2301 Board Policies O-40 and M-10
- I. Approve Resolution 2023-2302 Sole Source Specified Equipment
- J. Approve Order Regarding Publication Ordinance 191

Items B, F, G and I were pulled for discussion.

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Yezman/Clark (4-0-1-0) the Consent Calendar items A through F, H, I and J. Board directed Staff to develop a Sole Source Board Policy to be brought back in two years which will include equipment list, time limits for review and authority of Board.

AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Ford.

ABSTAIN: None.

**ACTION:**

Board discussed item G and asked Staff to bring this item back to a future Board meeting with modifications requested from the Board and Legal Counsel to address clarification of terms.

3. **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

STAFF / CONSULTANT REPORTS:

- 1. General Manager's Report – Paxton reported.

President Clark requested an Ad Hoc committee be created to look at new Development . It will be named the 2023 Development Ad Hoc Committee. Murray and Robards will be co- chairs.

- 2. Presentation of Draft Sewer Service Charge Study Recommendations – Presentation by Mark Hildebrand. Board provided feedback. Staff to incorporate feedback for workshop on March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- 3. District Remembrance of Director Schriebman – verbal. Board made several suggestions which staff will research and bring back to the board.

**4. ALTERNATIVE WORK SCHEDULES**

Board reviewed the Alternative Work Schedules and Side letter to the current Memorandum of Understanding.

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Murray/Yezman (4-0-1-0) the Side Letter with one modification, having the workday for overtime calculation begin at 6:00 AM and incorporating language into the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that is required to implement alternative work schedules and authorizes the General Manager to develop the administrative policies and procedures necessary to manage the alternative work schedule program.

- AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman
- NOES: None.
- ABSENT: Ford.
- ABSTAIN: None.

**5. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS, BOARD REQUESTS AND MISCELLANEOUS DISTRICT CORRESPONDENCE**

Postponed until the next regular Board meeting.

**6. ADJOURNMENT:**

**ACTION:**

Board approved (M/S Murray/Yezman 4-0-1-0) the adjournment of the meeting at 7:58 PM.

- AYES: Clark, Murray, Robards and Yezman.
- NOES: None.
- ABSENT: Ford.
- ABSTAIN: None.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for March 29, 2023 at 1:00 PM in person at the District Office.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Lerch, Board Secretary

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig K. Murray, Vice-President

Agenda Item 215  
Date April 6, 2023

Las Gallinas Valley Sanitation District  
Warrant List 4/6/2023 DRAFT

	Date	Num	Vendor	Original Amount	Addition and Adjustment	Total Amount	Description for items
1	4/6/2023	EFT1	ADP Payroll	0.00		0.00	4/07/2023 Payroll & Processing Charges
2	4/6/2023	N/A	Aqua Engineering	33,181.75		33,181.75	STPURWE- Additional Engineering Services
3	4/6/2023	N/A	Aramark Uniform Service	617.79		617.79	Laundry Service w/e 3/20 & 3/27
4	4/6/2023	N/A	AT&T	304.82		304.82	Phone Lines @ Pump Stations
5	4/6/2023	EFT2	Bank of Marin	27,723.45		27,723.45	Recycled Water Loan Payment- April
6	4/6/2023	EFT	Bank of Marin Cardmember Services	21,300.56		21,300.56	Credit Card Purchases- 2/4 - 3/6
7	4/6/2023	ACH	B.W.S Distributors	1,418.17		1,418.17	Docking Station- Collections
8	4/6/2023	N/A	California Water Environment Association	95.00		95.00	Campbell- Certification Renewal
9	4/6/2023	EFT	CaPERS CERBT-OPEB	11,630.00		11,630.00	Pre-Fund CERBT Payment -April
10	4/6/2023	N/A	Comet Building Maintenance	2,047.32		2,047.32	Janitorial Services- March
11	4/6/2023	ACH	CPS HR	3,730.00		3,730.00	HR Consulting Services- 1/29 - 2/25
12	4/6/2023	N/A	Environmental Business Specialists	1,340.00		1,340.00	Biological Analysis Performed - 3/16
13	4/6/2023	N/A	Environmental Science Associates	38,354.50		38,354.50	Flood Protection Plan for Biosolids - Jan
14	4/6/2023	N/A	Freyer & Laureta	4,900.00		4,900.00	Design of Terra Linda FM Access Structure, Bypass Pumping Analysis & Emergency Response- Feb
15	4/6/2023	ACH	GHD	10,985.30		10,985.30	Composting Feasibility Study, NOA & Research Program Services
16	4/6/2023	ACH	Gopher-It Trenchless	9,172.50		9,172.50	Sewer Lateral Assistance Program- 524 Las Colindas Rd.
17	4/6/2023	ACH	Kemira Water Solutions	7,342.69		7,342.69	Bulk Chemicals
18	4/6/2023	N/A	Liebert Cassidy Whitmore	1,039.00		1,039.00	Legal Advice- February
19	4/6/2023	N/A	Linscott Engineering	27,841.79		27,841.79	STPURWE- Secondary Clarifier Effluent Line ARV Tap & Standpipe
20	4/6/2023	ACH	Newterra	5,296.44		5,296.44	Rental Charge for Aerator & Accessories
21	4/6/2023	N/A	Platt	913.32		913.32	Misc. Supplies
22	4/6/2023	N/A	Shamrock Building Materials	225.74		225.74	Concrete Mix, Misc. Supplies
23	4/6/2023	ACH	Univar	14,072.04		14,072.04	Sodium Hypochlorite & Bisulfite
24	4/6/2023	ACH	WECO	4,599.16		4,599.16	Misc. Items for Repairs
25	4/6/2023	EFT	WEX Health	186.68		186.68	FSA Payments
26	4/6/2023	N/A	Zenon Environmental Corp.	1,330.40		1,330.40	Pump Seal



**Las Gallinas Valley Sanitation District  
Warrant List 4/6/2023 DRAFT**

	Date	Num	Vendor	Original Amount	Addition and Adjustment	Total Amount	Description for items
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Do not change any formulas below this line.

	TOTAL	\$ 229,648.42	-	\$ 229,648.42	
EFT1	EFT1 = Payroll (Amount Required)	0.00		0.00	Approval:
EFT2	EFT2 = Bank of Marin loan payments	27,723.45		27,723.45	
PC	Petty Cash Checking	0.00		0.00	Finance
>1	Checks (Operating Account)	0.00		0.00	
N/A	Checks - Not issued	112,191.43		112,191.43	GM
EFT	EFT = Vendor initiated "pulls" from LGVSD	33,117.24		33,117.24	
ACH	ACH = LGVSD initiated "push" to Vendor	56,616.30		56,616.30	Board
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 229,648.42</b>		<b>\$ 229,648.42</b>	

Difference: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ -

STPURWE Costs 61,023.54

Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District  
Reconciliation Detail  
6204 - Credit Card at Elan Financial, Period Ending 03/06/2023

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
Bill	02/22/2023	Bank of Marin Cardm	Credit card Purchases 1/6-/2/3	29,796.54	29,796.54
Total Cleared Transactions				8,495.98	8,495.98
Cleared Balance				-8,495.98	21,300.56
<b>Charges and Cash Advances - 100 items</b>					
Credit	02/06/2023	Miscellaneous	Yezman NACWA Winter Conference TERESA LERCH;	-1,150.00	-1,150.00
Credit	02/06/2023	Miscellaneous	CWEA Conf. Registration CURTIS D PAXTON;	-702.00	-1,852.00
Credit	02/06/2023	Miscellaneous	CASA DC Conference Flight CURTIS D PAXTON;	-408.95	-2,260.95
Credit	02/06/2023	Federal Express	Misc. Mailings SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-232.37	-2,493.32
Credit	02/06/2023	Miscellaneous	CWEA Conference Hotel CURTIS D PAXTON;	-213.19	-2,706.51
Credit	02/06/2023	Amazon.com	Wireless Keyboard & Mouse TERESA LERCH;	-107.71	-2,814.22
Credit	02/06/2023	ReadyRefresh	Bottled Water Service AMY SCHULTZ;	-71.73	-2,885.95
Credit	02/06/2023	ReadyRefresh	Bottled water service AMY SCHULTZ;	-60.94	-2,946.89
Credit	02/06/2023	Miscellaneous	CASA DC Conference Flight CURTIS D PAXTON;	-37.00	-2,983.89
Credit	02/06/2023	ADT Commerical Ser	Front gate security @ Plant AMY SCHULTZ;	-25.00	-3,008.89
Credit	02/07/2023	Comcast	Business Internet AMY SCHULTZ;	-579.29	-3,588.18
Credit	02/07/2023	Sherwin Williams	Paint ANTHONY J ASARO JR;	-165.78	-3,753.96
Credit	02/07/2023	Sherwin Williams	Paint ANTHONY J ASARO JR;	-17.24	-3,771.20
Credit	02/08/2023	Amazon.com	Wireless Charger GREG PEASE;	-131.08	-3,902.28
Credit	02/08/2023	Miscellaneous	Generator Door Latch KEVIN M LEWIS;	-83.95	-3,986.23
Credit	02/08/2023	Automationdirect	Connection Cable DONALD E MOORE;	-34.04	-4,020.27
Credit	02/08/2023	Amazon.com	Belt clip holster GREG PEASE;	-33.79	-4,054.06
Credit	02/09/2023	Amazon.com	Laptop Per Agreement -every 4 years GREG PEASE;	-1,751.91	-5,805.97
Credit	02/09/2023	Hach Company	Chemicals SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-134.38	-5,940.35
Credit	02/09/2023	Zoom	Online Meeting Software AMY SCHULTZ;	-133.99	-6,074.34
Credit	02/09/2023	Miscellaneous	CASA DC Conf. parking CURTIS D PAXTON;	-90.69	-6,165.03
Credit	02/09/2023	McInnis Golf Course	Lunch Meeting CURTIS D PAXTON;	-80.45	-6,245.48
Credit	02/10/2023	Amazon.com	Toner Cartridge SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-296.06	-6,541.54
Credit	02/10/2023	Muck Boot Company	Rubber Boots STEVEN INSKEEP;	-218.50	-6,760.04
Credit	02/10/2023	Safeway	Supplies for Safety Lunch PAM AMATORI;	-69.35	-6,829.39
Credit	02/10/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-19.81	-6,849.20
Credit	02/10/2023	Miscellaneous	Supplies for Safety Lunch PAM AMATORI;	-15.96	-6,865.16
Credit	02/13/2023	Amazon.com	Compressor Oil GREG PEASE;	-261.03	-7,126.19
Credit	02/13/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-96.20	-7,222.39
Credit	02/13/2023	Napa Valley Car Wat	District vehicle wash CURTIS D PAXTON;	-40.00	-7,262.39
Credit	02/13/2023	Amazon.com	Cell phone case GREG PEASE;	-27.26	-7,289.65
Credit	02/13/2023	Sonic.net	Internet Site Provider AMY SCHULTZ;	-19.95	-7,309.60
Credit	02/13/2023	Zoom	Online meeting software AMY SCHULTZ;	-14.99	-7,324.59
Credit	02/14/2023	Amazon.com	Nitrile Gloves GREG PEASE;	-195.60	-7,520.19
Credit	02/14/2023	Costco	Office Supplies ROBERT M LIEBMANN;	-133.43	-7,653.62
Credit	02/15/2023	Engineers BD	License Renewal YI YING HUANG;	-180.00	-7,833.62
Credit	02/15/2023	The Weather Compa	Weather App GREG PEASE;	-4.99	-7,838.61
Credit	02/16/2023	ReadyRefresh	Bottled water service AMY SCHULTZ;	-67.44	-7,906.05
Credit	02/16/2023	ReadyRefresh	Bottled water service AMY SCHULTZ;	-61.44	-7,967.49
Credit	02/16/2023	Amazon.com	Calendar TERESA LERCH;	-26.57	-7,994.06
Credit	02/17/2023	Fisher Scientific	Lab Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-385.41	-8,379.47
Credit	02/17/2023	Miscellaneous	Adobe Services PAM AMATORI;	-239.88	-8,619.35
Credit	02/17/2023	White Cap Const Sup	Misc. Supplies KEVIN M LEWIS;	-132.15	-8,751.50
Credit	02/21/2023	CWEA	CWEA Conference Registration CHRIS CAMPBELL;	-792.00	-9,543.50
Credit	02/21/2023	PayPal	CWEA Job Posting AMY SCHULTZ;	-605.00	-10,148.50
Credit	02/21/2023	Miscellaneous	CWEA Conference Flight CHRIS CAMPBELL;	-158.96	-10,307.46
Credit	02/21/2023	CPS HR Consulting	New Employee Harassment Training AMY SCHULTZ;	-25.00	-10,332.46
Credit	02/21/2023	Amazon.com	Prime Subscription PAM AMATORI;	-16.38	-10,348.84
Credit	02/21/2023	Miscellaneous	CWEA Conference Flight CHRIS CAMPBELL;	-15.00	-10,363.84
Credit	02/21/2023	Miscellaneous	CWEA Conference Flight CHRIS CAMPBELL;	-15.00	-10,378.84
Credit	02/22/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-146.80	-10,525.64
Credit	02/22/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-27.30	-10,552.94
Credit	02/22/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-11.79	-10,564.73
Credit	02/23/2023	Allied Electronics	Cutter Hammer KEVIN M LEWIS;	-1,227.98	-11,792.71
Credit	02/23/2023	Miscellaneous	Actuator kit repair KEVIN M LEWIS;	-451.86	-12,244.57
Credit	02/23/2023	Dicks Sporting Good	Rubber Boots STEVEN INSKEEP;	-136.55	-12,381.12
Credit	02/23/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-10.91	-12,392.03
Credit	02/23/2023	Miscellaneous	Misc. Shipping Fee	-9.03	-12,401.06
Credit	02/24/2023	Air Technology	Lab Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-735.00	-13,136.06
Credit	02/24/2023	Allied Electronics	Misc. Supplies KEVIN M LEWIS;	-302.11	-13,438.17
Credit	02/24/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-151.96	-13,590.13
Credit	02/24/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-38.17	-13,628.30
Credit	02/24/2023	CPS HR Consulting	New employee harassment training AMY SCHULTZ;	-25.00	-13,653.30
Credit	02/27/2023	Microsoft	Computer Licenses AMY SCHULTZ;	-396.00	-14,049.30
Credit	02/27/2023	CWEA	Cert renewal C. Gill AMY SCHULTZ;	-215.00	-14,264.30
Credit	02/27/2023	CWEA	Membership for G. Maleki SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-214.00	-14,478.30
Credit	02/27/2023	FLeetio	Fleet Maintenance Software GREG PEASE;	-192.00	-14,670.30
Credit	02/27/2023	Grainger	Flusher Truck Part ROBERT J BUCHHOLZ;	-74.69	-14,744.99
Credit	02/27/2023	McInnis Golf Course	Lunch Meeting - Robards CURTIS D PAXTON;	-59.23	-14,804.22
Credit	02/27/2023	Miscellaneous	Checked bag fee CURTIS D PAXTON;	-30.00	-14,834.22
Credit	02/27/2023	Miscellaneous	Checked Bag Fee CURTIS D PAXTON;	-30.00	-14,864.22
Credit	02/27/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-18.55	-14,882.77
Credit	02/27/2023	Microsoft	Add'l Licenses AMY SCHULTZ;	-16.00	-14,898.77
Credit	02/27/2023	Miscellaneous	Uber- CASA Conf. CURTIS D PAXTON;	-11.89	-14,910.66
Credit	02/27/2023	Microsoft	Encrypted Email service AMY SCHULTZ;	-2.00	-14,912.66
Credit	02/28/2023	Comcast	Internet @ pump stations AMY SCHULTZ;	-266.62	-15,179.28
Credit	02/28/2023	Miscellaneous	CASA Conf- Hotel CURTIS D PAXTON;	-194.27	-15,373.55
Credit	02/28/2023	Amazon.com	Sealant GREG PEASE;	-172.19	-15,545.74
Credit	02/28/2023	Call Center Sales	After hours phone service AMY SCHULTZ;	-59.39	-15,605.13
Credit	03/01/2023	CWEA	AC23 Annual Conference Asaro KEVIN M LEWIS;	-822.00	-16,427.13
Credit	03/01/2023	CWEA	Cert Renewal C. Franklin AMY SCHULTZ;	-95.00	-16,522.13
Credit	03/01/2023	ReadyRefresh	Bottled water service AMY SCHULTZ;	-61.44	-16,583.57

Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District  
Reconciliation Detail  
6204 - Credit Card at Elan Financial, Period Ending 03/05/2023

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
Credit	03/01/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-9.82	-16,593.39
Credit	03/01/2023	Amazon.com	Office SuppliesPAM AMATORI;	-9.82	-16,603.21
Credit	03/01/2023	Safeway	Creamer TERESA LERCH;	-9.58	-16,612.79
Credit	03/02/2023	Miscellaneous	AC23 Conf. Flight Asaro KEVIN M LEWIS;	-247.90	-16,860.69
Credit	03/02/2023	Miscellaneous	Otterbox phone cover - R.Tapia PAM AMATORI;	-74.56	-16,935.25
Credit	03/03/2023	Miscellaneous	CASA Conference Hotel CURTIS D PAXTON;	-1,134.57	-18,069.82
Credit	03/03/2023	CWEA	Conference Registration WILLIAM C FRANKLIN;	-822.00	-18,891.82
Credit	03/03/2023	Miscellaneous	Misc. parts for maintenance KEVIN M LEWIS;	-603.85	-19,495.67
Credit	03/03/2023	Miscellaneous	CWEA Conference Flight WILLIAM C FRANKLIN	-227.79	-19,723.46
Credit	03/03/2023	Miscellaneous	AC23 Conf Hotel Asaro KEVIN M LEWIS;	-222.22	-19,945.68
Credit	03/03/2023	Miscellaneous	CWEA AC23 Training Conference Hotel WILLIAM C FR	-222.22	-20,167.90
Credit	03/03/2023	Amazon.com	Coffee & Office Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-138.99	-20,306.89
Credit	03/03/2023	Postal Palace	Mailed UV Surplus parts DONALD E MOORE;	-101.21	-20,408.10
Credit	03/03/2023	Safeway	Office Supplies PAM AMATORI;	-76.64	-20,484.74
Credit	03/03/2023	Amazon.com	Water proof document holder GREG PEASE;	-53.98	-20,538.72
Credit	03/03/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-49.11	-20,587.83
Credit	03/03/2023	Treasury Software	ACH Software AMY SCHULTZ;	-39.95	-20,627.78
Credit	03/03/2023	County of Marin, Cou	Record for SLA PAM AMATORI;	-35.50	-20,663.28
Credit	03/06/2023	Terminix	Rodent control AMY SCHULTZ;	-386.00	-21,049.28
Credit	03/06/2023	Panera Bread	3/2 Board Meeting TERESA LERCH;	-125.48	-21,174.76
Credit	03/06/2023	McInnis Golf Course	Lunch Meeting CURTIS D PAXTON;	-55.19	-21,229.95
Credit	03/06/2023	Amazon.com	Alcohol Wipes SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-32.61	-21,262.56
Credit	03/06/2023	ADT Commerical Ser	Front Gate Security @ Plant AMY SCHULTZ;	-25.00	-21,287.56
Credit	03/06/2023	Amazon.com	Office Supplies SAHAR GOLSHANI;	-13.00	-21,300.56
<b>Ending Balance</b>	Bill	03/28/2023	Bank of Marin Cardm Credit Card Purchases	<u>21,300.56</u>	<u>21,300.56</u>



Item Number \_\_\_\_\_ 2C \_\_\_\_\_  
 GM Review \_\_\_\_\_ CP \_\_\_\_\_

# Agenda Summary Report

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Mel Liebmann, Plant Manager [mliebmann@lgvsd.org](mailto:mliebmann@lgvsd.org) 415-526-1526  
**Mtg. Date:** April 6, 2023  
**Re:** Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite (12.5% Concentration) during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.  
**Item Type:** Consent  Discussion \_\_\_\_\_ Information \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
**Standard Contract:** Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ (See attached) Not Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Board to approve Hasa Inc. Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite (12.5% Concentration) during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

## BACKGROUND

As a member agency of The Bay Area Chemical Consortium (BACC), District staff received all documents and correspondence relating to the solicitation of bids to furnish sodium hypochlorite for the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 from the BACC administrating agency, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD). Sodium Hypochlorite is used for disinfection to remain in compliance with the Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES and recycled water permit requirements.

In 2015, BACC members voted to approve the ability for vendors to submit bids for sodium hypochlorite by geographic region. LGVSD is a member agency located in the Marin-Sonoma-Napa region. DSRSD received bids from three vendors, Univar USA Inc., Olin Corporation and Hasa, Inc. The BACC bid review document revealed that Hasa, Inc was the lowest responsive bid for the Marin/Sonoma/Napa region. Both Olin Chlor Corp. and Univar USA Inc. bids were responsive but not the lowest priced for the Marin-Sonoma-Napa region.

BACC 2023  
 Bid Tabulation

Bidder	Unit Price Per Gallon
Hasa, Inc.	\$2.88
Olin Chlor Corp.	\$2.99
Univar USA Inc.	\$3.25

BACC 2022  
 Bid Tabulation

Bidder	Unit Price Per Gallon
Univar USA Inc.	\$1.464
Olin Chlor Corp.	\$1.589
Hasa, Inc.	\$5.000



A copy of the Notice of Intent to Award Contract in Response to BACC Bid No. 13-2023 for Supply and Delivery of 12.5% Sodium Hypochlorite addressed to Hasa, Inc. was received from DSRSD on March 16, 2023. DSRSD advised BACC member agencies in the Marin/Sonoma/Napa region to contact Hasa, Inc to arrange for purchasing sodium hypochlorite (12.5%) for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The District benefits from being a BACC member agency by leveraging the buying power of multiple agencies to receive the best pricing for bulk chemicals. There is also an additional benefit of reduced staff time that is dedicated to bid process administration. This allows staff the ability to focus on the many current and future projects that the District is currently undertaking or planning for.

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION**

At the June 3, 2022 regular meeting, the Board approved a 12-month contract to Univar Solutions to furnish liquid sodium bisulfite (25% concentration) & liquid sodium hypochlorite (12.5% Concentration) beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

NA

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The draft FY2023/2024 budgeted amount for sodium hypochlorite is \$ 514,931.



Item Number \_\_\_\_\_ 2D \_\_\_\_\_  
 GM Review \_\_\_\_\_ CP \_\_\_\_\_

# Agenda Summary Report

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Mel Liebmann, Plant Manager [mliebmann@lgvsd.org](mailto:mliebmann@lgvsd.org) 415-526-1526  
**Mtg. Date:** April 6, 2023  
**Re:** Kemira Water Solutions, Inc. Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Ferric Chloride during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.  
**Item Type:** Consent  Action \_\_\_\_\_ Information \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
**Standard Contract:** Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ (See attached) Not Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Board to approve Kemira Water Solutions, Inc. Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Ferric Chloride during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

## BACKGROUND

As a member agency of The Bay Area Chemical Consortium (BACC), District staff received all documents and correspondence relating to the solicitation of bids to furnish Ferric Chloride for the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, from the BACC administrating agency, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD). Ferric Chloride has two uses at the treatment plant: chemically enhanced primary treatment (CEPT) and for the reduction of sulfides in the anaerobic digestion process.

CEPT as a treatment strategy during high flows and improves solids capture in the primary clarifiers. This improves the performance of all downstream processes and in turn increases the plant's ability to remain in compliance with the Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES permit requirements. A small amount of ferric chloride is also injected into the solids pumped to the anaerobic digesters all year long. The resulting chemical reaction with sulfide ion in the sludge reduces the formation of hydrogen sulfide gas which would have to be removed by the filtration system in the biogas conditioning skid. Without ferric chloride addition, the system's hydrogen sulfide filtration media would need to be changed with greater frequency. Maintaining low sulfide levels in flared digester gas is also a BAAQMD permit requirement.

In 2015, BACC members voted to approve the ability for vendors to submit bids for sodium hypochlorite by geographic region. LGVSD is a member agency located in the Marin-Sonoma-Napa region. Review of the DSRSD documents revealed that Kemira Water Solutions, Inc.. was the lowest responsive bidder for the Marin-Sonoma-Napa region. Pencco, Inc.'s bid was found to be responsive but not the lowest priced for the Marin-Sonoma-Napa region.

BACC 2023  
 Bid Tabulation

Bidder	Unit Price Per Dry Ton
Kemira Water Solutions, Inc.	\$1498.00
Pencco, Inc.	\$1700.00



BACC 2022  
Bid Tabulation

Bidder	Unit Price Per Dry Ton
Kemira Water Solutions, Inc.	\$1229.00
Pencco, Inc.	\$1300.00
Thatcher Company of California, Inc.	\$1500.00

A copy of the Notice of Intent to Award Contract in Response to BACC Bid No. 6-2023 for Supply and Delivery of Ferric Chloride addressed to Kemira Water Solutions, Inc. was received from DSRSD on March 16, 2023. DSRSD advised BACC member agencies in the Marin/Sonoma/Napa region to contact Kemira Water Solutions, Inc. to arrange for purchasing Ferric Chloride for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The District benefits from being a BACC member agency by leveraging the buying power of multiple agencies to receive the best pricing for bulk chemicals. There is also an additional benefit of reduced staff time that is dedicated to bid process administration. This allows staff the ability to focus on the many current and future projects that the District is in the process of undertaking.

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION**

At the April 21, 2022, meeting, the board approved a contract with Kemira Water Solutions, Inc. to furnish liquid ferric chloride for the twelve-month period from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

NA

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The draft FY2023/2024 budgeted amount for Miscellaneous Chemicals is \$66,500 with \$20,000 apportioned from this budget item to cover the costs of estimated annual Ferric Chloride usage.



Item Number 2E  
 GM Review CP

# Agenda Summary Report

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Mel Liebmann, Plant Manager [mliebmann@lgsd.org](mailto:mliebmann@lgsd.org) 415-526-1526  
**Mtg. Date:** April 6, 2023  
**Re:** Univar Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Sodium Bisulfite (25% Concentration) during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.  
**Item Type:** Consent  Discussion  Information  Other   
**Standard Contract:** Yes  No  (See attached) Not Applicable

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Board to approve Univar Contract Proposal for Furnishing Liquid Sodium Bisulfite (25% Concentration) during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

## BACKGROUND

As a member agency of The Bay Area Chemical Consortium (BACC), District staff received all documents and correspondence relating to the solicitation of bids to furnish sodium bisulfite for the twelve-month period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024 from the BACC administrating agency, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD). Sodium bisulfite is used for de-chlorination of plant effluent disinfected with sodium hypochlorite to remain in compliance with the Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES permit requirements.

In 2015, BACC members voted to approve the ability for vendors to submit bids for sodium hypochlorite by geographic region. LGVSD is a member agency located in the Marin-Sonoma-Napa region. The DSRSD received bids from only one vendor, Univar USA Inc.. The BACC bid review document revealed that Univar USA Inc. was the lowest responsive bid.

BACC 2023  
 Bid Tabulation

Bidder	Unit Price Per Gallon
Univar USA Inc.	\$1.845

BACC 2022  
 Bid Tabulation

Bidder	Unit Price Per Gallon
Univar USA Inc.	\$1.475





A copy of the Notice of Intent to Award Contract in Response to BACC Bid No. 11-2023 for Supply and Delivery of 25% Sodium Bisulfite addressed to Univar USA Inc. was received from the Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD) on March 16, 2023. DSRSD advised BACC member agencies in the Marin/Sonoma/Napa region to contact Univar USA Inc. to arrange for purchasing sodium bisulfite (25%) for period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The District benefits from being a BACC member agency by leveraging the buying power of multiple agencies to receive the best pricing for bulk chemicals. There is also an additional benefit of reduced staff time that is dedicated to bid process administration. This allows staff the ability to focus on the many current and future projects that the District is in the process of undertaking.

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION**

At the June 3, 2022 regular meeting, the Board approved a 12-month contract to Univar Solutions to furnish liquid sodium bisulfite (25% concentration) & liquid sodium hypochlorite (12.5% Concentration) beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

NA

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The draft FY2023/2024 budgeted amount for sodium bisulfite is \$181,012



Item Number \_\_\_\_\_ 2F \_\_\_\_\_  
GM Review \_\_\_\_\_ CP \_\_\_\_\_

# Agenda Summary Report

To: Board of Directors  
From: Mel Liebmann, Plant Manager [mliebmann@lgvsd.org](mailto:mliebmann@lgvsd.org) 415-526-1526  
Mtg. Date: April 6, 2023  
Re: Bid Award - Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance Services  
Item Type: Consent  Discussion \_\_\_\_\_ Information \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Standard Contract: Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_ (See attached) Not Applicable \_\_\_\_\_

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Board to award a contract to Custom Tractor Services Inc. (CTS) to provide Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance with inclusionary language that obligates CTS to sharing 30% hay crop gross profit proceeds with the District.

### BACKGROUND

Plant effluent that is discharged to the reclamation storage ponds when needed throughout the year must be land applied in the irrigation pastures as a means of disposal. This reduces the storage burden and is anticipated to provide the capacity to successfully meet the full term of the treatment plant creek discharge prohibition period, June through October. The District utilizes professional services to provide pasture preparation, operate and maintain the irrigation equipment, and perform limited levee road and ditch maintenance during the reclamation season. In previous years, the District's need for annual biosolids removal and surface injection work was included as a second bid item but, beginning in the 2023-24 fiscal year, that need will be accomplished as a component of a larger effort to support the District's beneficial biosolids project, which will be competitively bid under a separate scope of work and contract.

A single bid from Custom Tractor Services Inc. was received during the invitation for bids period. The Bid was officially opened and read on March 17, 2023, with the following result recorded:

Custom Tractor Services Inc.

Item 1: Reclamation area pasture irrigation Operations and Maintenance. \$121,400

### PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

The Board awarded a contract to Custom Tractor Services Inc in the amount of \$221,575 for Biosolids Surface Injection and Reclamation Pastureland Irrigation Operations and Maintenance Services with a 30% of gross profit share to the District from the sale of hay crops grown on District lands at the May 5, 2022 meeting.

### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The activities described above comply with the District's NPDES permit.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

\$121,400

AGENDA ITEM 26  
DATE April 6, 2023



## BOARD MEMBER CONFERENCE/ MEETING/WEBINAR ATTENDANCE REQUEST

Date: 3/30/23 Name: MURRAY, CRAIG R.

I would like to attend the WEF/IWA RESIDUALS + BIOSOLIDS CONF. Meeting  
of WEF/IWA

To be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of MAY from 8 (a.m.) p.m. to  
19<sup>th</sup> day of MAY from 5 a.m. (p.m.)  
TO

Location of meeting: CHARLOTTE, NC

Actual meeting date(s): 5/16-19/23

Meeting Type: (In person/Webinar/Conference) CONFERENCE

Purpose of Meeting: WATER + BIOSOLIDS DISCUSSIONS

Meeting relevance to District: INDUSTRY STANDARDS UPDATES

Request assistance from Board Secretary to register for Conference: YES  NO

**Board Directors to make their own Hotel Reservations and book their own transportation including airfare, taxi and/or shuttles.**

Frequency of Meeting: 1X

Estimated Costs of Travel (if applicable): \$2,500.

Date submitted to Board Secretary: 3/30/23

Board approval obtained on Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit this form to the Board Secretary no later than 1 week prior to the Board Meeting.**



# WEF/IWA Residuals and Biosolids Conference 2023

Home (/) > Events & Education > Conferences > WEF/IWA Residuals and Biosolids Conference 2023

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May 16, 2023 - May 19, 2023

Pre-Conference Workshops May 16 | Exhibition May 17-18 | Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC, USA

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Hear from professionals as they highlight new technologies/processes/inventions, and current best practices. Get a real-world look at problems in the market, and participate in real/pragmatic experience with equipment, technology, and service vendors that continue to improve efforts in providing high-quality infrastructure throughout the country.

Decline ACCEPT

The technical program for the Residuals and Biosolids 2023 conference ([/globalassets/assets-wef/1-events/conferences/wefiwa-usa-national-committee-rbc-23-online-program.pdf](https://globalassets/assets-wef/1-events/conferences/wefiwa-usa-national-committee-rbc-23-online-program.pdf)) is now available.



**PROGRAM & CONTINUING EDUCATION (</EVENTS--EDUCATION/CONFERENCES/RESIDUALSBIOSOLIDS/RESIDUALS-AND-BIOSOLIDS-PROGRAM-AND-CONTINUING-EDUCATION>)**

**EXHIBITOR LIST AND FLOORPLAN ([HTTPS://RBCOAP23.MAPYOURSHOW.COM/8\\_0/#/](https://rbc23.mapyourshow.com/8_0/#/))**

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1. Log in with your WEF Username and Password (email address and password) or click "Forgot your Password" to reset it.
2. Do not have an account? Click "Not a Member" to create a free user account
3. After logging in, you will be redirected to the WEF/IWA Residuals and Biosolids Conference registration page.

**For step-by-step instructions on the registration process, [view the registration tutorial pdf.](#)**

**[\(/contentassets/6001ab138a88424d834533470d5009b3/rbc-registration-step-by-step-instructions-tawilliams-1t.pdf\)](#)**

*This conference is jointly hosted by the Water Environment Federation and International Water Association, in cooperation with North Carolina One Water and the IWA USA National Committee.*



*This event will be co-located with the [Odors and Air Pollutants Conference](/events--education/conferences/odorsair/).*

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# WEF/IWA Residuals and Biosolids Conference 2023

**LOCAL ORGANIZER:** WATER ENVIRONMENT FEDERATION AND NORTH CAROLINA ONE WATER

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZER:** (), IWA USA NATIONAL COMMITTEE

(<https://iwa-network.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/matthew-chandler-P0oWnvP5cr0-unsplash.jpg>)

Residuals and Biosolids Managers continually face uncertainty and new challenges: maintaining positive public perception, regulatory changes, striving for utility sustainability, and the ever-increasing need for resiliency. The 2023 WEF Residuals and Biosolids conference will share new technologies, successful innovations, and current best practices to allow industry professionals

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to achieve long-term success designing and managing biosolids programs. You are invited to share creative approaches in biosolids and residuals management with focus on proving flexibility, increasing resiliency, technology advances, and new product marketing approaches.

The conference will include oral presentations, interactive discussions, posters, pre-conference workshops, exhibits, technology spotlights, and opportunities for networking in dynamic settings. Potential speakers are invited to submit content for an abstract for podium presentations, interactive panel discussions, thematic sessions, and workshops.

We want to hear from professionals as they highlight new technologies, successful innovations, and current best practices. Participants will get a real-world look at projects implemented, and participate in an interactive experience with equipment, technology, and service vendors that continue to improve efforts in providing high-quality infrastructure throughout the country and world.

## Programme Committee

Name	Affiliation	Country
Pavel Jenicek	University of Chemical Technology, Dept Water Tech and Env. Eng.	Czech Republic
Todd Williams	Jacobs	United States Of America
Kazuyuki Oshita	Kyoto University	Japan
Yan Zhou	Nanyang Technological University	Singapore
Jose Antonio Barrios Perez	Ciudad Universitaria	Mexico
Guoren Xu	Harbin Institute of Technology	China
Banu Ormeci	Carelton University	Canada

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Home > Events & Education > Conferences > WEF/IWA Residuals and Biosolids Conference 2023 > RBC 22 Program & CEUs

# RESIDUALS AND BIOSOLIDS 2023 PROGRAM & CONTINUING EDUCATION

[PROGRAM](#)

[CONTINUING EDUCATION](#)

## Program

Announcing the technical program for the 2023 conference!

WEF and IWA are pleased to announce 23 exciting sessions, 5 workshops, and a facility tour to be presented in Charlotte.

[VIEW THE RBC 2023 PROGRAM](#)

[WORKSHOP AND TOUR INFORMATION](#)

For more information about submitting content and speaking at a WEF Education & Training Event, visit the [Speaker Information](#) pages.

[SPEAKER INFORMATION](#)

### Questions? Contact:

WEF Education & Training

[BiosolidsConf@wef.org](mailto:BiosolidsConf@wef.org)

703.684.2400 x7450

## Programs for Past Residuals and Biosolids Conferences

- [2022 Residuals and Biosolids Conference Program](#), Columbus, Ohio
- [2021 Residuals and Biosolids Conference Program](#), Virtual Event
- [2020 Residuals and Biosolids Conference Program](#), Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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Access to Continuing Education (CE) Credits for conference registrants will be available within 4 weeks after the event. The direct link will be provided on this page and in an email after the conference.

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WEF education and training events are accepted by most U.S. state licensing boards. WEF maintains Provider Status with several state engineering boards, including the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

### **For Professional Operators**

WEF is pursuing CE credit pre-approval with many state operator licensing boards for the Residuals and Biosolids Conference 2023, including CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, MI, MO, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, TX, VA, WA, and WI.

If you are a licensed Operator from a state that is not represented in this list above, please contact [ce@wef.org](mailto:ce@wef.org) for assistance.

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EVENT

# 2023 WEF/IWA Residuals and Biosolids Conference

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May 16 - 19, 2023

Charlotte Convention Center  
Charlotte, NC  
United States

Join us in Charlotte, North Carolina, for the 2023 Water Environment Federation and International Water Association: Residuals and Biosolids conference — the leading international event in

advancing the role of biosolids and resource recovery.

This is our eighth year as the Bronze Elite sponsor, and we are proud to support this premier industry event.

We hope to see you at any of our workshops and technical sessions where you can meet our residuals and biosolids experts and discuss the latest developments in all aspects of biosolids treatment and management.

## Our WEF Residuals and Biosolids Conference Presentations

### Tuesday, May 16

#### Pre-conference Workshops

8 a.m. | Workshop A: Dewatering Optimization: Practical Ways to Improve Performance

- Presenter: Adam Parmenter

1:30 p.m. | Workshop D: Delving into Digestion: Anaerobic Digestion Process, Design, and Operation

- Presenter: Stephanie Spalding

### Wednesday, May 17

#### Intensifying Digestion

3:45 p.m. | Session 7: The Impact of Solids Retention Time Reduction on Thermal Hydrolysis Pretreatment-Enhanced Mesophilic Anaerobic Digestion

- Presenters: Brian Balchunas, Chris Moline, Lawrence Hentz

### Thursday, May 18

#### PFAS Challenges and Treatment

8:30 a.m. | Alternate: Two Birds, One Stone: Utilizing Biosolids Thermal Processing Technologies for PFAS removal

- Presenters: Ramola Vaidya, Mamatha Hopanna, Sebastian Smoot

## Innovative Processes in Anaerobic Digestion

8:30 a.m. | Pilot-Scale Anaerobic Digestion and Dewatering of Aerobic Granular Sludge

- Presenter: Bryce Figdore

## Biogas

9 a.m. | Session 9: What's It Worth to You? Arlington Regen Biogas Utilization Evaluation

- Presenters: Brian Bakke, Stephanie Spalding, Brian Balchunas

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AGENDA ITEM 2H  
DATE April 6, 2023



## BOARD MEMBER CONFERENCE/ MEETING/WEBINAR ATTENDANCE REQUEST

Date: 03/28/2023 Name: Crystal Yezman

I would like to attend the RWG Water Quality and Biosolids Hybrid

Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting of CASA

To be held on the 13th day of April from 10 a.m to 2 p.m.

Location of meeting: virtual hybrid

Actual meeting date(s): 4/13/2023

Meeting Type: (In person/Webinar/Conference) virtual

Purpose of Meeting: regulatory updates on biosolids

Meeting relevance to District: SB1383 compliance

Request assistance from Board Secretary to register for Conference:  YES  NO

Board Directors to make their own Hotel Reservations and book their own transportation including airfare, taxi and/or shuttles.

Frequency of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Costs of Travel (if applicable): N/A

Date submitted to Board Secretary: 03/28/2023

Board approval obtained on Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this form to the Board Secretary no later than 1 week prior to the Board Meeting.

**4/6/2023**

**General Manager Report**

- Separate Item to be distributed at Board Meeting
- Separate Item to be distributed prior to Board Meeting
- Verbal Report
- Presentation

March 29, 2023

Via email to [cpaxton@lgvsd.org](mailto:cpaxton@lgvsd.org)

Curtis Paxton, General Manager  
Las Gallinas Valley Sanitation District  
101 Lucas Valley Road #300  
San Rafael, CA 94903

**RE: General Manager Performance Evaluation Support**

Dear Mr. Paxton:

Thank you for giving Regional Government Services (RGS) the opportunity to provide this proposal to assist the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitation District (LGVSD) Board of Directors with the development of the General Manager's performance evaluation. RGS is uniquely qualified to provide these services based on our specific and substantial expertise and experience working with public agencies throughout California and the flexible and scalable services provided by our team. Regional Government Services is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) established in 2001 to serve the needs of cities, counties, special districts and other governmental entities throughout California. We provide a ready source of project and consulting services to meet the needs of our partner agencies in a broad range of administrative and support service areas. RGS has a proven track record working with local government agencies to successfully deliver effective HR management systems and administration in organizations.

I have attached a proposal describing the proposed General Manager Performance Evaluation services and current hourly rates. If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please feel free to contact me at (650) 587-7303 or via e-mail at [bbennett@rgs.ca.gov](mailto:bbennett@rgs.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Bobbi Bennett*

Human Resources Services Director  
**REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES**



## ABOUT REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Regional Government Services (RGS) is a joint-powers authority (JPA) established in 2001 to provide organizational services to other California public agencies. We have over 170 professional Advisors throughout California actively serving more than 150 cities, special districts, counties, other JPAs and special consortiums of government agencies. RGS provides consulting services in the areas of human resources and financial management, organizational development, community engagement, strategic planning, and more specifically to public agencies.

RGS is a virtual government agency, and has developed a unique network of geographically distributed Advisors who work through various remote access technologies to deliver services to partner agencies, reducing overhead and expanding our ability to provide high-quality services throughout the state. Advisors can be onsite as needed. RGS Advisors form ad hoc teams to provide services and project delivery, and do not operate in a traditional organizational hierarchy.

Our Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer, Richard Averett, has worked with the Board of Directors since the JPA's inception to implement the Authority's strategic plan. Sophia Selivanoff, Deputy Executive Director, joined RGS in 2009, and Bobbi Bennett, Human Resources Services Director, joined RGS in 2015 and manages all RGS human resources services provided to partner agencies, develops new business and partner relationships, and supervises all human resources team members throughout RGS.

At RGS, we believe in striving to be a partner to the agencies we serve, not simply a consultant or contractor. We believe in relationships that are lasting and mutually respectful and beneficial. In order to establish a mutually respectful relationship as well as a productive one, RGS has adopted the following values and business methods.

### Our Values

- **Expert Services:** RGS serves exclusively public sector agencies with its team of public sector experts.
- **Innovation:** RGS encourages and develops innovative and sustainable services to help each agency meet its challenges through new modes of service provision.
- **Customer Driven:** RGS customizes solutions to achieve the right level and right kind of service at the right time for each agency's unique organizational needs.
- **Perseverance:** Sometimes the best solutions are not immediately apparent. RGS listens, works with you, and sticks with it until a good fit with your needs is found.
- **Open Source Sharing:** RGS tracks emerging best practices and shares them, our clients and our advisors learn openly from each other's hard-won experience.
- **Commitment:** Government agencies are the public's sole provider for many services, public trust is earned and must be used wisely. Each agency should and will know how RGS sets its rates. RGS' pledge to you is that we will act with honesty, openness, and full transparency.

## **GENERAL MANAGER PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SERVICES**

The following typical approach and work plan is anticipated to facilitate the Board's process of developing an effective performance evaluation for the General Manager that will ensure valuable feedback and establish goals that support the Board's short- and long-term strategic goals. The RGS Advisor will carry out this work plan by working with the Board appointed General Manager Evaluation ad-hoc Committee (Committee) utilizing video conference calls, phone meetings, and e-mails.

### 1. Kick-off meeting with Committee

- Identify key strategic issues for the Board.
- Identify and clarify Committee's process for reporting to the Board. Communication channels.
- Discuss any desired changes to the current General Manager performance. evaluation form.
- Determine if a compensation study is needed.
- Identify date to issue final performance evaluation.
- Discuss Committee's and consultant's role and responsibilities.

### 2. Evaluation process timeline

A timeline with key benchmarks, target dates, and responsible party will be developed for the Committee's consideration. With Committee approval, the proposed timeline will be provided to the Board of Directors for approval.

### 3. Performance Evaluation

- The performance evaluation form and directions on how to complete the form will be provided to the Board of Directors.
- Compile the individual Board members' draft evaluations into one evaluation. Once approved by the Committee, the draft compiled performance evaluation will be provided to the Board President for distribution to Board members. The draft compiled performance evaluation will be sent under attorney/client privilege since it contains confidential personnel matter.
- Closed session will be held for the Board to discuss the draft compiled performance evaluation. If a compensation study has been conducted, the information will also be provided.
- The final compiled performance evaluation will be issued by the Board in closed session.

## **PROJECT TEAM APPROACH AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Bobbi Bennett, Human Resources Services Director, will serve as LGVSD point of contract. Richard Blut, Senior Advisor, will partner with Bobbi as back-up. Richard's time will not be charged to LGVSD unless he is providing direct support to LGVSD.

**Bobbi Bennett, Human Resources Services Director**

The ability to create and effect functional and strategic level change within an organization has been Bobbi Bennett’s passion for more than 20 years. During her career in Human Resources within City and County governments, she has overseen centralized full-service Human Resources departments that addressed executive level performance evaluations and compensation, recruitments, classification and compensation, benefits, worker’s compensation, performance management, discipline, employee relations, labor relations, labor negotiations, and training. Since joining RGS, she has partnered with several special districts and municipalities in California. Bobbi’s key skill is assisting all levels of an organization address complex matters to facilitate effective resolutions. Additionally, Bobbi is recognized for her ability to work with governing bodies to facilitate executive level performance and compensation issues.

Bobbi joined RGS in 2015. She has been a SHRM certified professional in Human Resources Management (PHR) since 1997, is an IPMA Professional program trainer, and is a certified mediator. Additionally, Bobbi holds a Master’s degree in Counseling Psychology.

**Richard Blut, Senior Advisor**

Richard Blut joined RGS in 2022 as a Senior Advisor for Human Resources Services. Richard spearheads the NEOGOV implementation services as well as conducting executive recruitments for partner agencies.

Richard has over twenty years of leadership experience in large public organizations. He is an expert in all facets of human resources, employee engagement, customer experience, and systems automation. He has provided consulting and coaching to business leaders in many aspects of HR including best practices, methodologies, tools, organizational design, legal compliance, talent management, and compensation.

Richard has a bachelor’s degree and an M.B.A. in business administration.

**SERVICE COST/BILL RATES**

RGS provides services on an hourly basis. Work is performed as agreed, and subsequently billed each month based on hours actually worked. RGS Advisors are skilled at prioritizing projects and working within the budget of partner agencies.

Bill rates are as follows:

Title	Hourly Rate
Chief Operating Officer	\$140 to \$230
Deputy Chief Operating Officer	\$135 to \$205
Senior/Lead Advisor	\$130 to \$200
Advisor	\$120 to \$170

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Project Advisor	\$110 to \$130
Project Coordinator	\$90 to \$125
Technical Specialist	\$80 to \$120

4/6/2023

## **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

### **CLARK**

**NBWA Board Committee, 2023 Operations Control Center Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

### **FORD**

**NBWRA, 2023 Operations Control Center Ad Hoc Committee, 2023 McInnis Marsh Ad Hoc Committee, 2023 Fleet Management Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

### **MURRAY**

**Marin LAFCO, CASA Energy Committee, 2023 Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, 2023 Development Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

### **ROBARDS**

**Gallinas Watershed Council/Miller Creek, 2023 Engineering Ad Hoc Committee re: STPURWE, 2023 McInnis Marsh Ad Hoc Committee, 2023 Development Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

### **YEZMAN**

**Flood Zone 7, CSRMA, Marin Special Districts Association, 2023 Ad Hoc Engineering Sub-Committee re: STPURWE, 2022 Biosolids Ad Hoc Committee, Other Reports**

Agenda Item 4.3  
Date April 6, 2023

2023 Sustainable Energy in America Factbook

March 15, 2023 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm EST  
Rayburn House Office Building Room 2044  
45 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20515  
LGVSD Craig K. Murray

**Speakers**

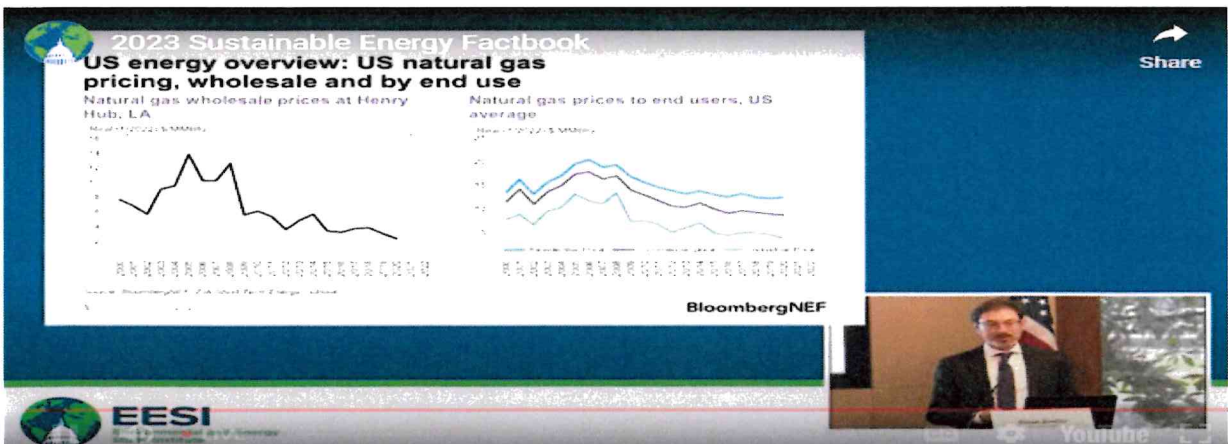
- [Lisa Jacobson](#) President, [Business Council for Sustainable Energy \(BCSE\)](#)
- [Ethan Zindler](#) Head of Americas, [BloombergNEF](#)
- [Vincent Barnes](#) Senior Vice President of Policy and Research, [Alliance to Save Energy](#)
- [Charles Bolden](#) Senior Director of Congressional Affairs, [Solar Energy Industries Association](#)
- [Amy Farrell](#) Senior Vice President of Government and Public Affairs, [CREC Forum](#)
- [Jennifer Kane](#) Energy Policy Leader, [Trane Technologies](#)
- [Biljana Kaumaya](#) Senior Director, Federal Affairs, [American Clean Power](#)
- [Yvonne McIntyre](#) Vice President, Federal Affairs, [PG&E Corporation](#)

Daniel Bresette, EESI. Also helps utilities in rural areas to access. Newsletter climate change solutions every 2 weeks. March 23 w/Natl Resource Defence Council and one briefing coming up on EV Trucks. Briefings done for 11 years. Daniel at EESI for 3. BCSE.org to download the Sustainable Energy in America 2023 Factbook.

Ethan Zindler, Bloomberg North America. First major Land war in Europe & Covid for year.

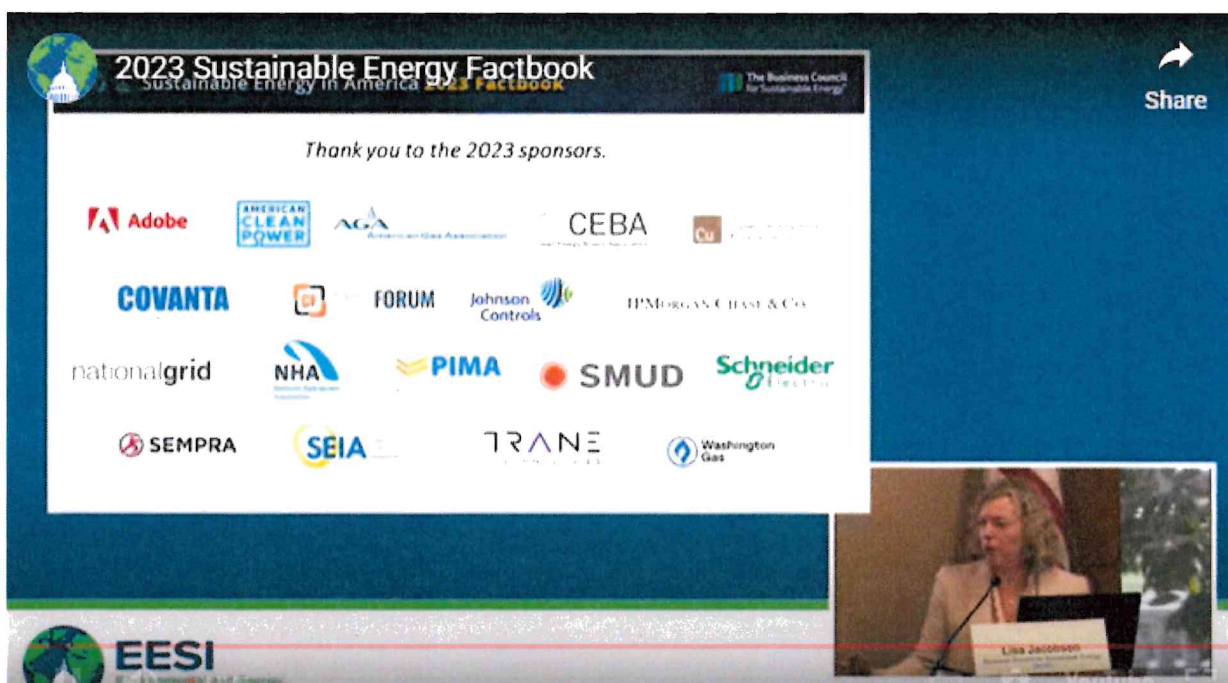


Continue to see growth in Energy technologies. Natural Gas critical for Electrical Energy and 40% generation from natural gas. Ukraine and additional demand on US to export. \$2-3/million per BTU. Natural gas finally starting to come down. Lithium Ion batteries almost off charts in terms of price increases. Lots of cost pressures.



Wholesale natural gas prices rose last year affect energy. Usually technology reflects lower cost energy, not the case, but feel start come back down. Vehicle fuel per gallon much less to fill battery than tank of gasoline. 1M cars with plugs sold last year in US. Year before 650k. Tesla is the biggest seller. About 7% of all new cars sold in US. China 5M EVs sold. Europe also ahead. Solar, Wind and Natural Gas prices have all risen against goal. Renewable in many parts of world lowest cost. 20GW each year in US built and now 36GW and now 32 to 37GW being built. Last year challenging for Solar with Tariffs from overseas equipt into the US. 1100 GW is total US system. Biden Admin by 2035 wants to depower system and currently about half of what want to build in market now to meet decarbonization goals and renewables build. \$1.1T invested last year, US about 10% or \$140B of that total and about half of \$11T was China. China is world leader in attracting investment. Natural Gas is leader in meeting US power needs. Wind and Solar though have added the most. GHG is bottom line. Last year total GHG v emissions from energy sector. Emissions risen about 1% year by year but below 2019 levels now. Only 1% growth in CO2 emissions. Used to be power as emissions leader and no longer the case but need to on steel and cement energy demands on their production. IRA demand drive for Green Hydrogen. Paris agreement 26- 28% cut by 2025. Power sector away from goal and towards natural gas is making progress. But 50% cut goal by 2030 will need further progress.

Lisa Jacobson BCSE (Panel) Energy Trade Association founded in 1992. Coalition of Companies and Trade Associations from the energy efficiency, natural gas, and renewable energy sectors. Resources such as the Factbook really help where we have been and where we are going to. Thank 2023 Sponsors. Need predictability, certainty.



Each panelist to review the Factbook.

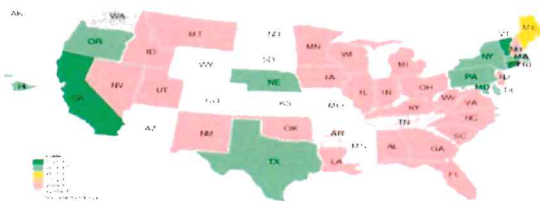
- [Vincent Barnes](#) Senior Vice President of Policy and Research, [Alliance to Save Energy](#) Energy Efficiency. Us states with Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS) and utility energy efficiency spending – expect it to go down. Saw sigf. Investments on tax incentives such as can now own two homes and claim credit and also for commercial. \$27B GHG investment fund primarily in low income and disadv. Communities. Pretty sure it will go to Solar rooftop. IJA investments and GHG investment fund at Federal level is

combined with funds at State level. Anticipation is that utility energy efficiency spending will increase not decrease with these investments. IJA to meet 40% of energy reductions alone to meet Paris Agreement. Supply and demand (consumption) problem. Cost of supply will increase exponentially with direction of policy now means need larger grid and more capacity for renewables and capital investments generally over time and utilities generally paid back through rates. Therefore rates will increase. Expect that energy efficiency will help with rates. Technology advancements to run HVAC, Refrig to use less energy.

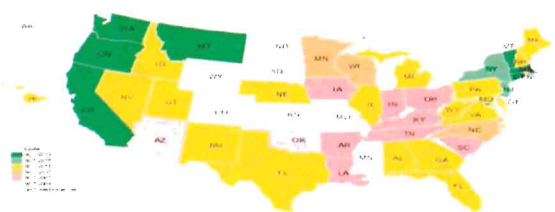
- [Charles Bolden](#) Senior Director of Congressional Affairs, [Solar Energy Industries Association](#) Deployment of Solar imports. \$8B imports covered in anti circumvasion (Thailand, Malaysia...), once release of Tarifs there will be strong growth in 2023 and 2024.
- [Amy Farrell](#) Senior Vice President of Government and Public Affairs, [CRES Forum](#) Business Council for Sustainable Energy. Review of Industrial and 29% and 1/5 of all global gas emissions in 6 sectors (Coal,Oil, Gas, Electricity, Heat, Relevations). Policies now to improve manufactured products. Carbon Capture and Hydrogen deployment looking at. Factbook shows what type of Hydrogen deployment in each of the sectors. Expect 300% in carbon capture and storage.
- [Jennifer Kane](#) Energy Policy Leader, [Trane Technologies](#) Offer residential and commercial services. Energy code adoption building. Reduce amount of energy being put into buildings and energy efficient buildings and darker green states adopted newer codes. Every 3 years all of the standards are updated. Federal agencies and buildings have way to lead and show, practice such as implement building standards. Can help those interested in adopting Zero energy codes. 75% of new or reconstructed buildings by 2035 and want to make sure consuming least amount of energy. Natl Coalition now with 30 Cities.

## Deployment: Statewide energy code adoption

Residential



Commercial



Source: FERG, ASHRAE, BloombergNEF. Note: The maps represent FERG analysis of energy savings impacts from state code adoptions. Any state for which the Energy Index is not more than 1% higher than that of an EEC of Standard 90.1 which is considered equivalent to that state's code. For more on the FERG methodology, see link.

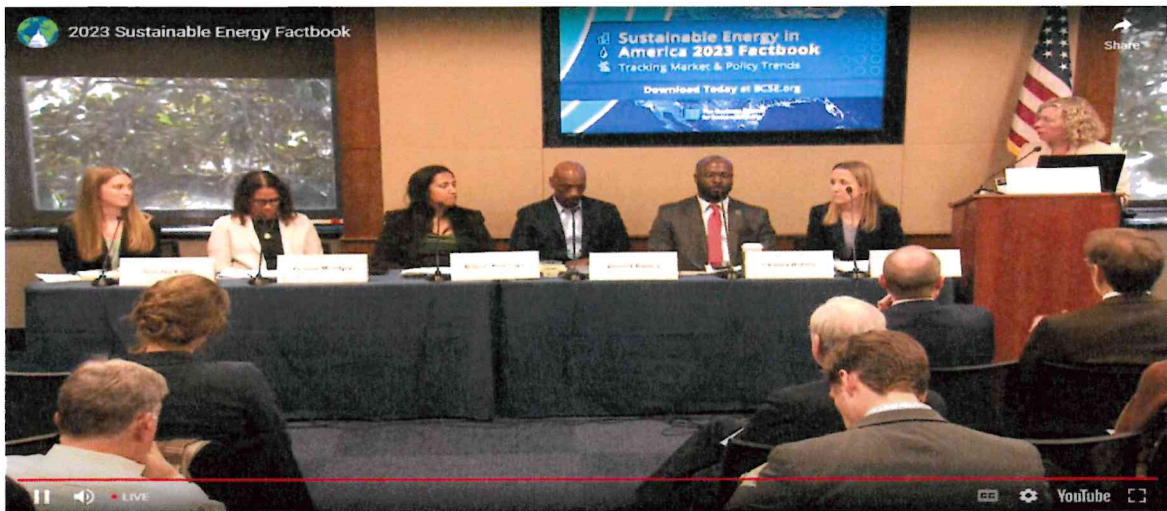
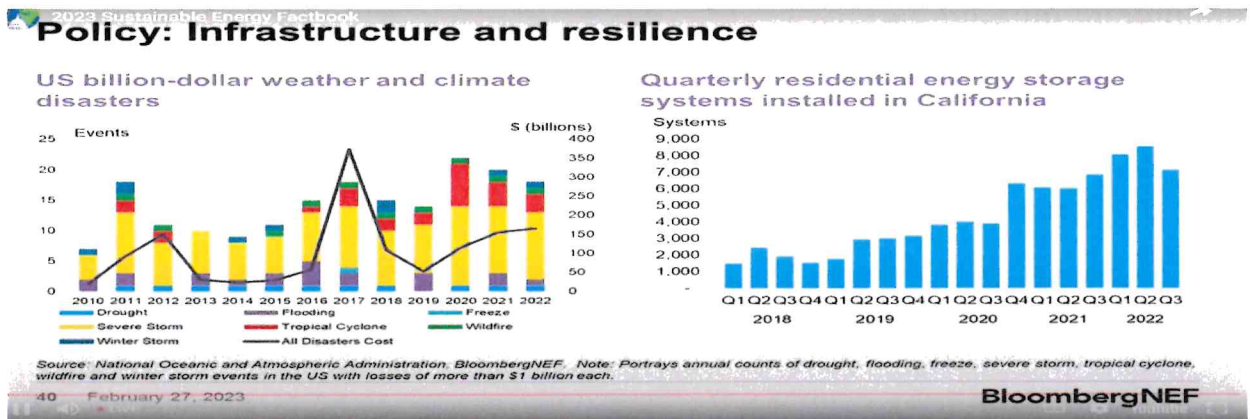
42 February 27, 2023

**BloombergNEF**

- [Biljana \(billie\) Kaumaya](#) Senior Director, Federal Affairs, [American Clean Power](#) US Cumulative renewable capacity. 2022 saw slightly less growth than 2021. Supply chain, delays to connect to the grid, market certainty and long standing barriers – permitting reform. There is a way to do that. 135GW Wind energy, \$66B clean projects projected. Last year 4GW battery storage, CA more battery storage installed than any other technology.
- [Yvonne McIntyre](#) Vice President, Federal Affairs, [PG&E Corporation](#) Seeing increase in battery installations. CA extreme weather events. Dec. EQ in service territory and 13 atmospheric events. Improved drought position by 26% but soil is now very lucent bringing down lot power lines. 54k PGE customers 500MW capacity customers built behind the meter. Tesla with customers provide power back to grid. Virtual Power plant. 16.5 MW and 4300 customers enrolled. Aug-Sept.2022 virtual power plant enacted 10x. TX now increasing and CO had a big wildfire. Look for ways to bolster system. ? Trends in electric vehicle. CA set goal no more combustion cars sold by 2035. CA has 425k EV in territory and



nearly 1 in 4 new cars sold in territory were EVs. PGE: Yes grid can take the new demand. Testing with Ford bi-directional technologies with Ford Lightning pu truck. Will offer special rate for those that participate in program. So hopefully will not have to rely on Fossil Fuel Plants anymore. GM also testing bidirectional. San Ramon HQ test center to support electric: gas hoods and VOCs associated with gas stoves and larger electric equipment. Want to see how to benefit and not just burden the electricity grid. PGE looking to switch Natural Gas to Hydrogen to support heavy industry.



(Note US Flag barely to Panel Speaker's right. Better placement than before but Flag is still on the panel's left. ).

###



## Air Quality, Climate Change, & Energy Workgroup

March 23, 2023

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID & Passcode: See Meeting Invite

Phone: See Meeting Invite

ITEM	LEAD
Welcome/Roll Call	Jackie Zipkin (Chair), Greg Kester and Sarah Deslauriers (CASA)
Review/Approval of Agenda	All

### STATE LEGISLATIVE & BUDGET UPDATE

	ITEM	LEAD	STATUS
1.	State Legislation	Jessica	2023 CA legislation introduced by Feb 17, ACE bills list
2.	Governor's Budget	Jessica	2023-24 Governor's <a href="#">proposed budget</a> , <a href="#">&gt;\$25 billion shortfall</a>

### PRIORITY ISSUES/ACTION ITEMS

	ITEM	LEAD	NOTES
1.	<a href="#">AB 32 Scoping Plan</a> Update: Carbon Neutrality by 2045	Sarah	<a href="#">Final</a> Scoping Plan adopted during Dec 15 Public Hearing, connect with CNRA regarding updates to the Natural & Working Lands GHG modeling (to include carbon sequestration on croplands)
2.	CARB Advanced Clean Vehicle Regulations	Sarah Steve David Greg	Proposed changes to <a href="#">public fleet</a> exemptions for medium-/heavy-duty trucks improved but no flexibility for SB 1383 vehicles (in Milestone Group 3 of draft <a href="#">high priority fleet</a> regulations), met with CARB Chair Randolph and CalEPA (w/ SWRCB, CalRecycle, CARB mobile, CARB climate), next release of 15-day changes expected late March, CARB staff seeking adoption <a href="#">April 27</a>
3.	<a href="#">SB 1383: Organic Waste CH<sub>4</sub> Reductions</a>	Greg Sarah	CalRecycle outreach to Counties, Article 2 applicant based on theoretical facility declined
4.	EPA <a href="#">Renewable Fuel Standard</a> RINs	Greg	EPA released a proposed set rule Nov 30, members testified Jan 10, CASA submitted comments Feb 10 supporting RIN values for sludge-vs food waste-derived biogas, adoption by June
5.	<a href="#">CARB Low Carbon Fuel Standard</a>	Greg	Feb 22 workshop held on potential changes to LCFS, comments submitted Mar 15
6.	<a href="#">Criteria Pollutants &amp; Toxics Emissions Reporting &amp; Hot Spots Program</a>	Sarah David	Wastewater sector can report BAU through 2028, working w/ CARB to finalize statewide two-step process participant list, CARB/Air Districts to approve field test participants, Air Toxics Subgroup meeting monthly – next meeting April 12
7.	Adaptation Update	Sarah	Sea Level Rise Action Plan – Next OPC meeting April 24, CCC to consider NOAA call to not include H++ scenario in SLR Guidance for Critical Infrastructure, <a href="#">alliance of regional collaboratives for climate adaptation</a> , ongoing updates to matrix summarizing Regional Water Board permit requirements for climate change

### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

	ITEM	LEAD	NOTES
1.	Carbon Sequestration Meta-Analysis	Sarah	Final report by Q1 2023, c-sequestration potential summary
2.	Mobile Methane Monitoring at WRRFs	Sarah	<a href="#">Princeton</a> /UC-Riverside study states WRRF methane emissions could be double what was previously thought
3.	BACT for Large Emergency Diesel Engines: BAAQMD, SMAQMD, SJVAPCD, SCAQMD	David	BAAQMD, SMAQMD, and SJVAPCD adopted Tier 4; SCAQMD to adopt Tier 4 w/ source test provisions
4.	Potential Amendments to Diesel Engine Off-Road Standards	Sarah	CARB Tier 5 rulemaking (including CO <sub>2</sub> standards), proposal 2024, implement to begin 2028, <a href="#">Workshop Dec 14</a>

### UPCOMING CONFERENCES/EVENTS

NAME	DATE/LOCATION
CASA Strategic Planning Retreat	Mar 14-15, Valley Springs
NACWA Water Policy Fly-In	April 25-26, DC
BACWA Annual Meeting	May 5, Berkeley
CVCWA Annual Meeting	May 11, Sacramento
WEF/IWA RBC, WEF Odors & Air Pollutants	May 16-19, Charlotte

**NEXT MEETING: April 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-10:30 am – may need to reschedule to attend CARB's Public Hearing**

## Air Quality, Climate Change, & Energy (ACE) Workgroup Meeting

March 23, 2023 (8:30 – 10:30 am)

Zoom Link – See Meeting Appointment



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### 2023 Outlook:

#### State legislation intro deadline – Feb 17<sup>th</sup>

(subgroup met March 17<sup>th</sup> and will meet again as the bills evolve to provide guidance to State Leg Committee on ACE-related bills)

#### Governor's budget

(deficit leading to cuts relative to last year)



2

## Assembly Bills in Review

Watch  
Spot  
Support  
Oppose

- AB 43 (Holden D) GHG emissions: building materials: embodied C trading system
- AB 241 (Reyes D) Clean Transportation Program
- AB 324 (Pacheco D) Gas corporations: renewable gas procurement
- AB 530 (Boerner Horvath D) Methane emissions (use of LCA for assessing landfills, use of biogas)
- AB 573 (Garcia D) Organic waste (OW): meeting recovered OW product procurement targets
- AB 673 (Bennett D) Hydrogen-fueling stations: preference
- AB 678 (Alvarez D) Biomethane procurement targets or goals: core transport agents
- AB 849 (Garcia D) Community emissions reduction programs
- AB 985 (Arambula D) Air pollution: mobile and stationary sources
- AB 1012 (Quirk Silva D) CARB: mobile source regulations: life cycle analysis
- AB 1216 (Muratsuchi D) WWTPs: monitoring of air pollutants
- AB 1374 (Alvarez D) GHG Reduction Fund: investment plan
- AB 1375 (Dixon R) Coastal protection
- AB 1401 (Garcia D) LCFS regulations: alternative diesel fuel regulations
- AB 1548 (Hart D) GHG Reduction Fund: grant program: recycling infrastructure projects
- AB 1550 (Bennett D) Green hydrogen
- AB 1594 (Garcia D) Medium- and heavy-duty ZEV: public agency utilities
- AB 1705 (McKinnor D) Solid waste facilities: state policy goals
- AB 1711 (Carrillo, Juan D) Energy: hydrogen: Clean Energy Equity Act

3



## Senate Bills in Review

Watch  
Spot  
Support  
Oppose

- SB 12 (Stern D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: emissions limit
- SB 488 (Alvarado-Gil D) RPS Program: bioenergy projects: community choice aggregators
- SB 493 (Min D) Air pollution: alternative vehicles and electric and hydrogen infrastructure
- SB 501 (Newman D) Hydrogen refueling stations: reliability and service quality plan
- SB 663 (Archuleta D) RPS Program: renewable hydrogen
- SB 709 (Allen D) GHG Reduction Fund: investment plan
- SB 781 (Stern D) Methane emissions: low-methane natural gas

4



## Priority Issues/ Action Items



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### 1. AB 32 Scoping Plan Update: Carbon Neutrality

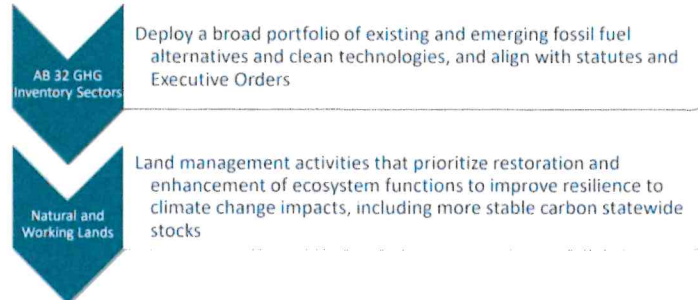
- **CARB Target:** Carbon neutrality by 2045
- Scoping Plan outlines programs to be implemented
  - Natural and Working Lands (AB 284 / SB 27)
  - Building Decarbonization
  - Electricity Decarbonization (SB 100)
  - Transportation Sector (EO N-79-20)
  - Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SB 1383 regulations)
  - Environmental Justice (manage GHG and local air pollutants)
- CARB Public Hearing December 15<sup>th</sup> – Scoping Plan Update adopted!



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## 1. AB 32 Scoping Plan Update: Carbon Neutrality

### ■ CARB’s two-pronged approach:



### Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy targets increased C-sequestration and improved soil health

- Modeling to be updated in 2023 to address limitations (replacing synthetic fertilizer and soil amendments to croplands)
- Healthy soils program and grant funding (release in Feb, due in April)



## 2. CARB Advanced Clean Fleet (ACF) Regulations

- Proposed changes to ACF regulations released February 6<sup>th</sup>
- Workshop February 13<sup>th</sup>, redlines submitted February 24<sup>th</sup>

### Public Fleets Regulation

State/local government agency, not a low population county, w/ 11 or more vehicles in fleet:

- January 1, 2024, 50% of vehicle purchases in each calendar year must be ZEVs; and
- January 1, 2027, 100% of vehicle purchases in each calendar year must be ZEVs.

State/local government agency, in low population county, or 10 or fewer vehicles in fleet:

- January 1, 2027, 100% of vehicle purchases in each calendar year must be ZEVs.

Improved exemptions!

### High Priority Fleets

Can opt into this regulation, allows extended time to transition medium- and heavy-duty fleet vehicles; however, does NOT provide flexibility for SB 1383 implementation

- Only allows trucks that are fueled by CNG as of January 1, 2024, to continue being fueled with CNG
- Does not provide time for sector to demonstrate biogas-to-hydrogen use in zero-emission technologies



## 2. CARB Advanced Clean Fleet (ACF) Regulations

- Met with Chair Randolph (February 23<sup>rd</sup>)
- Met with CalEPA (March 6<sup>th</sup>) – CalEPA invited SWRCB, CalRecycle, CARB (mobile), and CARB (climate) – CalEPA recognizes the issue and is working to reconvene folks to discuss options to resolve, but we are waiting for...
- CARB staff to release formal 15-day – Tony Brasil stated it will be released any day (by end of March)
- Public Hearing to adopt regulation, April 27<sup>th</sup> – may need members to speak depending on the language in the latest regulation!



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## 3. SB 1383: Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reduction



- 40% methane reduction by 2030 (relative to 2013 levels)
- Organic waste diversion from landfills  
(includes biosolids, digestate, and sludges)
  - 50% by 2020 (relative to 2014 levels)
  - 75% by 2025 (relative to 2014 levels)
- Implementation
  - State to enforce jurisdictions Jan 1, 2022 (local entities enter agreements)
  - Local jurisdictions to start enforcement Jan 1, 2024
  - Compliance by Jan 1, 2025
- CalRecycle outreach regarding county ordinances
- Article 2 applicant not approved – H Cycle, theoretically produces a low-carbon hydrogen using thermal conversion technology



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## 4. EPA Renewable Fuel Standard: RINs

- Misinterpretation since 2017
- RFS Renewable Identification Number (RIN) values for sludge-based biogas (D3, cellulosic) vs food waste-based biogas (D5, advanced biomass fuel)
- Proposed Set Rule released for public comment Nov 30<sup>th</sup> – reflects “Plan B” apportioning RINs based on feedstock
  - Allows specifying operational parameters for sewage sludge digestion
  - Volume awarded a D3 RIN to be subtracted from the total volume of biogas produced – the difference assumed to be produced from the added organic waste and awarded D5 RIN
  - eRINs – RIN credit awarded to vehicle manufacturer vs biogas producer
- Comments submitted February 10<sup>th</sup>
- Planned adoption by June 2023



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## 5. CARB Low Carbon Fuel Standard

- Designed to reduce fossil fuel dependence:
  - Decrease carbon intensity of CA's transportation fuel pool
  - Provide increasing range of low-carbon and renewable alternatives
- July 2022 to present day workshops discussed potential changes
- Latest recommendations continue to promote biogas to hydrogen pathways
- Feedback on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Comments submitted March 15<sup>th</sup>



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## 6. Criteria Pollutants & Toxics Reporting and Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Program Updates

- AB 617 gives CARB authority to “harmonize” air monitoring, reporting, & emission reductions from stationary sources
- AB 2588 Hot Spots compound list is >1,700 compounds (from >500)
  - Unknown toxicity levels
  - Unknown emission factors
  - Many are not relevant to WWTPs
- Phased compliance allows WWTPs to:
  - Report business-as-usual through 2028 (reporting begins 2029 for 2028 data)
  - Perform “two-step process” for determining shortlist of compounds
    - Scanning air space of unit processes to determine detectable compounds
    - Determining the sampling and analysis methods to quantify emissions (Mimic 1990 Pooled Emissions Estimation Program, PEEP, but broader in scope)



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## 6. Next steps

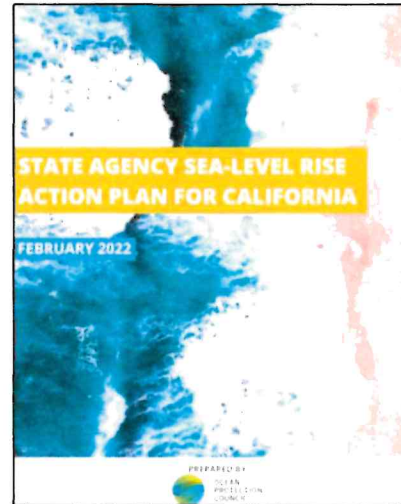
- Revising list of agencies exceeding regulatory thresholds, 100+ facilities:
  - >10 MGD, covered primaries
  - >5 MGD, uncovered primaries
- **Coordinating meeting with Nicole Dolney (CARB) to confirm threshold and review approach to Step 1 (desktop exercise, narrow scan step to be performed at a single WWTP in Bay Area, Central Valley, South Coast)**
- **Coordinating meetings with air districts to discuss Step 1 (desktop exercise to narrow down the compounds)**
- Administrative tasks
  - Select governing structure – CASA Board approved their role as Fiscal Agent
  - Working to improve estimated budget and contributions by flow
- Actions led by Subgroup (next meeting April 12<sup>th</sup>) – let me know if you’d like to join!



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## 7. Adaptation: OPC Sea Level Rise Action Plan (FY 2021/22 – 2024/25)

- Released Feb 2022 by SLR Leadership Team (finalized in August 2022)
- ~80 State Actions categorized by SLR Principle
  - 1. Best Available Science
  - 2. Partnerships
  - 3. Communications
  - 4. Local Support
  - 5. Alignment
  - 6. Resilience Projects
  - 7. Equity & Social Justice
- Next round of updates in spring 2023
- Upcoming OPC Meetings
  - April 24
  - August 15
  - December 12



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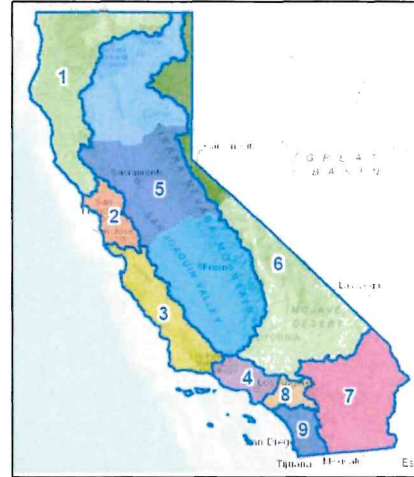
## 7. Adaptation: CA Coastal Commission Sea Level Rise

- Coastal Commission Local Government Sea Level Rise Working Group to discuss options for further development and implementation of sea level rise adaptation options, including via Local Coastal Program updates.
- Statewide SLR planning guidance to be updated – CCC to consider NOAA's recommendation, not to consider the H++ scenario
- Sustainability Principles Draft document out for review by April 24<sup>th</sup>
  - While planning for adaptation to new conditions is essential, so are actions to proactively reduce the GHG emissions that drive the current climate trajectories
  - Set of guiding principles and next implementation steps for taking action to reduce GHG emissions through land use policy and permitting decisions

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## 7. CA Adaptation: Varying Approaches to Resilience Planning across Regional Water Boards

- NPDES/WDR permit renewals requiring climate change vulnerability assessments, action plans, resilience plans, disaster preparedness plans, etc...of varying scopes depending on the Regional Water Board
- Some are more prescript than others
- Please be aware of your region's approach (working with Region 3)
- New matrix to be shared by March 31<sup>st</sup>!



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## 7. Adaptation: Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation

- North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP)
- Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative (CRCRC)
- Sierra Climate Adaptation & Mitigation Partnership (Sierra CAMP)
- Bay Area Climate Adaptation Network (BayCAN)
- Central Coast Climate Collaborative (4C)
- Inland Southern California Climate Collaborative (ISC3)
- Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability (LARC)
- San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative (SDRCC)



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## Informational Items



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### 1. Carbon Sequestration Meta-Analysis

#### Systematic Reviews & Data Extraction

- Virginia Tech to understand C-sequestration potential from land-applied biosolids
- Review of published and unpublished data
- Promote biosolids research, identify gaps, and inform/harmonize future collection methods

#### Status of Report Summarizing Findings

- Report to be released March 2023
- Expecting high level overview and evidence of c-sequestration via biosolids land application



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## 2. Mobile Methane Monitoring at WRRFs

- Led by Princeton and UC-Riverside – Mark Zondlo and Z. Jason Ren
- Princeton Atmospheric Chemistry Experiment (PACE) Mobile Laboratory – **quantified plant-wide emissions** by measuring plumes of 63 WWTPs on east coast and in CA
- Article states “Wastewater sector emits nearly twice as much methane as previously thought”
  - “The waste sector is one of the largest anthropogenic sources of methane in the world,” said Mark Zondlo. “As cities continue to urbanize and **develop net-zero plans**, they can't ignore the liquid wastewater treatment sector.”
  - “Not many people have studied the methane emissions associated with wastewater infrastructure, even though we know that it's a hotspot for methane **production**,” said Z. Jason Ren, who led the second study.
  - “We were able to show, using two different approaches, that methane emissions are a much bigger issue for the wastewater sector than previously thought,” Ren said
  - The researchers found that **plants with anaerobic digesters emitted more than three times the methane** than plants without digesters.
  - Along with anaerobic digesters, the critical review found that methane emissions from **sewer systems** contribute significantly to nationwide methane emissions.



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## 3. BACT, Large Emergency Diesel Engines $\geq 1,000$ bhp

- Air District Activities
  - BAAQMD – effective January 1, 2020
  - Sacramento Metro AQMD – effective June 4, 2021
  - San Joaquin Valley APCD – effective April 29, 2022
  - South Coast AQMD – approved September 2, 2022
    - BACT scientific review committee and public review process underway
    - Compliant engines are tested by their manufacturers, SCAP would like to see testing requirements for compliant engines matching that for certified engines to avoid unnecessary testing requirements onsite
    - Side note: SCAQMD advises operators not to use backup generators when the power is NOT out (for example, during the September 2022 heat wave)
- CARB interest in replacing existing backup generators by 2037
- SCAQMD to incentivize (\$) demonstration of new technology



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## 4. Potential Amendments to Diesel Engine Off-Road Emission Standards

- “Tier 5 Rulemaking”
  - Reduce NO<sub>x</sub> (up to 90%) and PM (up to 75%) compared to Tier 4 standards
  - Stringent exhaust standards for all power categories, including those that do not utilize exhaust aftertreatment (i.e., DPFs and SCRs)
  - First-time CO<sub>2</sub> standards
- Proposal to Board expected by 2024
- Implementation to begin in 2028
- Workshop held December 14<sup>th</sup> on Concepts for Averaging, Banking, and Trading, Idle Reduction, and OnBoard Diagnostics
- CARB has funded research projects to assess feasibility of lower NO<sub>x</sub>, PM, and CO<sub>2</sub> emission standards, as well as representative useful-life periods



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## Conferences/Events

- **CASA RWG Strategic Planning Retreat**  
March 14-15<sup>th</sup>, Valley Springs
- **NACWA Water Policy Fly-In**  
April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, DC
- **BACWA Annual Meeting**  
May 5<sup>th</sup>, Berkeley
- **CVCWA Annual Meeting**  
May 11<sup>th</sup>, Sacramento
- **WEF/IWA RBC concurrent with WEF Odors & Air Pollutants**  
May 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, Charlotte



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## Upcoming Meetings

- April 27<sup>th</sup> – may need to reschedule for us to attend CARB's Public Hearing on the Advanced Clean Fleet Regulations

Thank you!



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## CASA ACE Committee Bill Tracker 3/22/2023

### AB 43

**(Holden D) Greenhouse gas emissions: building materials: embodied carbon trading system.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/2/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 12/5/2022

**Last Amend:** 3/2/2023

**Status:** 3/6/2023-Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

**Location:** 3/2/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Calendar:** 3/27/2023 2:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY NATURAL RESOURCES, RIVAS, LUZ, Chair

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Air Resources Board, by July 1, 2023, to develop a comprehensive strategy for the state’s cement sector to achieve net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases associated with cement used within the state as soon as possible, but no later than December 31, 2045. Current law, effective January 1, 2023, requires the state board, by July 1, 2025, to develop, in consultation with specified stakeholders, a framework for measuring and then reducing the average carbon intensity of the materials used in the construction of new buildings, including those for residential uses. This bill would require the state board to establish an embodied carbon trading system, as defined, and would make it applicable to building materials providers, developers, architectural and engineering firms, and construction companies. The bill would require the state board to integrate the embodied carbon trading system into the framework on or before December 31, 2026, and to implement the system on and after January 1, 2029. The bill would require the state board to adopt rules and regulations for the credit allocation method, the anticipated carbon price in the scheme, and trading periods, and would make a violation of a rule, regulation, order, emission limitation, emissions reduction measure, or other measure adopted by the state board pursuant to these and other requirements of the bill an emission of an air contaminant for the purposes of the penalty provisions of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Jessica	ACE, SLC

### AB 241

**(Reyes D) Clean Transportation Program.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 1/13/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 1/13/2023

**Status:** 1/14/2023-From printer. May be heard in committee February 13.

**Location:** 1/13/2023-A. PRINT

**Summary:** The California Alternative and Renewable Fuel, Vehicle Technology, Clean Air, and Carbon Reduction Act of 2007 creates the Clean Transportation Program, administered by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to provide funding to certain entities to develop and deploy innovative technologies that transform California’s fuel and vehicle types to help attain the state’s climate change policies. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation related to the Clean Transportation Program.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch Spot Bill	Jessica	ACE

### AB 324

**(Pacheco D) Gas corporations: renewable gas procurement.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 1/30/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 1/30/2023

**Status:** 2/9/2023-Referred to Coms. on U. & E. and NAT. RES.

**Location:** 2/9/2023-A. U. & E.

**Calendar:** 3/22/2023 Upon adjournment of Governmental Organization Committee - 1021 O Street, Room 1100 ASSEMBLY UTILITIES AND ENERGY, GARCIA, EDUARDO, Chair

**Summary:** Existing law authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to establish rules and to fix the rates and charges for all public utilities, subject to control by the Legislature, and requires that the rates and charges of a public utility be just and reasonable. Current law requires the commission and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to undertake specified actions to advance the state’s clean energy and pollution reduction objectives, including, where feasible, cost effective, and consistent with other state policy objectives, increasing the use of large- and small-scale energy storage with a variety of technologies, including green electrolytic hydrogen, as defined. This bill would require the commission to open a new proceeding, or a new phase of an existing proceeding, to consider establishing procurement goals for renewable hydrogen, as defined, and consider requiring each gas corporation and core transport agent to annually procure a proportionate share of renewable hydrogen to meet those goals. The bill would require the commission to make specified findings before establishing renewable hydrogen procurement targets or goals.

Position	Assigned	Group
Support	Jessica	ACE



**AB 530****(Boerner Horvath D) Methane emissions.****Current Text:** Amended: 3/9/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/8/2023**Last Amend:** 3/9/2023**Status:** 3/13/2023-Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES.**Location:** 3/9/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Air Resources Board, no later than January 1, 2018, to approve and begin implementing the comprehensive short-lived climate pollutant strategy to achieve a reduction in the statewide emissions of methane by 40%, hydrofluorocarbon gases by 40%, and anthropogenic black carbon by 50% below 2013 levels by 2030. Current law requires the state board to undertake certain tasks, including consulting with federal and state agencies, independent scientific experts, and any other appropriate entities to gather or acquire the necessary information to carry out a life-cycle greenhouse gas emission analysis of natural gas produced and imported into the state using the best available and cost-effective scientific and technical methods, and to update relevant policies and programs to incorporate this information and other specified information. This bill would additionally require the state board to consult with the aforementioned stakeholders to gather and acquire the necessary information to estimate, using the best available and cost-effective scientific and technical methods, methane emissions from landfills in the state.

**Position**

Watch

**Assigned**

Jessica

**Group**

ACE, SLC

**AB 573****(Garcia D) Organic waste: meeting recovered organic waste product procurement targets.****Current Text:** Amended: 3/16/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/8/2023**Last Amend:** 3/16/2023**Status:** 3/20/2023-Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES.**Location:** 3/16/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** Current law requires, no later than January 1, 2018, the State Air Resources Board to approve and begin implementing a comprehensive short-lived climate pollutant strategy to achieve a certain reduction in statewide emissions of methane, including a goal of a 75% reduction in the level of the statewide disposal of organic waste from the 2014 level by 2025. Current law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, in consultation with the state board, to adopt regulations to achieve these organic waste reduction goals, that provide for, among other things, the calculation by the department of recovered organic waste product procurement targets for each local jurisdiction, and that may include penalties to be imposed by the department for noncompliance. This bill would require the department's regulations to allow a local jurisdiction, until December 1, 2039, in procuring recovered organic waste products to meet the target procurement requirements, to use California-derived recovered organic waste that the local jurisdiction sends for processing at a facility or operation outside of the state that meets certain conditions, as provided.

**Position**

Watch

**Assigned**

Jessica

**Group**

ACE

**AB 673****(Bennett D) Hydrogen-fueling stations: preference.****Current Text:** Amended: 3/13/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/13/2023**Last Amend:** 3/13/2023**Status:** 3/21/2023-Coauthors revised. From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on NAT. RES. (Ayes 15. Noes 0.) (March 20). Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES.**Location:** 3/21/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** Would, except for the Clean Transportation Program and moneys allocated from the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Fund, require the State Energy Resources Conservation Development Commission, when considering providing funding for projects for the construction and operation of hydrogen-fueling medium- and heavy-duty stations, to evaluate whether the project needs to also include access for light-duty vehicles. In this evaluation, the bill would require the commission to consider safety, regional light-duty vehicle hydrogen fueling needs, and the station fueling capacity.

**Position**

Watch

**Assigned**

Spencer

**Group**

ACE

**AB 678****(Alvarez D) Biomethane procurement targets or goals: core transport agents.****Current Text:** Introduced: 2/13/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/13/2023**Status:** 2/23/2023-Referred to Coms. on U. & E. and NAT. RES.**Location:** 2/23/2023-A. U. & E.**Calendar:** 3/22/2023 Upon adjournment of Governmental Organization Committee - 1021 O Street,

Room 1100 ASSEMBLY UTILITIES AND ENERGY, GARCIA, EDUARDO, Chair

**Summary:** Current law requires the Public Utilities Commission to require each gas corporation to provide bundled basic gas service to all core customers in its service territory unless the customer chooses or contracts to have natural gas purchased and supplied by another entity. Current law requires the commission, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board, to consider adopting specific biomethane procurement targets or goals for each gas corporation, as specified. This bill would require the commission to establish biomethane procurement targets or goals for core transport agents, as defined, consistent with those biomethane procurement targets or goals described above.

Position	Assigned	Group
Support	Jessica	ACE

**AB 849** (**Garcia D**) **Community emissions reduction programs.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/15/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/14/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/15/2023

**Status:** 3/16/2023-Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

**Location:** 2/23/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Calendar:** 3/27/2023 2:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY NATURAL RESOURCES, RIVAS, LUZ, Chair

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Air Resources Board to prepare, and to update at least once every 5 years, a statewide strategy to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants in communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden. Current law requires the state board to include in the statewide strategy, among other components, an assessment and identification of communities with high cumulative exposure burdens for toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants, prioritizing disadvantaged communities and sensitive receptor locations based on specified factors. Current law requires the state board, based on the assessment and identification of communities with high cumulative exposure burdens, to select locations around the state for preparation of community emissions reduction programs. Current law requires an air district encompassing any location selected by the state board to adopt, in consultation with the state board, within one year of the state board's selection, a community emissions reduction program to achieve emissions reductions for the location selected using cost-effective measures, as specified. Current law also requires an air district to submit the community emissions reduction program to the state board for review and approval as prescribed. Current law requires the air district and the state board to implement and enforce the measures in the community emissions reduction program consistent with their respective authority. This bill would additionally require the air district, in adopting a community emissions reduction program, to consult with other relevant state agencies.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Jessica	ACE

**AB 985** (**Arambula D**) **Air pollution: mobile and stationary sources.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/15/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/15/2023

**Status:** 2/16/2023-From printer. May be heard in committee March 18.

**Location:** 2/15/2023-A. PRINT

**Summary:** Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to examine potential solutions to reduce or eliminate stationary and mobile sources of air pollution.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch Spot Bill	Jessica	ACE

**AB 1012** (**Quirk-Silva D**) **State Air Resources Board: mobile source regulations: lifecycle analysis.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/15/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/15/2023

**Status:** 3/20/2023-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

**Location:** 3/2/2023-A. TRANS.

**Calendar:** 4/17/2023 2:30 p.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100 ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION, FRIEDMAN, LAURA, Chair

**Summary:** Current law requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt and implement motor vehicle emission standards, in-use performance standards, and motor vehicle fuel specifications for the control of air contaminants. This bill would require the state board, if it proposes a regulation that would require a mobile source to use a particular technology, to perform a lifecycle analysis that considers all of the environmental impacts of the required technology before the adoption of the regulation.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Jessica	ACE

**AB 1374** (**Alvarez D**) **Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: investment plan.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/17/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Status:** 3/2/2023-Referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

**Location:** 3/2/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 authorizes the State Air Resources Board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Current law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and to be available upon appropriation. Current law requires the Department of Finance, in consultation with the state board and any other relevant state agency, to develop, as specified, a 3-year investment plan for the moneys deposited in the fund. Current law requires the investment plan to allocate, among other things, a minimum of 25% of the available moneys in the fund to projects located within, and benefiting individuals living in, disadvantaged communities and an additional minimum of 5% to projects that benefit low-income households or to projects located within, and benefiting individuals living in, low-income communities located anywhere in the state. This bill would increase those amounts from 25% to 50% and from 5% to 15%.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Jessica	ACE

**AB 1375 (Dixon R) Coastal protection.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/17/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Status:** 2/18/2023-From printer. May be heard in committee March 20.

**Location:** 2/17/2023-A. PRINT

**Summary:** The California Coastal Act of 1976 provides for the protection of California's coast and requires any person wishing to perform or undertake any development in the coastal zone, as defined, to obtain a coastal development permit, except as specified. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation related to coastal protection.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch Spot Bill	Jessica	ACE

**AB 1401 (Garcia D) Low Carbon Fuel Standard regulations: alternative diesel fuel regulations.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/13/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/13/2023

**Status:** 3/20/2023-In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.

**Location:** 3/9/2023-A. TRANS.

**Summary:** The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt rules and regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emissions reductions to ensure that the statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit, as defined, no later than December 31, 2030. Pursuant to the act, the state board has adopted the Low Carbon Fuel Standard regulations. This bill would require the state board, in administering the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, to deem a Tier 2 pathway application certified under specified circumstances.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Spencer	ACE

**AB 1548 (Hart D) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: grant program: recycling infrastructure projects.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/16/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/16/2023

**Status:** 3/20/2023-Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

**Location:** 3/16/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The act authorizes the state board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board as a part of the market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. This bill contains other existing laws.

Position	Assigned	Group
Refer to ACE Committee	Jessica	ACE

**AB 1550 (Bennett D) Green hydrogen.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/17/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Status:** 3/9/2023-Referred to Coms. on U. & E. and NAT. RES.

**Location:** 3/9/2023-A. U. & E.

**Calendar:** 4/12/2023 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 437 ASSEMBLY UTILITIES AND ENERGY, GARCIA, EDUARDO, Chair

**Summary:** Existing law requires the State Air Resources Board to develop and adopt hydrogen fuel regulations to ensure that state funding for the production and use of hydrogen fuel contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, criteria air pollutant emissions, and toxic air contaminant emissions, including by requiring that, on a statewide basis, no less than 33.3% of the hydrogen produced for, or dispensed by, fueling stations that receive state funds be made from eligible renewable energy resources, as specified. Under existing law, a violation of those regulations, and other provisions pertaining to motor vehicle fuels, is a crime. This bill would require, on and after January 1, 2045, that all hydrogen produced and used in California for the generation of electricity or fueling of vehicles be green hydrogen. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Spencer	ACE

**AB 1594 (Garcia D) Medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles: public agency utilities.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/13/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/13/2023

**Status:** 3/14/2023-Re-referred to Com. on TRANS.

**Location:** 3/9/2023-A. TRANS.

**Summary:** Current law establishes the Air Quality Improvement Program that is administered by the State Air Resources Board for purposes of funding projects related to, among other things, the reduction of criteria air pollutants and improvement of air quality, and establishes the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Fleet Purchasing Assistance Program within the Air Quality Improvement Program to make financing tools and nonfinancial supports available to operators of medium- and heavy-duty vehicle fleets to enable those operators to transition their fleets to zero-emission vehicles. This bill would require any state regulation that seeks to require, or otherwise compel, the procurement of medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles by a public agency utility to ensure that those vehicles can support a public agency utility's ability to maintain reliable water and electric services, respond to disasters in an emergency capacity, and provide mutual aid assistance statewide and nationwide, among other requirements. The bill would define a public agency utility to include a local publicly owned electric utility, a community water system, and a wastewater treatment provider, as specified.

Position	Assigned	Group
Refer to ACE Committee	Jessica	ACE

**AB 1705 (McKinnor D) Solid waste facilities: state policy goals.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/21/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/21/2023

**Status:** 3/21/2023-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on NAT. RES. Read second time and amended.

**Location:** 3/9/2023-A. NAT. RES.

**Summary:** Current law prohibits a person from establishing or expanding a solid waste facility in a county after a countywide or regional agency integrated waste management plan has been approved unless the solid waste facility is, among other things, a disposal facility, a transformation facility, or an EMSW conversion facility that meets specific criteria. Current law defines an "EMSW conversion facility" as a facility where municipal solid waste conversion that meets specific requirements takes place and defines "transformation" as incineration, pyrolysis, distillation, or biological conversion, excluding composting, gasification, EMSW conversion, or biomass conversion. Current law authorizes the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, by regulation, to specify classifications of solid waste facilities that are exempt from these and other facility regulations if the department makes specific findings, including that the nature of the solid wastes poses no significant threat to the public health, the public safety, or the environment. This bill would prohibit a person from establishing or expanding a transformation facility or an EMSW conversion facility in the state until the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery has determined that the state has achieved the above-described solid waste and organic waste policy goals of the state for 3 consecutive years.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Jessica	ACE, SLC

**AB 1711 (Carrillo, Juan D) Energy: hydrogen: Clean Energy Equity Act.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/16/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/16/2023

**Status:** 3/20/2023-Re-referred to Com. on TRANS.

**Location:** 3/16/2023-A. TRANS.

**Calendar:** 4/17/2023 2:30 p.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100 ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION, FRIEDMAN, LAURA, Chair

**Summary:** Would enact the Clean Energy Equity Act and would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to equitably allocate moneys appropriated by the Legislature for purposes of achieving an accessible statewide hydrogen-fueling network and expanding an existing hydrogen-fueling network, as necessary, to specifically prioritize rural communities and low-income communities. The bill would require the commission and the State Air Resources Board to jointly review and submit a report to the Legislature on the progress toward establishing a statewide hydrogen-fueling network that is equally accessible to all communities, especially rural communities and low-income communities.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Spencer	ACE

**SB 12**

**(Stern D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: emissions limit.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 12/5/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 12/5/2022

**Status:** 3/15/2023-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 2.) (March 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 3/15/2023-S. APPR.

**Summary:** Under the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, the State Air Resources Board is required to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020 and to ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the 1990 level by no later than December 31, 2030. Under the act, a violation of a rule, regulation, order, emission limitation, emission reduction measure, or other measure adopted by the state board under the act is a crime. This bill instead would require the state board to ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 55% below the 1990 level by no later than December 31, 2030.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Jessica	ACE

**SB 488**

**(Alvarado-Gil D) California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: bioenergy projects: community choice aggregators.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/14/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/14/2023

**Status:** 2/22/2023-Referred to Com. on E., U. & C.

**Location:** 2/22/2023-S. E. U., & C.

**Summary:** Would authorize the cumulative rated generating capacity to be procured from bioenergy projects regardless of when the projects commence operations. The bill also would authorize a community choice aggregator to procure, subject to terms of at least 5 years, any portion of a local publicly owned electric utility's required proportionate share of 125 megawatts of cumulative rated generating capacity from bioenergy projects that was not procured because of the exemption described above.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Jessica	ACE

**SB 493**

**(Min D) Air pollution: alternative vehicles and electric and hydrogen infrastructure.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/14/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/14/2023

**Status:** 3/21/2023-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on E.Q. (Ayes 17. Noes 0.) (March 21). Re-referred to Com. on E.Q.

**Location:** 3/21/2023-S. E.Q.

**Summary:** Would require the Energy Commission, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board and the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), to conduct an assessment, as specified, of the electric and hydrogen infrastructure needed to meet the deadlines in Executive Order No. N-79-20 for the transition of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles to zero-emission vehicles. The bill would require the Energy Commission, on or before December 31, 2024, to post the assessment on its internet website and submit the assessment to the Legislature. The bill would require the state board to incorporate the findings of the assessment into a strategic plan to meet the deadlines in Executive Order No. N-79-20 for the transition of medium- and heavy-duty fleets to zero-emission vehicles. The bill would require the state board to post the strategic plan on its internet website and submit the plan to the Legislature on or before December 31, 2025.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch	Spencer	ACE

**SB 501 (Newman D) Hydrogen refueling stations: reliability and service quality plan.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/20/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/14/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/20/2023

**Status:** 3/20/2023-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.

**Location:** 2/14/2023-S. RLS.

**Summary:** Would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to develop a plan for improving reliability, service quality, and operational uptime of retail hydrogen fueling stations, would require specified metrics for measuring reliability, and would require the use of a public workshop process to develop the measures. The bill would require hydrogen refueling stations to maintain a publicly available online customer feedback portal, post the online address for the portal in a place clearly visible to a customer during refueling, and disqualify a refueling station from receiving publicly funded grants if it fails to comply. The bill would require the energy commission to convene a public workshop process to create additional feedback portal requirements.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch Spot Bill	Jessica	ACE

**SB 663 (Archuleta D) California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: renewable hydrogen.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/20/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/16/2023

**Last Amend:** 3/20/2023

**Status:** 3/20/2023-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.

**Location:** 2/16/2023-S. RLS.

**Summary:** Current law establishes the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program, which requires the Public Utilities Commission to implement annual procurement targets for the procurement of eligible renewable energy resources, which is defined as an electrical generating facility that meets the definition of "renewable electrical generation facility" subject to certain conditions, for all retail sellers, as defined, and requires local publicly owned electric utilities to adopt and implement a renewable energy resources procurement plan to achieve the targets and goals of the program. This bill would include a facility that uses renewable hydrogen, as defined, meeting certain requirements, including a requirement that sellers and purchasers of renewable hydrogen comply with a system for tracking and verifying the use of renewable hydrogen, as a renewable electrical generation facility for purposes of the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

Position	Assigned	Group
Watch Spot Bill	Jessica	ACE

**SB 709 (Allen D) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: investment plan.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/16/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/16/2023

**Status:** 3/1/2023-Referred to Com. on E.Q.

**Location:** 3/1/2023-S. E.Q.

**Summary:** The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases. The act authorizes the state board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Existing law requires the Department of Finance, in consultation with the state board and any other relevant state agency, to develop, as specified, a 3-year investment plan for the moneys deposited in the fund. This bill would require the 3-year investment plan to additionally identify and analyze conflicts and overlapping policies, where applicable, in current state strategies to meeting the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and targets by sector.

Position	Assigned	Group
Support	Jessica	ACE

**SB 781 (Stern D) Methane emissions: low-methane natural gas.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/17/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2023

**Status:** 3/7/2023-Set for hearing March 29.

**Location:** 3/1/2023-S. E.Q.

**Calendar:** 3/29/2023 9 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1200 SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, ALLEN,

BENJAMIN, Chair

**Summary:** The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases that cause global warming in order to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. The act requires all state agencies to consider and implement strategies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. This bill would additionally require state agencies to prioritize strategies to reduce methane emissions, including emissions from imported natural gas, where feasible and cost effective. The bill would require, no later than December 31, 2025, that natural gas procured on behalf of state agencies be certified as producing low-methane emissions. The bill would also require the state board, the Public Utilities Commission, and other relevant agencies to timely consider programs, or changes to existing programs, to reduce methane emissions, including emissions from imported natural gas procured by utilities and other large gas users. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**Position**  
Watch

**Assigned**  
Jessica

**Group**  
ACE

**Total Measures: 25**  
**Total Tracking Forms: 25**

CASA ACE  
March 23, 2023  
Notes  
Craig K. Murray

51 Participants in meeting.

CA State Legislation

Jessica Gauger: Month of heavy policy committee hearings, bills in by 2/17 and by April to be heard. Support: AB 324 Pacheco Procurement Targets for renewable hydrogen; AB 678 Alvarez Req. PUC procurement targets of biomethane; AB 1594 Garcia medium and heavy ZEVs. Sponsored by CA Utilities Assoc. To ensure that vehicles are reliable and can support public agencies: electric, water & WW; SB 709 Allen GHG Reduction Fund. Lot of Hydrogen Bills this year and appears to be a hot topic with the State of California Legislature this year. Budget: Started to meet. Budget Analyst: Think revenues will be even worse than the Gov. projecting and recommending further Dept. cuts including Cal Recycle Organics Mgt. discussed in Senate budget committee last week. Already not enough \$ to support SB 1383 implementation. CASA signed onto letter with others opposing the LAO recommendations.

Sarah: AB 530 Boerner Horvath and AB 1012 thinking about additional pathways of biogas use. ACF not giving us enough flexibility and this bill would provide some of that what we need. Julia Levin, Bioenergy Association: Large group of Green groups pushing hard not to use hydrogen. Letter and call to others to support to include biomethane and Near ZEV vehicle that is not feasible.

Jessica: Biosolids bill and group opposing with materials such as fibers in biosolids. Sarah: To include this on the future ACE list. Sarah: Sub group on Leg. Met last Friday and will continue to meet.

Priority Issues/Action Items:

AB 32: Some issues with Advanced Clean Fleet(ACF) Rule to not accept that green waste. Julia Levin: fuels have to go to Electric as the best use of biogas. Greg Kester: Think we need Tech dev and demonstrations that Biomethane to Hydrogen as fuel and we think it is best to direct as fuel. Julia Levin totally agree but where regulators are on this.

CARB ACF: close to adoption. Feb.6 latest changes. Feb.13 workshop related to SB 1383. Public Fleets regulation has an extended timeline. Does allow trucks fueled with CNG to continue. Does not provide time for sector to demonstrate biogas to hydrogen as transportation fuel. Steve Jepsen: If not replacing a vehicle can continue to use it. High Priority Fleet actually req. replacement on timeline. 2033 10% fleets have to be zero emission. By regulation, 18 years or 450k miles to replace otherwise. Feb 23 met with Chair Randolph on unintended consequences on ACF implementation. She said she would meet with Staff. Have not heard back. Gov Office accepting comment letters on ACF this week. CASA next two days working on this. Support continued use to biogas and biogas use to hydrogen. April 27 date ACF up for adoption. David Rothbart: No decision for Board to make, just yes/no vote and no public hearing therefore no option. Last chance is to sway with Gov Office. Existing regs. Tend to allow diesel trucks longer than what people want and what gov office to look at. But cleanest is biogas generated rather than Diesel. Maybe Cal EPA will work with us as well. Jepsen: not get food waste diversion with 1383 with this ACF regulations. Sarah: Folks will agree not to accept it from this ACF regulations. Levin: Biogas is getting squeezed out of transportation fuel as part of the program. What do we see is right and a continuing market in the State of California if these other programs are not proven viable.



Info. Item Review: 2. UCR & Princeton Mobile Methane Monitoring at WRRFs. Vehicle w/equipt and drive around WWTPs, not source, but plant and looking at plumes of 63 plants in USA. Found methane emissions from sewer systems contribute significantly to nationwide methane emissions. Plants with AD emit more than 3x the methane than plants w/o digesters. Rothbart: Study now is published and out and WWTP obviously in disagreement and is there now a process to "Walk it Back" since this is now out there (how to calculate GHG emissions, vague methodology). Sarah: there are guidance documents for baseline but light in scientific basis. Jepsen in past seen good work from UCR particularly Curt Schwab and perhaps need to discuss with Jason Ren in regards to studies on methane emissions. Dr. Corsi study sewer systems actually pull air in and that is why we have vents on top of buildings. There is work for us to do there. Joerg: study found that relief valves over pressure is found to be primary emitters. 4. Tier 5 Rulemaking Reduce Nox up to 90% and PM up to 75% compared to Tier 4 standards. First time CO2 standards.

Upcoming Mtg. April 27: CARB ACF Public Hearing and may have to move ACE mtg.

CHAT:

From Nora Cibrian, City of San Jose to Everyone 09:00 AM

It may not be the most relevant to this CASA subgroup but I wanted to draw some attention to AB 1628 which would require new washing machines to contain a microfiber filtration system starting in 2029.

From Tom Fang (LACSD) to Everyone 09:28 AM

Does anyone know of any current hydrogen projects at wastewater agencies? Specifically biogas to hydrogen fueling or bulk sale, not just fuel cell electricity or CHP.

From Greg Kester to Everyone 09:29 AM

viable at this point....

###



## BOARD MEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUEST

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to attend the \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting  
of \_\_\_\_\_

To be held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m. to  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. / p.m.

Location of meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual meeting date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Type: (In person/Webinar/Conference) \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Meeting relevance to District: \_\_\_\_\_

Request assistance from Board Secretary to register for Conference: YES NO

Frequency of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Costs of Travel (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date submitted to Board Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Board approval obtained on Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit this form to the Board Secretary no later than 1 week prior to the Board Meeting.**

**4/6/2023**

**BOARD AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS**

**Agenda Item 5B**

- Separate Item to be distributed at Board Meeting
- Separate Item to be distributed prior to Board Meeting
- Verbal Report
- Presentation

**Teresa Lerch**

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**From:** millan@datainstincts.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2023 8:55 AM  
**To:** Undisclosed Recipients  
**Subject:** Governor Issues Order to Use Floodwater to Recharge, Store Groundwater - ACWA 3/15/23

## **Governor Issues Order to Use Floodwater to Recharge, Store Groundwater**

ACWA 3/15/23

SACRAMENTO –Gov. Gavin Newsom signed an [Executive Order](#) on March 10 that allows for new opportunities for water agencies and land owners to capture floodwater to recharge groundwater.

“ACWA applauds the Governor’s leadership in removing barriers to the replenishment of our groundwater resources,” said ACWA Executive Director Dave Eggerton. “By using floodwater to recharge depleted groundwater basins, we improve our resilience during dry years and relieve pressure on our flood control infrastructure. Expanding the state’s ability to recharge groundwater is a commonsense approach and is critical to meeting California’s water supply goals.”

The Executive Order includes wildlife and habitat protections, ensuring that any diversions would not harm water quality or habitat or take away from environmental needs. It states that the diversion of flood flows must meet certain conditions summarized below.

- The diversions must occur between March 10 and June 1, 2023 and must be for flood management and associated with groundwater recharge;
- A local or regional flood control agency, city or county must give notice that flows downstream of the point of diversion are at imminent risk of flooding and inundation of lands, roads, or structures;
- The diversions must cease when the flood conditions have abated to the point there is no longer a risk of flooding and inundation of lands, roads or structures downstream of the point of diversion; and
- Water must not be diverted to — or applied to —dairy land application areas, any agricultural field where pesticide or fertilizer application has occurred in the prior 30 days, and any area that could cause damage to critical levees, infrastructure, wastewater and drinking water systems or drinking water wells or drinking water suppliers.

The order also directs the Department of Water Resources, State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to continue to collaborate on expediting permitting of recharge projects and to work with local water districts to facilitate recharge projects.

Link: <https://www.acwa.com/news/governor-issues-executive-order-to-use-floodwater-to-recharge-store-groundwater/>

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### **News Update**



[www.DataInstincts.com](http://www.DataInstincts.com)



# EPA Releases Long-Awaited Proposed PFAS Standards

03.15.2023 | By Alexander J. Van Roekel, Willis Hon, Edward Roggenkamp

On March 14, 2023, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six per- and poly fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), including:

- perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA);
- perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS);
- perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA);
- hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA, commonly known as GenX Chemicals);
- perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS); and
- perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS).

If adopted, the proposed PFAS NPDWR would impose a new nationwide floor on the patchwork of state regulations for such compounds. Compliance with the proposed regulatory standards could potentially present significant challenges for the water industry.

PFAS are a set of man-made chemicals widely used in a variety of consumer and industrial products which persist in the environment once released and may be linked to health impacts. The proposed PFAS NPDWR is a culmination of many years of scientific research and work by EPA in accordance with its PFAS Strategic Roadmap. Such NPDWRs would be legally-enforceable standards applicable to public water systems that protect public health by limiting the levels of contaminants within drinking water.

The NPDWR sets both a non-enforceable Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) (the level of a contaminant in drinking water at which no known or anticipated negative health effects occur and which allows an adequate margin of safety) and the enforceable Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) (maximum level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water that can be delivered to users of a public water system).

The proposed PFAS NPDWR would regulate PFOA and PFOA as individual contaminants and the remaining compounds as a PFAS mixture with the following proposed levels:

**Compound**

**Proposed MCLG**

**Proposed MCL (Enforceable)**

PFOA

0

4.0 parts per trillion (ppt) (also expressed as ng/L)

PFOS

0

4.0 ppt

PFNA

1.0 (unitless)

Hazard Index

1.0 (unitless)

Hazard Index

PFHxS

PFBS

GenX Chemicals

The adoption of the proposed set of enforceable MCLs for these compounds would be a long-awaited major step toward a national set of standards for the permissible level of PFAS in drinking water. Currently, the regulation of PFAS varies greatly from state-to-state, with states like California leading the effort by adopting notification and response levels for various PFAS compounds. If adopted, states will need to establish standards that are at least as strict as the federal rule. The impact of the rule would be greatest in states that currently have few regulations on PFAS.

The proposed rule would require public water systems nationally to monitor for these six PFAS, notify the public of the level of such PFAS and reduce the levels of these PFAS in drinking water if they exceed the proposed standards. This could include removing these chemicals through various types of treatment, or switching to an alternative water supply that meets the standard. For many public water systems, this could mean that major treatment infrastructure investments and/or abandonment of some sources of water supply will be required to comply with the new MCLs.

The proposed PFAS NPDWR does *not* require any actions until it is finalized. EPA anticipates finalizing the regulation by the end of 2023 and is currently requesting public comments that must be submitted within 60 days after the date that the proposed PFAS NPDWR is published in the Federal Register. After publication, comments can be submitted using Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0114 (further guidance on commenting.) In addition to seeking written input, EPA will be holding an online public hearing on May 4, 2023. EPA will be holding two informational webinars about the proposed PFAS NPDWR on March 16 and March 29, 2023; registration information is available on EPA's PFAS webpage.

News Feature | March 8, 2023

## Research Finds Toilet Paper Is Contributing To PFAS Levels In Wastewater



By [Peter Chawaga](#)

As public health concerns and prevalence revelations prompt more concern over per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), new research has drawn a connection between wastewater contamination and a household item that is ubiquitous within bathrooms.

“Toilet paper is the latest product that could be contaminating environments worldwide with cancer-linked [PFAS], according to a study,” [The Hill](#) reported. “Paper production processes often include PFAS as additives during the wood-to-pulp conversion process, the authors explained.”

Research has suggested that PFAS find their way into our environment, including into drinking water, through their use in firefighting foam, numerous household items, as well as through industrial wastewater. [Numerous states](#) are working to implement stricter limits on the contaminants in both wastewater and drinking water, as the [U.S. EPA plans to propose its first-ever limits on the amount of PFAS wastewater discharges](#).

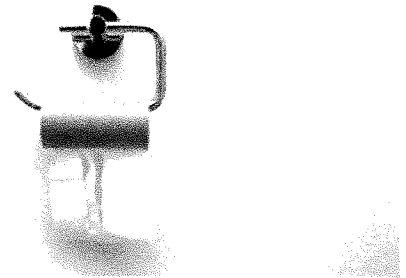
For this most recent study, researchers extracted PFAS samples from toilet paper samples collected from across the globe as well as from sewage sludge collected from eight wastewater treatment plants in Florida. They then analyzed those samples and found that toilet paper is partially responsible for the most common type of PFAS precursor in global sewage, particularly sewage in Europe.

“The big lesson here is that we know that it’s in sewage sludge, we know that it’s in wastewater, but it’s not some big chemical company dumping things down the drain, and it’s not only the personal care products and the cleaning products going down the sink,” explained Timothy Townsend, a coauthor of the study, according to [Fast Company](#). “It also appears to be just even the basic products themselves.”

As a result, this research could now offer a new area where officials and consumers might work to diminish the levels of PFAS in our environment.

“The authors expressed some optimism that consumer product choices and discard practices could ultimately help inform regulations aimed at curbing PFAS content in wastewater,” per [The Hill](#). “Decision makers will be better equipped to implement changes if we better understand the sources and fate of PFAS entering our wastewater treatment plants and landfills,” (Townsend) said.”

To read more about how regulators attempt to keep harmful wastewater contaminants out of the environment, visit [Water Online’s Regulations And Legislation Solutions Center](#).




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## Teresa Lerch

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**From:** millan@datainstincts.com  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2023 7:30 AM  
**To:** Undisclosed Recipients  
**Subject:** Scott Dam gates to stay open, meaning Lake Pillsbury diversions to remain at drought levels - PD 3/17/23

### **Scott Dam gates to stay open, meaning Lake Pillsbury diversions to remain at drought levels**

*Seismically risky dam conditions contribute to uncertainty for future water supply, fishery conditions in late summer, fall*  
Mary Callahan, Press Democrat 3/17/23

Link: <https://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/news/scott-dam-gates-to-stay-open-meaning-lake-pillsbury-diversions-to-remain-a/>

Pacific Gas & Electric says it intends to keep the gates open at Scott Dam from now on in deference to seismic safety concerns, meaning Lake Pillsbury in Lake County will never completely fill again, even in a wet year like this one.

The utility usually closes the dam gates in April, allowing spring runoff and snowmelt to raise the water level for summer recreation and water releases during the later, drier parts of the year.

But the company says updated seismic analysis of the dam suggested a higher level of risk than previous evaluations, prompting a change in operations. Instead, more water will be allowed to flow into the Eel River this spring instead of keeping it behind the dam.

“While risks to the dam remain very low, by reducing water levels in the reservoir we can mitigate against risk,” Jan Nimick, PG&E’s vice president of power generation, stated in a news release. “Storing less water in the reservoir (a 26% reduction compared to a full reservoir) lowers the water load on the dam, thereby significantly reducing the risk during or after a seismic event.”

That means summer and fall releases for federally protected fish and for diversions into Lake Mendocino and the Russian River will never be higher than they were in the 2020 and 2021 drought years, raising questions about water supply availability for downstream users.

“We had a good weather year,” Sonoma County Water Agency General Manager Grant Davis said. “We’re in the midst of it. But the uncertainty that this is going to bring now in perpetuity — PG&E’s decision to keep the gates down and reduce the flow — is going to have an impact.

“This will be the foreseeable future, where you have even further reduced diversions into the Russian River and make us even less resilient, as a result,” he said.

Lake Pillsbury plays a low-profile but critical role in the water supply system for hundreds of thousands of people in Sonoma and Mendocino counties who obtain their water from Sonoma Water contractors or from smaller agencies and municipalities.

Though most of their water is stored in Lakes Mendocino and Sonoma, some of the water in Lake Mendocino comes each year from Eel River water that goes first into Lake Pillsbury and is then diverted through PG&E’s Potter Valley power plant into the East Branch Russian River, about 80 miles northeast of Santa Rosa.

both would be add almost 300 miles of spawning habitat in the upper reaches of the Eel River, supporting the rebound of fisheries and tribal cultural practices.

“California Trout and other stakeholders have long recognized the Potter Valley Project facilities are outdated and must be removed in the interest of protecting imperiled Eel River fisheries and downstream communities,” he said. “We urge PG&E to work with federal regulators to secure approval for expedited removal of both Scott and Cape Horn Dams.”

The nonprofit also sought “to encourage Russian River water users that have benefited from Eel River water diversions for the past century to plan for a future without those diversions, or to explore options for an ecologically sound, dam-free diversion facility,” Schneider said. “CalTrout’s priority remains recovering the Eel River to health and dam removal is a necessary component of that effort.”

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### News Update



[www.DataInstincts.com](http://www.DataInstincts.com)

You received this news item because your address has been included with a list of individuals interested in updates regarding new water supply options.

MARIN MUNICIPAL

## Water bills could increase 20%

Proposed rate hikes to address financial issues, recent drought

BY WILL HOUSTON

[WHOUSTON@MARINIJ.COM](mailto:WHOUSTON@MARINIJ.COM)

Most Marin Municipal Water District ratepayers could see their water bill costs increase by 20% this summer under a proposed rate plan released this week.

The proposed rate hikes under the four-year plan are significantly larger than those approved in recent decades. District staff and governing board members said the increases are necessary to address several pressing priorities and challenges the utility faces in the aftermath of the recent drought.

These include balancing the utility's finances after a reduction in water sales, saving to secure new sources of water to weather future droughts and addressing a backlog of maintenance for the water supply system.

"We need to make some changes, not just with adjusting for the cost of inflation. That would be so simple in many ways," district board president Monty Schmitt said during a presentation of the rate plan on Tuesday. "We are really addressing a number of different challenges that are facing the resiliency of our district to be able to meet our core mission of providing safe and reliable and affordable water supplies to our community."

"We are really making a really big swipe and a big stride at taking care of a lot of the problems that have existed for a while and not kicking the can down the road," board member Matt Samson said during the meeting.

A public hearing on the rate changes is being scheduled for May. If adopted, the changes would take effect July 1.

Board members and staff said the new rate model encourages conservation. While a median single-family home would have a 20% cost increase on its bimonthly bill during the first year, customers with the lowest water use would see an increase of about 9.6%.

"To be clear for our customers, what we are asking them is to follow the climate," board member Jed Smith said during the meeting. "Climate change is the driver here. And as drought kicks in, use less water and your bills won't go up as much. That's the clear message."

For about half of the district's single-family home accounts, bimonthly bills would increase by about \$28 during the first year depending on the water use. Customers who use more water could see bimonthly bill charges increase by \$75 or even \$220 for the largest water users. By comparison, customers who consume low volumes of water would only see their bimonthly bills increase by about \$10.

The district plans to put a rate calculator on its website to allow residents to see how their bills would change under the plan.

The first year would have the largest spike in rates, with the increases being comparatively lower in the following three years.

The plan seeks to overhaul several aspects of the rate and fee structure.

The district charges water rates under a four-tiered structure based on a customer's water use. Customers who use more water are bumped into tiers with higher rates. The proposed plan would lower the threshold for when customers are bumped into a rate tier with higher prices, meaning some customers in a lower-rate tier could be bumped into a higher-rate tier beginning this summer.

To make up for reduced water use sales during droughts, the plan would allow the district to add a drought surcharge to rates. The utility also plans to eliminate seasonal rates, which allowed customers to use more water during the summer months when water use is at its peak without being bumped into a higher-rate tier.

Additionally, the district is proposing to lower the proportion of fixed fees ratepayers pay on their bills.

The district will continue to provide discounts to low-income water users.

"Equity and affordability are really critical here," board member Larry Russell said during the meeting. "We need to be very careful that we're thinking about the entire community when we're looking at these kinds of rate increases."

Members of the public who attended the meeting on Tuesday had mixed views on the proposed overhaul.

"I think this is more fair and rewards conservation," said Mimi Willard, president of the Coalition of Sensible Taxpayers, a nonprofit organization.

Larkspur resident James Holmes told the board that the "staggering" rate increase could come as a surprise to many ratepayers, especially as the district has yet to decide which new water supply options it will pursue.

"I can't help but think that many ratepayers confronted with a 10% to 20% or greater increase will think that the board has put the rate increase cart before the supply increase horse," Holmes said.

The district, which serves 191,000 central and southern Marin residents, faces a \$20.7 million deficit in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Bret Uppendahl, the district finance director, said the shortfall is the result of several factors, including inflation and a sustained reduction in water sales from the drought.

"We're not expecting any kind of miracle rebound in our water consumption," Uppendahl told the board.

With no changes to the rates or rate structure, the deficit would continue to climb each year until it reached nearly \$38 million in 2026-2027, according to staff projections. Under that scenario, the district would need to continue to draw down its emergency reserve fund, which would be depleted in the 2024-2025 fiscal year, Uppendahl said.

"Each year throughout the four-year rate cycle, we'd fall farther behind," Uppendahl said.

The rates are meant to make up for these losses while also rebuilding the district's emergency reserve fund, which has about \$24 million. The reserve fund was about \$60 million at the start of the drought in 2020.

After the recent drought put the district at risk of depleting its seven local reservoirs as soon as mid-2022, the district completed a yearlong study of new water supplies. Earlier this month, the district produced a list of supply options to pursue or study in the coming years, including expanding reservoir storage capacity, bolstering conservation programs and installing a brackish desalination plant on the Petaluma River, among other ideas.

Under the four-year plan, the district has targeted funding for projects that could be completed in the near term while saving up for more costly and complicated supply projects in the future.

The initiatives that could be funded under the plan include a \$6.4 million project to connect the Soulajule Reservoir to the electric grid, which would allow the utility to pump water out without generators, as is currently required.

Another \$4.4 million would go to create a permanent connection from the Phoenix Lake reservoir to the nearby Bon Tempe treatment plant. Phoenix Lake is only used during dry periods and requires portable pump stations to transfer water to the treatment plant. The process can take about a month to complete before the water can be drawn.

Other proposed investments include \$6.8 million for conservation programs; \$9.6 million to import more Russian River water as needed, especially during the winter months; reserving \$10 million for future water supply projects; and \$10.9 million to begin studies and predesign of new supply projects.

Responding to board member concerns about committing to these exact dollar figures, Uppendahl said the financial plan does not bind the district to spend this much in each category.

"This does not tie our hands in any way," Uppendahl said

Additionally, the district proposes to spend \$30 million to address a backlog of maintenance in its water system; \$10.4 million on debt service for larger, critical repair projects; and \$10.7 million toward installing wireless water meters and associated software. Another \$2 million would go toward reducing fire fuels in the watershed and \$800,000 toward ranger positions, among other investments.

More information about the rate plan can be found at [marinwater.org/2023RateSetting](http://marinwater.org/2023RateSetting).

## **MMWD board president outlines actions, rate increase**

For over 110 years, the Marin Municipal Water District has delivered clean, reliable and affordable water to customers.

To maintain this record of service, we must not only increase our resilience to drought and climate change with new water supplies, but also fund the replacement and modernization of aging infrastructure and work to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire on our watershed lands.

The MMWD Board of Directors, bolstered by three new members elected last November, is united with dedicated district staff, in partnership with our customers, to forge a path forward to implement the following actions.

On Feb. 28, the district adopted a water supply roadmap based on our strategic water supply assessment pairing immediate and long-term actions to increase our water supplies. Our initial commitment will develop an estimated 3,500 acre-feet of new water by the end of 2025 through several measures:

- Supply permanent power to enable increased water supplies from Soulajule Reservoir.
- Increase yield from Phoenix Lake by building a direct connection to Bon Tempe Treatment Plant.
- Improve management of water supplies and flow releases through better forecasting of storms.
- Optimize water purchases from Sonoma Water.
- Expand conservation investments to increase efficient water use.

Simultaneously, Marin Water will pursue options to achieve longer-term supply goals — this includes exploring the feasibility of groundwater banking and increases to local surface storage, enhancing local water supplies.

Most of our water comes from 22,000 acres of protected lands around Mount Tamalpais and in the hills of West Marin. Rainfall from these watersheds flows into seven reservoirs before being treated and delivered to customers' taps.

To safeguard this precious resource, Marin Water is expanding efforts to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, manage recreational use of our lands and protect the ecological health of our watersheds.

Our infrastructure enables us to provide clean drinking water to your taps. But years of focus on keeping costs down has led to a significant backlog of maintenance on this aging system, where some elements are nearing 100 years of use. When old cast iron pipes break, it disrupts service and repairs are more costly. To ensure the reliability of our system to deliver water now and for future generations, we are implementing a program of ongoing, steady long-term investment in our infrastructure.

Foundational to a future with continued reliable water is a sustainable financial plan to create new water supplies, keep our system in a state of good repair, and protect the watersheds that provide our water.

Achieving these critical initiatives requires targeted, forward-thinking investments. That is why as part of our current rate-setting process Marin Water is proposing a strategic rate increase.

In doing so, Marin Water will fund long-term water supply goals while also prioritizing financial sustainability amid reduced water sales driven by drought and impacts tied to record inflation and increasing costs that we are all experiencing at the grocery store.

We know any rate increase may feel impactful for some customers, but we also know continuing to kick the can down the road undermines our water system's resilience and unfairly saddles future generations with escalating costs.

Marin Water will also continue to provide one of the best low-income bill assistance programs in the Bay Area to maintain affordability for ratepayers most in need. Through the rate-setting process, we are also proposing to restructure our tiered rates in a way that allows customers greater control over their water bills.

Marin Water is moving past planning and is ready to implement these actions and set the District on a path toward a resilient future.

This work must be collaborative, among Marin Water leaders and you, our community of customers. We all ask for your engagement and support.

*Monty Schmitt is president of the Marin Municipal Water District Board of Directors. He represents San Rafael's District 2. For more information about the programs and initiatives referenced, go to [marinwater.org](http://marinwater.org).*

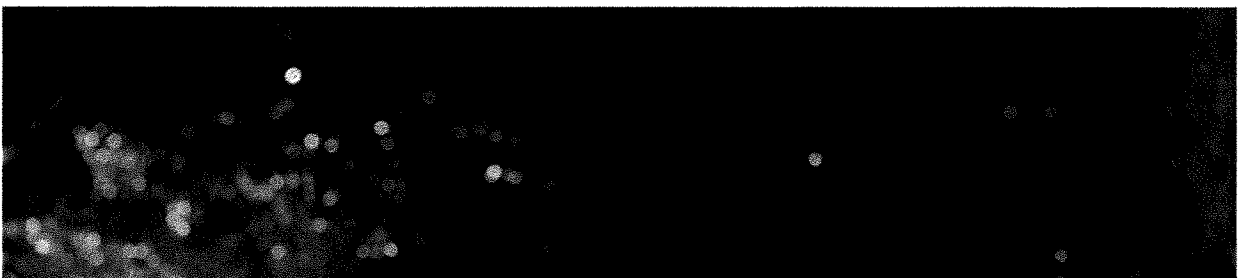
EPA PROPOSAL

## Drinking water protection limits ‘forever chemicals’

Marin officials have found no detections in supply



The Bon Tempe water treatment plant sits on Mount Tamalpais in Fairfax. The Environmental Protection Agency has proposed lowering the level of toxic chemicals in drinking water. PHOTOS BY ALAN DEP — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL, FILE







Marin County's main water suppliers say past tests they have conducted have not detected PFAS in both local reservoir storage and water imports from the Russian River. The Marin Municipal Water District conducted PFAS tests in 2020 as well as 2013-2014 and found no detections. The North Marin Water District, which serves the greater Novato area and parts of western Marin, conducted tests in 2014-2015 and found no detection.

"The sources of PFAS are usually industrial sources that contaminate groundwater or surface water," said Lucy Croy, water quality manager at the Marin Municipal Water District. "We're fortunate to have what we call pristine water from our watershed in Mount Tamalpais, Nicasio and West Marin as well as the Russian River. All of those watersheds, when you look across the country, are very pristine compared to other areas where you could have more contamination from industrial sites."

Both water districts are set to begin testing for PFAS again under a separate EPA program, which they said could help inform ongoing testing requirements under the proposed new rule.

"I can't see us having any significant detections or the presence of these chemicals in any amount that would be of concern," said Pablo Ramudo, water quality supervisor with the North Marin Water District.

Croy said the utility expects the new rule will require testing for PFAS every year. Conducting these tests should not come as a significant cost to either water agency unless PFAS is detected, which will impose new treatments to remove it.

Tony Williams, general manager of the North Marin Water District, said the new rules seem to place the burden on water users and suppliers rather than companies that manufacture these chemicals.

"We would like to see more federal regulations or legislative actions that address the manufacturer of these chemicals as opposed to allowing them in the marketplace and making water and wastewater agencies deal with them," Williams said.

Fox called the federal proposal a "transformational change" for improving the safety of drinking water in the United States. The agency estimates the rule could reduce PFAS exposure for nearly 100 million

Americans, decreasing rates of cancer, heart attacks and birth complications.

The chemicals had been used since the 1940s in consumer products and industry, including in nonstick pans, food packaging and firefighting foam. Their use is mostly phased out in the U.S., but some still remain.

The proposal would set strict limits of 4 parts per trillion, the lowest level that can be reliably measured, for two common types of PFAS compounds called PFOA and PFOS. In addition, the EPA wants to regulate the combined amount of four other types of PFAS. Water providers will have to monitor for PFAS.

The public will have a chance to comment, and the agency can make changes before issuing a final rule, expected by the end of the year.

The Association of State Drinking Water Administrators called the proposal “a step in the right direction” but said compliance will be challenging. Despite available federal money, “significant rate increases will be required for most of the systems” that must remove PFAS, the group said Tuesday.

Environmental and public health advocates have called for federal regulation of PFAS chemicals for years. Over the last decade, the EPA has repeatedly strengthened its protective, voluntary health thresholds for the chemicals but has not imposed mandatory limits on water providers.

Public concern has increased in recent years as testing reveals PFAS chemicals in a growing list of communities that are often near manufacturing plants or Air Force bases.

Until now, only a handful of states have issued PFAS regulations, and none has set limits as strict as what the EPA is proposing. By regulating PFOA and PFOS at the minimum amounts that tests can detect, the EPA is proposing the tightest possible standards that are technically feasible, experts said.

“This is a really historic moment,” said Melanie Benesh, vice president of government affairs at the Environmental Working Group. “There are many communities that have had PFAS in their water for decades who have been waiting for a long time for this announcement to come out.”

The agency said its proposal will protect everyone, including vulnerable communities, and reduce illness on a massive scale. The EPA wants water providers to do testing, notify the public when PFAS are found and remove the compounds when levels are too high.

Utilities that have high levels of a contaminant are typically given time to fix problems, but they could face fines or loss of federal grants if problems persist.

The American Chemistry Council, which represents large chemical companies, slammed EPA’s “misguided approach” and said, “these low limits will likely result in billions of dollars in compliance costs.”

In a statement Tuesday, the group said it has “serious concerns with the underlying science used to develop” the proposed rule, adding: “It’s critical that EPA gets the science right.”

The proposal would also regulate other types of PFAS such as GenX Chemicals, which manufacturers used as a substitute when PFOA and PFOS were phased out of consumer products. The proposal would

regulate the cumulative health threat of those compounds and mandate treatment if that threat is too high.

“Communities across this country have suffered far too long from the ever-present threat of PFAS pollution,” EPA Administrator Michael Regan said. The EPA’s proposal could prevent tens of thousands of PFAS-related illnesses, he said, and stands as a “major step toward safeguarding all our communities from these dangerous contaminants.”

Emily Donovan, co-founder of Clean Cape Fear, which advocates for cleaning up a PFAS-contaminated stretch of North Carolina, said it was important to make those who released the compounds into the environment pay cleanup costs.

The EPA recently made \$2 billion available to states to get rid of contaminants such as PFAS and will release billions more in coming years. The agency also is providing technical support to smaller communities that will soon be forced to install treatments systems, and there’s funding in the 2021 infrastructure law for water system upgrades.

Still, it will be expensive for utilities to install new equipment, and the burden will be especially tough for small towns with fewer resources.

“This is a problem that has been handed over to utilities through no fault of their own,” said Sri Vedachalam, director of water equity and climate resilience at Environmental Consulting & Technology Inc.

Many communities will need to balance the new PFAS requirements with removing poisonous lead pipes and replacing aged water mains prone to rupturing, Vedachalam said.

Fox said there “isn’t a one-size answer” to how communities will prioritize their needs but said billions of dollars in federal resources are available for water improvements.

With federal help, water providers that serve metropolitan areas should be able to spread out costs in a way “no one will notice,” said Scott Faber, senior vice president of government affairs at the Environmental Working Group, an advocacy organization that works to get toxic chemicals out of food, water, clothing and other items.

Several states have already imposed PFAS drinking water limits. Officials in Michigan, which has the tightest standards of any state, said costs to remove PFAS in communities where it was found were reasonable.

Erik Olson of the Natural Resources Defense Council called the EPA proposal crucial to protect public health. “Setting strong standards will help ensure the fundamental right of every family to have safe water flowing from their kitchen tap,” he said.

*Independent Journal reporter Will Houston contributed to this report.*

EDITORIAL

## **Marin Sanitary still evolving with the times**

In these economic times, when long-standing local businesses retire or are sold, it's unusual when others celebrate 75 years of doing business in Marin.

In the case of the Marin Sanitary Service, which has provided garbage and recycling service to most of the county, the business is celebrating its impressive longevity with a step toward the future.

Stepping up the company's efforts to reduce the amount of household and business waste that winds up in landfill, the company has invested in new technology. One device separates packaged food from its containers and cleans the packaging so it can be recycled. The green waste is then sent to the nearby Central Marin Sanitation Agency where it is used in its anaerobic digester that produces biogas energy.

According to a 2021 state report, packaging makes up about 25% of the trash tossed away by consumers and businesses.

Another device will be used to separate paper products, a task that in the past has been done by hand.

The overall goal is to increase recycling.

Marin Sanitary Service has long been a pacesetter when it comes to recycling. It launched one of the first curbside recycling programs in California and has helped put Marin in the forefront of diverting waste from landfills.

Joseph Garbarino Jr., chair of the Marin Sanitary Service board, said the firm recycles about 60% of the waste it collects. That number reflects both the company's initiative and its 30,000 customers' awareness of the importance of recycling.

A statewide study in 2021 showed California's recycling rate was 40% and had declined. The report said the drop was the result of products using unrecyclable designs and an international market reduction in recyclable products.

Still, the state remains focused on a "zero waste" goal and significantly reducing the stream of waste that's heading to landfills.

In 2016, then-Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation that set the target of 75% by 2025.

Even in Marin, we have to improve on our commitment to reduce waste and increase recycling.

At 75, Marin Sanitary Service has built an impressive reputation for being on the front end of innovation toward that goal.

Its latest investments are part of that initiative and entrepreneurial mindset.

As Garbarino frames it, “we’re doing as much recycling as we possibly can do and sell that rather than burying it.”

That’s a long way from the days when Garbarino Jr.’s father and cousin, both Italian immigrants, used a horse-drawn wagon and burlap sacks to pick up and haul garbage in San Francisco.

Marin Sanitary Service was formed in 1948 by Joe Segale and Guido Zanotti. They were joined by Joe Garbarino Sr. — a cousin of today’s board president — Ruben Valtierra, Ernie Zappettini and Lorry Morcone. In 1955, Joe Garbarino Jr. and Joe Cattanei joined the ownership.

They would hardly recognize the recycling-focused business of today. It’s much more complex than collecting trash and taking it to the dump — though scavenging and reselling glass, cardboard and other items were always some part of the equation.

Our congratulations to the Marin Sanitary Service for its impressive milestone and marking it with an eye to the future, one that builds on its foundation of innovation and a reputation that reflects the environmental focus of the community it has been serving for 75 years.

**Join/Renew Membership to Friends of Civic Center Library. Critical funding needed!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(Usual donation \$15-\$25 but any amount will help!)*

*Make checks payable to and mail to:*

The Friends of the Civic Center Library



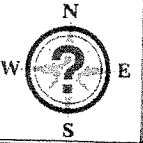
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 427  
 San Rafael, CA 94903

The Friends of the Civic Center Library is a chapter of the Friends of the Marin County Free Library. Contributions are tax deductible under IRS 501(c)(3).

**Collect "General Mills Box Tops for Education" for Programs at Venetia Valley K-8 School**

The Venetia Valley PTA collects General Mills product box tops which are worth 10 cents each. They are used to help fund field trips, extra curricular activities, and enrichment programs for all grade levels. Box Tops can be dropped off at Venetia Valley's Main Office or mailed to the school at 177 N. San Pedro Road, San Rafael, CA 94903, Attention Venetia Valley PTA.

**Community Compass**



- Emergency Number from Landline or Cell** .....911
- Marin County Sheriff and Fire Departments**
- Safety Related/Non-Emergency (24 hours)..... 415-479-2311
- Online Crime Reporting for harassing phone calls, identity theft, lost property, theft, theft from vehicles, vandalism, etc.  
 ..... [www.marinsheriff.org/services/report-a-crime](http://www.marinsheriff.org/services/report-a-crime)
- Marin County Fire Dept ..... 415-473-7191  
 or ..... [www.marincounty.org/depts/ffr](http://www.marincounty.org/depts/ffr)
- CHP for non-emergency traffic issues ..... 415-924-1100  
 or email..... [chpmarin@chp.ca.gov](mailto:chpmarin@chp.ca.gov)
- City of San Rafael**
- Police Non-emergency ..... 415-485-3000
- Fire Dept. Non-Emergency ..... 415-485-3300
- Emergency/Disaster Info Hotline ..... 415-485-5070
- Community Development Agency/Planning**
- Front Information Counter ..... 415-473-6269
- Department of Public Works (DPW) Reporting**
- Roads: Report an Issue to DPW..... <https://tinyurl.com/95fz6erx>
- Flooding, Dumping, Graffiti, Etc..... <https://tinyurl.com/3xdwn3m>
- Flood Control/Clogged Drains**
- DPW Monday-Friday from 8am-4pm ..... 415-473-6528
- After 4pm, Weekends, & Holidays ..... 415-479-5300
- Trash and Graffiti**
- Large stuff dumped on our streets?
- For pick-up, call LGVSD ..... 415-472-1033 x19
- If you see dumping, get license # and call with location and description  
 ..... 415-479-2311
- Bus Stop Trash Can ..... 415-226-0855  
 or email..... [info@marintransit.org](mailto:info@marintransit.org)
- Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District (LGVSD)**
- Sewer Overflows (24 hours)..... 415-472-1734
- Water Running and Waste**
- Marin Water ..... 415-945-1520  
 or ..... [www.marinwater.org/forms/water-waste-report](http://www.marinwater.org/forms/water-waste-report)
- Report an Issue in our Parks and/or Open Space**
- Emergency number from landline or cell .....911
- Safety-Related, Non-Emergency (24 hour) ..... 415-479-2311
- Routine for Parks ..... 415-446-4419
- Routine for Open Space ..... 415-473-2816
- Incident Report ..... <https://tinyurl.com/28ajrv83>
- PG&E / Electrical Concerns**
- Call before you Dig .....811
- Downed Power Lines.....911  
 or for more information ..... <http://tinyurl.com/hdj2vu7>
- Power Outages: To report or check..... 800-743-5002  
 or ..... <http://m.pge.com/#outages>
- Sign up for Outage Alerts ..... <https://tinyurl.com/SVPGE>
- QUICK LINKS FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**
- Traffic Conditions: To check ..... <http://traffic.511.org>
- Tides: NOAA local tide table..... <https://tinyurl.com/34e7bhbk>
- FEMA Flood Map..... [www.fema.gov/flood-maps](http://www.fema.gov/flood-maps)
- Marin Emergency Alert System ..... <http://tinyurl.com/AlertMarin>
- Nixle Alerts ..... <http://tinyurl.com/NixleSV>

**SVNA Community Meeting – March 29**

Please join us as we welcome **Matthew Hartzell**, a transportation planner with **WTB-TAM**. They are a community organization based in Mill Valley with a thirty-year history of designing and organizing support for sustainable transportation projects across Marin. They are currently in the process of gathering community support for a series of improvements centered around the SMART Civic Center station in North San Rafael, including new grade-separated bicycle and pedestrian paths to connect the East and West sides of Highway 101, and a new parking lot for the SMART station adjacent to Civic Center Drive. Come hear how these improvements will benefit Santa Venetia and make it easier for residents to reach SMART, the North – South Greenway, the Bay Trail, Kaiser, Terra Linda High School, and the future Northgate Town Square as well as serving as a Safe Routes to School path for children who live in Rafael Meadows and attend Venetia Valley K-8 School.

We also want to welcome **Curtis Paxton**, General Manager of the **Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District (LGVSD)**. We had some questions about some of the new processes (like the plan to spread solid waste on the fields for drying and the possible impact on air quality/odor in Santa Venetia) and buildings at the plant so we are excited he has agreed to join us. Also, there have been many ongoing construction projects at LGVSD, so it will be great to get an update.

**SVNA Community Meeting – May 23**

We don't have all the speakers tied down yet (if there's something that would be of interest to you, please let us know!). But we do know that **Gabriella Calicchio**, Director of Cultural Services - Marin County, will be joining us, as she has in past years, for a short presentation and to give out tickets for the upcoming Marin County Fair. We are hoping, a representative from **Osher Marin JCC** will be joining us too.

Most meetings include Working Committee presentations regarding Membership, Neighborhood Beautification, Social Activities, Traffic, Parks, our Watershed, and more... as time allows.

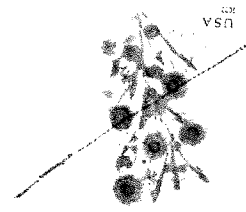
To RSVP to be added to the list for meeting invites, and our Zoom meeting links, email [SVNA@santavenetia.org](mailto:SVNA@santavenetia.org).



# The Communicator

March/April 2023 Issue

Santa Venetia Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 4047, San Rafael, CA 94913-4047  
SVNA@SantaVenetia.org ~ www.TheSVNA.org



Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District  
101 Lucas Valley Road #300  
San Rafael, CA 94903-1795

## Neighborly Notes

• Tes Lazzarini, [tesarini@yahoo.com](mailto:tesarini@yahoo.com)

Share your news with our special neighborhood. Just email Tes Lazzarini your special occasions (a birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding, new baby, etc.), travels, or special accomplishments so they can be included. Also, we like to hear about neighbors that are moving in or moving on. Pictures too!

**Aloha Paradise! Helen Reid** and two of her girlfriends spent a week on Kauai amid sun, sandy beaches and delightful weather while we here at home were deluged with rain.

**The Welcome Mat** goes out to **Bryan Perido** and **Kim Gengler** who have now made Santa Venetia their home. Bryan is originally from Texas and Kim is enjoying the nice California weather after living in Minnesota.

**Making a short trip home** from Denmark to visit her family during her break, **Hanna Dabalos** enjoyed her time here visiting with friends and tolerating our winter weather before returning to continue her college studies abroad.

**Marin County has numerous parks**, recreation areas and beaches that require a day use fee. Did you know that the Marin County Libraries have day use passes for the Marin Municipal Water District (Sky Oaks Gateway, Bon Tempe Lake and Lagunitas Lake/picnic area), Mount Tamalpais State Park and Marin Parks (Black Point Boat Launch, Stafford Lake, Paradise Beach and McNear's Beach) that can be checked out? Visit your local library, type the pass you want in the search section, place it on hold and then pick it up when it's ready at your local library just like a book.



If you want a leisurely walk amid wildlife, there's a wonderful place to stroll (dogs must be on a leash) just a 10-minute drive from our neighborhood, The Las Gallinas Ponds off Smith Ranch Road located on the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District property. The beautiful ponds and reclamation area attract bird watchers and were designed almost 40 years ago by **Ed Nute** and Santa Venetia resident, **Gary Robards** of Nute Engineering. As you stroll the paths, depending on the season, you'll see Canadian geese, mallards, swans, pelicans, egrets, herons, swallows, hawks, coots, and, once in a while, an otter swimming in a pond or a deer that swam out to one of the islands.



**The ospreys have again built their nest** on the top of the power poll opposite 380 North San Pedro Road on the way to China Camp. Look up and you might see them getting ready for their young ones.

**Taking a walk in the Santa Venetia neighborhood** can be great exercise and you also meet some wonderful four-pawed neighbors that make sure that their humans enjoy the outdoors and get their exercise. Some are friendly, some are cautious, and some like to talk to you as they emphasize that they are in charge with their delightful dog language of barking — all are cute, loveable, and so very nice to meet. (Note: Some of their pictures are featured at the top of front page of the Communicator for your enjoyment.)

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Marin Conservation League • Marin County Federal Credit Union  
One Foot at a Time/Laurie Steese • Osher Marin JCC • Santa Venetia Market  
Shirin Zehtabfard, Realtor • The Marin School

- There is **Angus**, in his fashionable black coat, who will introduce you to **Pamela Caucau** who he escorts daily on her walk.
- You will meet **Luna** strolling the streets with **Sarah Burton**.
- Then there is **Jody** who is prepared for rain or shine, night or day in her lime green jacket with flashing lights helping **Sara Moran** get her exercise.
- **Jackson** will definitely interrupt your conversation while you try to have a short chat with **Maya Royle** — he wants your full attention.
- **Curry**, who acts like his GOLDEN State Warrior namesake, has only one destination in mind, does not like to lose his pace and will let you know his discontent as he tugs whichever **O'Hare** is walking him to let them know they haven't reached **Nanni Wurl's** house yet (his idea of a score because of her treats).
- **Herzi** is extremely patient and will stand guard by his favorite companion, **Barbara Lekisch** as you take time out to chat.
- With an air of smartness, **Scamp** knows just the right pace and streets for his walk with his companion, **Dorit Winter** as he escorts her around the neighborhood.
- **Molly** always takes her walking partner, **Bonnie Monte**, to the Civic Center Dog Park where she socializes with her dog friends while Bonnie enjoys the other humans there.
- **Tommie** and **Tenaya** always take their humans, **Nick** and **Ashley de Torre**, to their idyllic place, the levee. There they can walk, run or smell at their own speed, off leash, and allow their humans to go on ahead because they will meet up with them sooner or later.
- **Moca** and **Max** are another pair that make sure they take **Sarah Hinkley** to the levee paths where they can enjoy the freedom of a leashless walk full of great scents.

*Continued on Page 11*

**Calling All SVNA Photographers**  
We'll be changing out the pictures at the top of the newsletter each issue. If you are interested in having us feature your local (SV) pictures, let us know.  
The pictures in this issue are from Tes Lazzarini

CALIFORNIA

## **Newsom relaxes drought rules**

State Water Project deliveries will rise due to brimming reservoirs

BY PAUL ROGERS

BAY AREA NEWS GROUP

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Friday relaxed drought rules in California amid a winter season filled with atmospheric river storms, flooding and a massive Sierra Nevada snowpack — soaking conditions that followed three dry, grueling years that had been marked by water shortages, extreme wildfires and heat waves.

At an appearance at a groundwater recharge project in Yolo County, Newsom announced the end of state regulations he put in place last March that required cities and water agencies to impose water restrictions such as limits on the number of days a week residents could water lawns and landscaping. The decision now will be up to each local area in the coming weeks and months about whether to drop those restrictions.

“Are we out of the drought?” Newsom said. “Mostly. But not completely.”

Due to brimming reservoirs and the big snow pack, the state Department of Water Resources also announced Friday that it will increase water deliveries through the State Water Project to cities and farms from 35% of their requested amounts to 75%, a number that could still increase later this spring.

The governor did not lift the drought emergency, however, that he declared in October 2021 for all 58 California counties.

Karla Nemeth, director of the State Department of Water Resources, said in an interview that her department will make recommendations on April 28 to Newsom about which counties should have the drought emergency declaration lifted.

“We’ve had so much rain and snow this year that we have emerged from drought,” Nemeth said of much of the state. “But we know that weather has been moving between extremely dry and wet conditions, and that extremely dry conditions can re-emerge. Californians need to conserve water as a new way of life, and California also needs to continue investing so that when dry conditions return we are more secure in our water supplies.”

Nemeth said multiple parts of the state, including the Bay Area, are likely to be removed, while other places, such as the Klamath Basin near the Oregon border, and parts of Southern California that are heavily dependent on the depleted Colorado River, are less likely.



Having a drought emergency declaration in place allows the state, under its emergency powers, to fast-track some water projects, such as well drilling, water transfers, or groundwater banks, without the California Environmental Quality Act, which often requires long studies. It also allows state agencies to waive competitive bidding rules for drought-related emergency projects, like providing bottled drinking water to rural farm communities whose wells fail or run dry.

“We’re not eliminating that fast track authority,” Newsom said. “I want to keep the momentum.”

With the extremely wet winter, Newsom had little choice but to begin relaxing drought rules, said Jay Lund, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at UC Davis.

“You have to do it,” he said. “When it’s raining out, you can’t ask customers to be troubled with saving a lot of water when the reservoirs are full. It starts to jeopardize credibility with the public. It has some appeal to some environmentalists, but you don’t want to be crying wolf. It makes people not trust the government.”

On Thursday, 64% of California was no longer in a drought, up from just 3% three months ago, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor, a weekly report from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The report, which looks at reservoir levels, groundwater, soil moisture, rainfall and other factors, showed all Bay Area counties, and all coastal counties, along with most of the Sierra Nevada, completely drought-free.

The Sacramento Valley and the Shasta region, along with Inyo, Kern, Riverside, Imperial and San Bernardino counties in Southern California, all still had some level of drought, the report showed.

Several of Newsom’s actions Friday were symbolic. He ended a state campaign asking people to voluntarily cut water use 15%, although he said that they should never waste water. Water agencies have pushed for the state to relax such rules. When they sell less water, they lose revenue.

Newsom also left in place state rules that ban wasteful water practices statewide, such as hosing down sidewalks and driveways, washing cars without a shut-off nozzle on the hose, or allowing water to run into the street from lawn irrigation.

California’s three-year drought was among the most severe on record, with widespread water shortages, record heatwaves and deadly wildfires. But since January, arid landscapes have given way to an abundance of water in many areas.

On Friday, the state’s major reservoirs were nearly all at or above their historical averages. Many have been rising so fast that operators are releasing water to reduce flood risk later this spring as snows melt. Shasta Lake, the largest, near Redding, was 78% full Friday, while the second-largest, Oroville, in Butte County, was 82% full, and San Luis, a key reservoir east of Gilroy, was 94% full and rising.

Since Christmas, a parade of enormous snow storms has paralyzed much of the Sierra Nevada — the source of nearly one-third of California’s water supply. On Monday, the snow depth reached the 2nd largest level since 1946 at the UC Central Sierra Snow Lab at Donner Summit, hitting 56 feet of accumulation for the season, behind only 1952, which saw 67 feet. Another 2 to 4 feet is forecast from a new storm next Tuesday.

The huge snowpack will fill reservoirs when it melts in the coming months. It is already raising major flood concerns, particularly in the San Joaquin Valley.

“None of us could have imagined a few months ago that we’d be where we are today,” Newsom said.

Numerous areas, particularly in the San Joaquin Valley, still have depleted groundwater levels, caused by generations of overpumping by farmers.

This winter’s remarkable turnaround came after three very dry and difficult years for California.

The drought began in the winter of 2019-2020, created by the same kinds of relentless high-pressure ridges off the Pacific coast that blocked storms during the state’s 2012-2017 drought. Rainfall levels in many Northern California cities reached barely one-third of their historical averages in the 2019-2020 winter, and a meager Sierra snow pack on April 1, 2020 measured only 54% of normal.

That summer, 4.3 million acres burned across the parched state, the most in modern California history. The fires killed 33 people and destroyed more than 11,000 structures. They ravaged nearly all of Big Basin Redwoods State Park, California’s oldest state park, and turned skies across the Bay Area an eerie orange hue amid apocalyptic choking smoke.

The two following years were nearly as dry. The Caldor Fire burned nearly 1,000 homes on Lake Tahoe’s southern flanks in 2021. Marin County’s reservoirs came within 6 months of running completely dry.

Newsom asked urban residents to voluntarily cut water use 15% in July, 2021, but did not impose mandatory water restrictions with penalties fines for water districts and cities that fell short, as former Gov. Jerry Brown had done during the prior drought. Residents failed to meet Newsom’s target, with cumulative savings of just 6.2% through January.

By October, 2021, Newsom declared a statewide drought emergency.

Last year, heat waves exacerbated by the drought and climate change sent the mercury to 118 degrees in Calistoga on Sept. 7, the hottest temperature ever recorded in the 9-county Bay Area. Livermore hit 116, with San Jose reaching 109. The extreme heat stressed the state’s power grid as air conditioning use spiked electricity demand to all-time highs. Widespread water restrictions were put in place across the state.

Newsom has come under fire, particularly from farm interests and Republicans, but also from some Democrats, for not doing more during his first four years in office to build new water storage projects, particularly at a time when the state has had record budget surpluses. Earlier this month he signed an executive order streamlining permitting until June 1 for projects that use floodwaters to recharge groundwater aquifers.

But voters approved Proposition 1 in 2014, a bond that included \$2.7 billion for new storage. So far, none of the seven local projects — a mix of reservoirs and new groundwater banks — that the state approved for matching funding has yet started construction. Some, like a proposed expansion of Los Vaqueros Reservoir by the Contra Costa Water District, are moving forward and expected to begin construction soon. Others, like the Santa Clara Valley Water District’s plan to build a new reservoir at Pacheco Pass in Santa Clara County, are mired in lawsuits and cost overruns, and may never be built.

\$200,000 REQUEST

## **MMWD seeks desalination grant**

Funds would be used to study plant on Petaluma River



The estimated yield from the desalination plant would be comparable to adding a second Bon Tempe reservoir.

**BY WILL HOUSTON**

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Marin Municipal Water District is seeking a \$200,000 federal grant to study the possibility of building a brackish water desalination plant on the Petaluma River.

The district's board voted 4-0 on Tuesday, with Jed Smith abstaining, to retroactively authorize an application to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the study. The district submitted the grant application in late February.

While the district has studied a desalination plant on San Francisco Bay in the past, officials said a plant in brackish water on the Petaluma River is a newer concept that has not been examined.

“There is not a lot of real data,” Paul Sellier, the district water resources director, told the board on Tuesday. “And we need to get that data so we can present information to you so that can make an informed decision one way or another.”

The grant application is one of several actions the district is taking in its exploration of new water supplies to weather future droughts. Earlier this month, the board approved a “roadmap” of potential projects it could pursue, including expanding reservoir storage, desalination, increasing conservation incentives and maximizing imports from the Russian River.

The list resulted from a nearly yearlong study that began during the recent drought, when the district and the 191,000 residents it serves faced the possibility of depleting local reservoir supplies as early as mid-2022.

Unlike previous tests of desalination of bay water near San Rafael, the Petaluma River plant would be located in shallow, brackish water south of Petaluma. District staff said treating brackish water would require less energy, would reduce costs and produce less brine waste as a result of the lower salt concentration compared to bay water.

The district study estimated the project could cost \$122 million to nearly \$194 million to construct and produce about 5,325 acre-feet of water per year for the district at a cost of \$1,800 to \$2,900 per acre-foot.

For comparison, the district’s seven reservoirs hold about 80,000 acre-feet of water, which is about a two-year supply. The cost to treat reservoir water ranges from roughly \$300 to \$450 per acre-foot.

The estimated yield from the desalination plant would be comparable to adding a second Bon Tempe Reservoir, which is the district’s fifth-largest reservoir and can store about 4,000 acre-feet of water.

Ben Horenstein, the district general manager, said there is still a “fair amount of uncertainty” about the potential water yield and brine discharge of such a facility, which the study would seek to address.

The estimates assume that the district would share the plant with the North Marin Water District, which serves the greater Novato area.

The federal grant application has received support from Petaluma and the North Marin Water District. The grant would require the Marin Municipal Water District to make a matching contribution of \$200,000, which would need to be approved by the board.

Past efforts by the district to explore desalination have been controversial among ratepayers. The efforts led to litigation and the passage of a voter initiative in 2010 requiring ratepayer approval before such a plant would be allowed to be built. The proposed study would not require voter approval, according to the district.

Concerns raised about desalination include its significant costs, its energy requirements and the environmental effects of brine waste. Supporters state it would provide a reliable source of supply during droughts. The water district tested desalination twice in the past 30 years, using pilot plants on the bay in 1990 and from 2005 to 2007, but shelved the idea in both cases.

Smith abstained from Tuesday's vote based on staff noticing and procedural concerns about the grant proposal.

"My abstention from the vote did not lean into the merit of wanting to understand this more," Smith said during the meeting.

Staff told the board that it had been eyeing the grant since January and had already submitted an application in February. Smith said he and some other board members were only notified about the details of the grant shortly before the meeting Tuesday.

"I feel like we've had a lot of pushback from our community about study after study that we just approve, and this one we haven't even actually reviewed and it's been on the desk for two months," Smith said.

Horenstein said the board gave direction to pursue all grant opportunities, but that the board does not need to accept the grants if awarded or approve any matching funds.

While recognizing Smith's concerns about the noticing, other board members supported the grant application.

"None of the items that are on the roadmap are going to move forward without additional studies," Ranjiv Khush said.

"This is the kind of work we need to do," Matt Samson said, "and if we can get someone else to help us contribute to that, it allows us to spend our money in other ways exploring other options."

In addition to the desalination project, the district has submitted an application for \$1 million to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to expand wireless meter installation to 2,000 homes in disadvantaged communities. About 5,000 wireless meters have been installed in the district's service area in central and southern Marin. The meters allow ratepayers and the district to see water use data immediately.

EDITORIAL

## **Show how rate hike will help water supply**

The Marin Municipal Water District's directors are on a political hot seat.

They are considering a four-year plan of raising rates, possibly as much as 20% for most customers, to right MMWD's fiscal ship and pay for expanding the district's storage capacity and make needed repairs.

A 20% increase is tough to swallow at any time, but the timing of the proposed increase is also frustrating.

After several years of drought, including the 2022 threat that the district could run out of water, MMWD customers have been conserving water.

Historically, that creates an economic equation that also means a significant drop in MMWD's revenues.

The less water we use, the less we pay to MMWD, leaving the district in a budgetary bind of having less cash to cover its operational costs and to pay for longterm repairs and improvements.

That leaves many ratepayers understandably feeling that they are paying more for using less water.

On top of that, in recent years, the district has included fees to watershed maintenance and capital upkeep to ratepayer charges.

The threat that the district might run out of water fueled voters in November to elect three new directors.

They are trying to lift the district out of its budgetary dilemma while at the same time fulfilling voters' hope that the district will be in a stronger position to weather the next drought.

Recent rains bought them some valuable time in terms of bolstering the district's storage capacity, but it's not lifting the district out of its budgetary dilemma.

MMWD officials don't expect the wet winter and spring to dampen customers' conservation ways.

Directors have also made a point of emphasizing that the district needs to get its budget and its system, from water sources to delivery, right with the ongoing challenges of climate change.

As board president Monty Schmitt put it, the district needs to build a strategy for "resiliency."

The district also needs to make a case to its ratepayers, clearly detailing how the increased revenue will be spent toward that goal; that such a significant increase will make a significant difference in making the district's water supply more resilient.

That includes making improvements and repairs that are needed, but in past years have been postponed, and increasing the district's supply to avoid another 2021 close call.

No one really expected that increasing the district's supply and storage capacity would be cheap. That investment would surely affect rates.

The district is also proposing instituting a drought surcharge, bumping up rates to make up for reduced water sales during prolonged dry periods.

The overall size of the increase, however, is jolting.

By conserving more, ratepayers can still qualify for lower tiers and see less of an increase — less than 10%.

Three new directors were elected to put the district on a new path, one away from the cycle where customers were routinely told to reduce their water consumption and then saw their rates and bills rise.

Given the size and timing of the proposed increase, directors need to show, in promise and in action, that this plan will make a significant difference, one that's in line with the change voters called for in November.

SAN GERONIMO VALLEY

## Environmental conservation advocate Berensmeier dies



Judy Schriebman of San Rafael, left, and Jean Berensmeier of Lagunitas. Berensmeier, founder of the San Geronimo Valley Community Center, died March 15. SHERRY LAVARS — MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL, ILE

**BY GIUSEPPE RICAPITO**

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Jean Berensmeier, founder of the San Geronimo Valley Community Center and an environmental conservation advocate, has died at age 90.

Her son, Paul Berensmeier, said she died on March 15 in her sleep from natural causes.



Ms. Berensmeier was responsible for saving the community center's historic building from demolition and founding its guiding organization. Later, Ms. Berensmeier would found the San Geronimo Valley Planning Group and kill a 1961 master plan to develop 5,000 homes and bring 20,000 new residents in the area. She also was founder of an environmental center in the valley called Wilderness Way.

"I think for the valley and for Marin she will be remembered as a very cheerful and tireless environmentalist who was passionately devoted to protecting the environment and working with children and the community until she passed away," said her son, a Forest Knolls resident.

Dave Cort, who served as executive director of the San Geronimo Valley Community Center for 32 years, said without Ms. Berensmeier the San Geronimo Valley would have highways running through it and thousands of homes.

"Jean really, really preserved the rural nature of this community. It is like it is today because of Jean," he said. "Jean had a deep, deep love for the San Geronimo Valley from when she first landed here in the late 1950s through her entire adult life, a passion and love for this community that never ever went away.

"It really is like it is today because of her," Cort said. The community center, founded in 1969 as the San Geronimo Valley Arts Center, preserved the historic building that was once used by the Lagunitas School District. It is still owned by the district, but Ms. Berensmeier was responsible for negotiating a \$1-a-year agreement for the community center's use in perpetuity, Cort said.

The building was built in 1928 and previously served as a three-room schoolhouse. The community center now has a \$1.8 million budget with 22 employees and programs that serve the valley and Nicasio, population of about 5,000 people, Cort said.

Richard Sloan, a trustee of the Lagunitas School District since 1971, was one of her chief allies in securing the building for the community.

"Her care and concern for preserving the environment was unmatched," Sloan said. "She was one of a kind, certainly, and almost single handedly preserved the San Geronimo Valley."

Andrew Giacomini, a valley resident, said Ms. Berensmeier was one of the advocates for the supervisorship of his late father, Gary Giacomini. He said her legacy would be as a "powerhouse" of the women in the community who sought to preserve the area from development.

"She was formidable. When Jean Berensmeier decided something needed to happen, it was going to get done," Giacomini said.

Ms. Berensmeier was born in Livermore and grew up with her grandparents in Ruth, Nevada, her son said. There she developed a penchant for the language and history of her Serbian-Croatian heritage. She studied at San Francisco State University and taught at the College of San Mateo.

She moved to Lagunitas in 1965 and lived at the same home for the rest of her life.

Ms. Berensmeier was inducted into the Marin Women's Hall of Fame Class of 2023, earned the Peter Behr Steward of Land Award in 2019 and was honored with the Marin Conservation League Peter Behr Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2014.

She is survived by her husband Fred Leon Berensmeier; her sister-in-law Marguerite Kirby; her brother Lou Yurosovich; her son Paul Berensmeier and her daughter-in-law Tina Spooner-Whyte.

A public tribute at the community center followed by a celebration of life at Roy's Redwoods is planned Memorial Day weekend.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Marin County Open Space District specifically for a land purchase in the San Geronimo Valley in Ms. Berensmeier's name, her son said. The funds will support the preservation of open space for future generations.