



*Making Conservation a California Way of Life*

## ACC-OC URGES MEMBERS TO PROVIDE COMMENTS ON DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

ACC-OC and our member OC Water Agencies are calling on our locally elected officials and OC Cities to engage with the **State Water Resources Control Board** on the development of its draft regulation for "Making Conservation a California Way of Life." This is a critical opportunity to impact the draft regulation before it is finalized.



## WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMENTS

### SUPPORT WATER EFFICIENCY

- Indicate general support for enhancing California's water efficiency.
- Discuss steps your city or water district has taken to support water efficiency to show good faith. Highlight regional or collaborative efforts.
- Emphasize your city or agency's history of advancing water use efficiency at the local level.

### TELL YOUR STORY

- Share what the regulations would mean for your community (e.g., cost, rate increases, heat islands, leaving some of the community behind, needed landscape transformations, etc.).
- Touch on the regulation's impacts to disadvantaged communities and unintended consequences.
- Discuss your local community funding needs - multiple investments are needed to adapt to climate change (e.g., infrastructure, water reliability improvements, etc.) and modifying the regulation to reduce costs better balances these competing needs.

### DISCUSS IMPLEMENTABILITY

- Share how the proposed regulations are overly burdensome, complex, and onerous for water suppliers to implement. Examples are:
  - Mention how the regulation tries to squeeze every drop possible from enabling legislation that was meant to be flexible.
  - Talk about the anticipated cost impacts, specifically the cost to ratepayers.
  - Remind that the regulation is a logistical and feasibility challenge: getting people to change their laws to meet the regulation's standards is a big ask.
- Ask the State Board to modify the regulation to improve its implementability (e.g., reduce data submittal requirements, recognizing the time required to obtain the water savings, revise the CII performance measures, etc.).

### SUMMARIZE REQUESTS

- Request that the State Water Board ask staff to collaboratively discuss and meet with a stakeholder group of water suppliers to revise the proposed regulation in ways that are being identified by water supplier through the public comment period.
- Request in-person meetings to work out changes - ask that the State Board direct their staff to hold public, in-person working meetings to go line-by-line and work to improve the proposed regulation.
- Request a 60-day extension for the Public Comment period to allow local elected officials time to gain more education on the proposed regulations and in turn provide education to their constituents and receive feedback from their communities.

## TIPS

- *Keep your remarks at a high level.*
- *Typically speakers are allowed 3 minutes for comments*
- *Thank the Board for their time and consideration*

## OCT. 4TH PUBLIC HEARING



### SIGN UP TO SPEAK

- **Select Agenda Item 8 - "Conservation CA Way of Life"**
- **Select "Speak"**
- The State Board will conduct a public hearing on October 4th at 9:30 am. Public comment is being accepted & direction will be provided to staff
- This is the best chance to get changes to the regulations
- While the hearing is expected to go all day, **elected officials will be given priority to make public comments**

## OCT. 17TH PUBLIC COMMENTS DUE

Email comments to:

[commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)

Subject line: **"Comment Letter – Proposed Making Conservation a California Way of Life Regulation."**

**[CLICK HERE FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES](#)**

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