



California
Water
Association

77th Annual Conference

CALIFORNIA WATER ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 29 - 31



SAFE
RELIABLE WATER:
WHAT CAN
WE AFFORD?





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Association

State of the Association

- Strategic Goals and 2018 Action Plan
- Shaping the Utility Environment for Customers and Employees
- Assisting in Critical Areas
 - Low-Income Assistance
 - Consolidation
 - Long-Term Water Use Efficiency
- Notable Accomplishments





Core Strategic Goals

1. Support CWA Members in Fulfilling Their Commitment to Provide Safe, Reliable, High-Quality Water
 - Effectively represent members' interests in all venues
 - Keep members informed on industry trends – both utility and water trends
 - Industry leadership in water quality compliance, operating efficiency, water-use efficiency, customer service, and technical assistance





Core Strategic Goals

2. Demonstrate that regulated water utilities' operations in California are fully compatible with the human right to water law – in a sustainable cost-effective manner (new in 2018)
 - Leadership water quality compliance
 - Leadership in strategic infrastructure investments
 - Leadership in customer assistance programs
 - Leadership in assisting and consolidating troubled systems in disadvantaged communities





Core Strategic Goals

3. Shape, Influence the Business and Policy Environment to the Benefit of Customers and Employees
 - Proven track record of ensuring legislative solutions that benefit customers – AB 1180, AB 2339, AB 2179, AB 1577, SB 959, SB 998, AB 1868, SB 606, AB 3206, AB1529 ... and on and on and on
 - Pro-customer and employee positions in a wide variety of CPUC, SWRCB, DWR regulatory proceedings



Core Strategic Goals

3. Strengthen the Association as the Collective Voice of Regulated Water Utilities

- All Class A and B companies are dues-paying members
- Class C and D membership in CWA continues to increase
- Active committee participation by member companies
- Increase in services and deliverables for member companies, especially in the area of grants, loans and legal/regulatory assistance
- Continued high level of networking and coalition-building with other organizations to the benefit of members' customers interests
- CWA Spring and Fall Conferences are “must attend”





2018 Action Plan

- Promote customer and company interests in CPUC, SWRCB, and DWR regulatory proceedings
- Ensure company and customer interests are reflected in regulatory decisions
- Protect company and customer interests in all legislation
- Support company initiatives in Supplier Diversity Program
- Revise, update, execute strategic communications plan
- Assist small companies in SWRCB and CPUC compliance
- Activate LAFCO educational outreach program



Shaping Legislation

- Helped broker final versions of conservation/drought planning bills – AB 1868, SB 606
- Led the Effort to Enact Three Consolidation Bills – AB 2339, AB 2179, AB 1577
- Provided the Final Amendments to the Water Service Disconnection Bill – SB 998
- Secured a key amendment in the utility federal tax adjustment bill – SB 1028
- Secured key amendments in emergency notification bill (AB 821) to protect customer information
- Secured regulated utility amendments in AB 2050 and AB 3206
- Secured Governor's veto on misguided backflow prevention assembly certification bill – AB 1529





Shaping Regulation - CPUC

- CPUC Largely Adopted CWA Position in Monterey Rate Design Proceeding
- CWA Protected Privileged Information in Access to Utility Records Rulemaking
- CWA Aggressively Representing Water Utility Interests in Rulemakings on Disaster-Emergency Preparedness Plans and Disaster Relief Programs for Utilities and Customers
- CWA Provided Multiple Constructive Suggestions for PUC's Public Involvement Initiative
- CWA Advocated Coordination with State Water Board in Opening Comments on Climate Change Adaptation Rulemaking
- CWA Aggressively Representing Customer Interests in Low Income Customer Assistance and Affordability Rulemakings





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Shaping Regulation – SWRCB, DWR, Resources Agency

- CWA an Active Member of Division of Drinking Water’s Advisory Task Force (input on all relevant DDW activities)
- Speaker at RWA-SWRCB Affordability Symposium (March); Provided Input to SWRCB Affordability Workshop (April)
- Provided Comments on Proposed Amendments to CEQA (Natural Resources Agency)
- Provided Comments on SWRCB’s Intended Use Plans for Drinking Water and Clean Water SRF Programs (May)
- Provided Comments on Wasteful Water Use Regulations (Feb.)
- Provided Comments and Participated in Coalition Letter on DWR Primer for Implementing 2018 Conservation/Drought Planning Legislation (Sept.)
- Participated in Coalition Letter and Ongoing Stakeholder Group Outreach on Electronic Annual Reports (SWRCB)



- Media Outreach
 - Interviews (principally on investment, consolidation, eminent domain, differences in utility rates); news releases
- Editorial Published on Water IOU Infrastructure Investment and Scheduled on Conservation Legislation
- *On Tap* Newsletter Documents CWA, Company Activities
- Social Media/Web Site Content Maintained in 2018
- Assisted NAWC in Rollout of Truth from the Tap California Section
- Embarked on New Strategic Communications Plan
 - New infographics, videos on rate-setting; investment, etc.
 - New “Lunch and Learn” Tool Kits for in-person meetings





Supplier Diversity

- Water IOUs in 2017:
 - Exceeded CPUC's General Order 156 Goal of 21.5% Diverse Spend for 5th Consecutive Year (22.9%)
 - Spent \$164 million with Diverse Suppliers, up from \$156 million in 2016
 - Contracted w/480 Diverse Vendors
- Member of 12 Supplier Diversity Organizations – e.g. Western Region Minority Supplier Development Council
- Continued to Grow Capacity Building & Technical Assistance in 2018
- U.S. Veteran's Business Alliance Recognized California American Water, California Water Service and Golden State Water for their Procurement with Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises
- Hosted "Meet the Primes" meetings in April and September
- Rich Svindland Represented Water IOUs at CPUC En Banc Hearing





Small Company Assistance

- GRCs/Advice Letter Filings for Small Systems
 - Hat Creek Water, Owens Valley Water, Cazadero Water, Sierra Park Water
- Assisted Small Companies with Grant Applications from State Water Board, Dept. of Water Resources
- Assisted Small Companies in Compliance Issues with State Water Board
- Assisted Small Companies in Consolidation Efforts



- 2018 Has Been a Successful Year
 - Multiple Legislative/Regulatory Successes
 - Supplier Diversity/Communications/Public Outreach
 - Small Company Assistance
- A Lot of Unfinished Business for 2019
 - Completion of Ongoing CPUC Rulemakings (e.g., affordability)
 - Implementing Regulations for Conservation Legislation
 - Continued Tweaks to State Policy on Consolidation
 - Execution on New Strategic Communications Plan
 - A New Executive Director for CWA
- CWA's Emphasis in All Arenas Will Remain on What's Best for Customers and Employees

