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# **SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

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Mark White, Chair  
Richard Hunn, Vice Chair  
Thomas Malson  
Laura Nickerson  
Eric Rivero-Montes  
Shelby Witherby

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:  
County of Sacramento  
City of Sacramento  
City of Isleton  
City of Folsom  
City of Galt  
City of Elk Grove

## **MINUTES**

**Monday, September 20, 2021, 6 pm  
Via Zoom**

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1608752767?pwd=cW9LaXFXL0ZkaE95ZFFReURtTlh3QT09>

Meeting ID: 160 875 2767

Passcode: 548412

One tap mobile

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## **ITEM**

- 1 Call to Order – Chair White  
Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm.
- 2 Roll Call – Staff Secretary  
Commissioner present: Mark White, Richard Hunn, Tom Malson, Eric Rivero –Montes, Laura Nickerson, Shelby Witherby. Quorum was present.
- 3 Introduction of Commissioners
- 4 Public Comment
- 5 Drinking Water Quality and Chemicals of Concern- Daniel Newton, Assistant Deputy Director, Northern California Field Operations, Regional Water Board, Wendy Linck, Senior Engineering Geologist, Division of Water Quality, Regional Water Board, Ali Rezvani P.E., Sacramento District Engineer, Regional Water Board  
Polyfluoroalkyl substances (**PFAS**) are a group of man-made, bio-accumulative chemicals that have been present in the environmental since the 1940s. Many manufacturers have phased out

use of these chemicals but replacement chemistries contain key analytes still toxic and present in environment.

There are approx. 10,000 individual PFAS , 5,264 of which are catalogued by USEPA.

Two methods of analyzing PFAS in water by the Water Board are methods 537 and 533. The Forty two PFAS are measurable using these methods.

USEPA issued draft method for non-drinking water matrices for 40 compounds.

PFAS are present in the environment due to the following uses: class B firefighting foam, carpets, rugs, textiles, nonstick cookware, metal plating, tech industry and food packaging. Landfills and wastewater treatment plants are the recipients of waste containing PFAS which are linked to cancer and other biological impacts. Testing of drinking water is on the raw water side, source wells, prior to treatment. When levels are detected they may hit the notification level and next, the response level. At the response level, the water system must notify customers and determine whether they will take the system offline or treat for PFAS. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) are currently being drafted and may be released in the next year.

The division of water quality leads non drinking water investigations in ground water and surface water. PFAS are mostly wide ranging and travel quickly. Three primary sites PFAS are found are airports (due to aqueous film forming foam (AFFF or, fire-fighting foam) landfills and fire truck training areas.

State wide PFAS Investigative Orders have been issued to airports using AFFF (30) along with municipal solid landfills, chrome plating facilities and public water supply wells within 1 or 2 miles of landfill and water supply wells, water wells on military bases and publicly owned treatment works and bulk refineries.

Investigative Orders in Sacramento include airports, wastewater plants, landfills and public water supply wells. PFOA and PFOS levels locally have been below the CA Drinking water advisory levels of 10 /parts per trillion and 40 parts per trillion. Highest concentrations are found in wastewater treatment plants. Less than 0.1% of Public Water System wells sampled in the County exceed PFAS/PFOA advisory levels. Granulated active carbon and ion exchange treatments are 2 common treatment methods rendering the effluent at non detect levels.

Public exposure to PFAS and PFOAs in CA are primarily food packaging, carpets and rugs, and degrading Teflon.

Drinking Water MCL is being proposed by Office of Environmental Health and Hazard Assessment which is .007 parts per trillion for PFOA and 1 part per trillion for PFOS, based on human health data, which is almost non detect level.

Investigative Actions issued by CA Water Boards include sampling public water systems and sites near refineries and platers, watersheds, septic dominated communities, DOD land, and

surface water in the vicinity of drinking water intakes.

6 Approve July 2021 Minutes

Motion to approve was made by Laura Nickerson seconded by Eric Rivero Montes.

Ayes: Mark White, Richard Hunn, Tom Malson, Eric Rivero –Montes, Laura Nickerson, Shelby Witherby.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

7 Approve August 2021 Minutes

Motion to approve made by Laura Nickerson, seconded by Shelby Witherby

Ayes: Mark White, Richard Hunn, Tom Malson, Eric Rivero –Montes, Laura Nickerson, Shelby Witherby.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

8 Discuss Final Draft of Sacramento County Climate Action Plan

Public Comment:

- Jill Peterson from Sacramento Citizens Climate Lobby submitted a verbal and written comment on the Sacramento County Climate Action Plan.

Richard Hunn discussed his concerns after reviewing the final CAP draft:

- Lacks details regarding course of action, implementation, accountability, and specific performance measures
- Actions identified are vague and would require evaluation of cost, effectiveness and legality

Recommends:

1. Recognize final CAP as complete, acknowledging limitations. Proceed immediately with implementation plan for actions and determine feasibility and effectiveness. CAP reduction targets should not be considered reachable until effectiveness of assumptions can be proven.
2. CAP actions should be implemented independently so less complex actions can be implemented quickly and not wait for revised CAP to be completed. County should proceed with CAP update with targets of 2030 consistent with County emergency declaration. Addresses fact that CAP measures are not real or achievable until proven.

Motion to approve drafting comment letter on the Final Draft of the Sacramento County

Climate Action Plan made by Laura Nickerson, approved by Eric Rivero Montes.

Ayes: Mark White, Richard Hunn, Tom Malson, Eric Rivero –Montes, Laura Nickerson, Shelby Witherby.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

A special meeting to vote on sending the drafted CAP comment letter will be scheduled before October 8<sup>th</sup>, the comment deadline.

9 Report Back on SEC Commissioner Monitoring of Environmental Issues and Agencies

Richard Hunn participated on interview panel for County Sustainability Manager.  
Mark White commented on City of Sacramento food waste collection program.

10 Commissioner Comments

11 Next Meeting-October 18, 2021 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

*This meeting of the Sacramento Environmental Commission is cablecast LIVE on Metro Cable 14, the local government affairs channel on Comcast, Consolidated Communications and AT&T U-Verse. This meeting is closed captioned and livestreamed at [metro14live.saccounty.net](http://metro14live.saccounty.net).*

*Today's meeting will be repeated Wednesday, July 21 at 2:00 p.m. on Channel 14. This meeting can also be viewed at [youtube.com/metrocable14](http://youtube.com/metrocable14)*

*This meeting is being audiotaped/videotaped in its entirety and will be available at the Environmental Management Department office. Agendas are posted in the offices of the City of Sacramento, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Elk Grove, and the County of Sacramento and also on the EMD Website at: [emd.saccounty.net](http://emd.saccounty.net). Agendas are also forwarded to interested parties upon request.*