
SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Margie Namba
Mark White
Dana Curran, Vice Chair
George "Buzz" Link, Chair
Dr. Anthony DeRiggi
Eric Rivero- Montes
Mark Barry
Richard Hunn
Dianne Kindermann

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:

County of Sacramento
City of Sacramento
City of Isleton
City of Folsom
City of Galt
City of Elk Grove

MEETING MINUTES

**MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2015, 6:00PM.
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
10590 ARMSTRONG AVE.
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95655**

1 Call to Order- Chair Link

The meeting of the Sacramento Environmental Commission was called to order at 6:03 pm.

2 Roll Call- Staff Secretary

Commissioners present: Dana Curran, Mark Barry, Mark White, George "Buzz Link, Eric Rivero-Montes, Dianne Kindermann, Margie Namba

3 Introduction of Commissioners-Chair Link

Commissioners each took a turn introducing themselves.

4 Public Comment- Chair Link

No members of the public addressed the Commission.

5 Consent Items- Chair Link

1. A motion to approve the July 2015 minutes, with the following line added to item 6; "The Commission notes that the quality of projects was very high and hopes to see that continue" was made by Dana Curran and seconded by Margie Namba.

Ayes: Dana Curran, Mark Barry, Mark White, George "Buzz Link, Eric Rivero-Montes, Dianne Kindermann, Margie Namba

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

2. *A motion to approve the addition of website links to the SEC webpage was made by Buzz Link and seconded by Mark White.*

Ayes: Dana Curran, Mark Barry, Mark White, George "Buzz Link, Eric Rivero-Montes, Dianne Kindermann, Margie Namba

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Action: Commissioners requested to view the live webpage at the next meeting on September 21st.

6 SWRCB Monitoring Strategy and Update on Recycled Water Policy and Constituents of Emerging Concern- Dawit Tadesse, Senior Environmental Scientist, Office of Information Management and Analysis, State Water Resources Control Board

Mr. Tadesse highlighted that one of the core missions of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is to protect beneficial uses of our water resources, such as municipal water supply and aquatic life. Monitoring and water quality is viewed through this lens when determining SWRCB actions.

The EPA has designated 129 priority pollutants that water quality standards focus on but there are new emerging contaminants that were not recognized 30 years ago when the list was created. These are termed Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC's). More than 1,000 new chemicals appear each year and many of these CEC's are not measured by typical toxicological testing. Eighty eight percent of these chemicals are industrial while only 1% is pharmaceutical. When these contaminants are present in a waste water stream, treatment takes place at waste water treatment plants but many contaminants are not removed by the current treatment methods.

Water monitoring in Southern California and San Francisco confirms the presence of CEC's that exceed monitoring trigger quotients, though the understanding of CEC fate in specific systems is lacking as well the data on stormwater contribution to the contaminant load.

The majority of CEC's found in water samples in monitoring areas are pesticides that are categorized as Tier IV: High Concern Risk Level. Most pharmaceutical compounds found in surface water are categorized as Tier I: Possible Concern, as the toxicity thresholds suggest uncertainty in the level of effects on marine wildlife.

Monitoring contaminants has produced successful results. One example is the amount of benzo(a)pyrene diol epoxide (BPDE) found in the Bay harbor seal. Records show that from 1988 to 2000, the amount of PBDE's in Bay harbor seal tissue doubled every 1.8 years. The US phased out the chemical in 2004, and it was banned in California in 2006. Since that time BPDE levels have decreased to a very low level in Bay harbor seals and bivalves.

The SWRCB is beginning a state CEC pilot study to accomplish several objectives: the generation of consistent statewide data, the transfer of CEC trends and information to legislatures, the public, water manager etc., to give a comprehensive picture of water quality indicators covering a wide range of waterbody types and to develop a tier based management framework to manage CEC's. The Statewide study is set to be implemented in January 2016. Total Daily Maximum Loads may be established from the results of this study.

The study's three contaminant discharge scenarios are: wastewater/stormwater, embayment and ocean effluent and receiving water. In order to produce results there must be a qualitative compound prioritization and quantitative approach to targeting compounds. The compound prioritization can be grouped into three categories; pharmaceuticals and personal care products, endocrine disrupting chemicals and persistent and bio accumulative organic chemicals. The ideal monitoring design would be to collect samples at five downstream locations after water leaves the treatment plant.

The California Recycled Water Policy was amended to include CEC monitoring requirements for recycled water producers including groundwater recharge/replenishment projects. This is believed essential to public safety as the present drought has renewed the focus on utilizing recycled water.

7 Environmental and Public Health Considerations When Using Recycled Water- Chris Hunley, Environmental Specialist, Sacramento County Environmental Management Department

The Sacramento County Environmental Management Department regulates compliance regarding the installation of pipes in new construction and retrofit construction under Title 22, to ensure that there is no backflow or cross connection of waste water pipes with drinking water systems. This regulatory oversight is essential for the protection of public health as the use of recycled water sky rockets due to limited water resources, and recycled water usage increases as a way of effective effluent management for wastewater. Inspection requirements call for the verification

that potable and recycled water pipes are not interconnected and that backflow prevention devices are installed.

Potable water comes from rivers, lakes and wells and is subject to extensive treatment and testing and reporting of contaminant levels. Recycled water originates from municipal wastewater, is treated to be appropriate for specific non-drinking uses, and is only tested for coliform bacteria at the plant and does not require testing of the distribution system.

Tertiary treatment, such as tertiary treatment ponds, allows water that would normally be discharged to waterways to be recycled for reuse. Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District has jurisdiction over a recycled water system. Approximately 4 million gallons/day of tertiary treated water are presently used, sold, or stored, but future projections estimate an increase up to 200 million gallons/day.

Recycled water usage is encouraged and anticipated while keeping these factors in mind:

- recycled water and potable water are not the same and recycled water may contain bacteria and matter not found in potable water*
- recycled water is good to use as long as treatment, site use requirements and ongoing site maintenance are managed*
- education and outreach regarding usage is very important*

8 Sacramento County Environmental Management Director's Report- John Rogers, Chief of Environmental Health

9 Environmental News Review- Vice Chair Curran

10 Commissioners Comments:

Chair Link reported that the City of Sacramento Planning Commission held off on making a decision to revise the landscaping ordinance regarding artificial turf. Members of the public attended the meeting to voice concerns about environmental issues such as oxygen and nitrogen exchange, recycling and landfill issues at end of life, heat generation and the impact of crumb fill beads washing into the storm drain system. The Planning Commission requested staff to further research the environmental aspects of artificial turf and report back at the September 17th planning commission meeting.

Action: Write a letter to the City of Sacramento Planning Commission to express

agreement with the conservative approach that the commission has taken to research all aspects of environmental issues.

Motion to approve made by Margie Namba, 2nd by Mark White.

Ayes: Dana Curran, Mark Barry, Mark White, George "Buzz Link, Eric Rivero-Montes, Dianne Kindermann, Margie Namba

Noes:None

Abstentions: None

It was discussed that the Secretary approach Loren Oki, PhD in Landscape Horticulture and professor at UC Davis, about writing a brief letter in support of native plantings over the use of artificial turf.

- 11 **Adjournment-** *Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next meeting will be held on September 21, 6:00 p.m., at the Environmental Management Department, 10590 Armstrong Ave., Mather, CA 95655*