

Making Conservation a Way of Life Regulatory Framework

November 15, 2023

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The Ask...

City Council receive an
update on “Making
Conservation a Way of Life”
Framework

Disclaimer

- Framework not finalized
 - Based on regulations issued August 18, 2023
- Special thanks to Western Water

Agenda

- 01 History
- 02 Define Urban Water Use Objective (UWUO)
- 03 Review Components of UWUO
- 04 Enforcement
- 05 Activity to Date
- 06 Next Steps

History

The background is split horizontally. The top half is a solid, vibrant orange. The bottom half features a white path that starts wide at the bottom and narrows as it recedes towards a horizon line. This path is flanked by several bands of color that also narrow towards the horizon: a light yellow band, a slightly darker yellow band, and a thin orange band. The overall effect is one of depth and perspective, suggesting a journey or a path through time.

History

2018

- AB1668
- SB606

GPCD	55	52.5	50
Starting Year	2020	2025	2030

2022

- SB1157

GPCD	55	47	42
Starting Year	2020	2025	2030

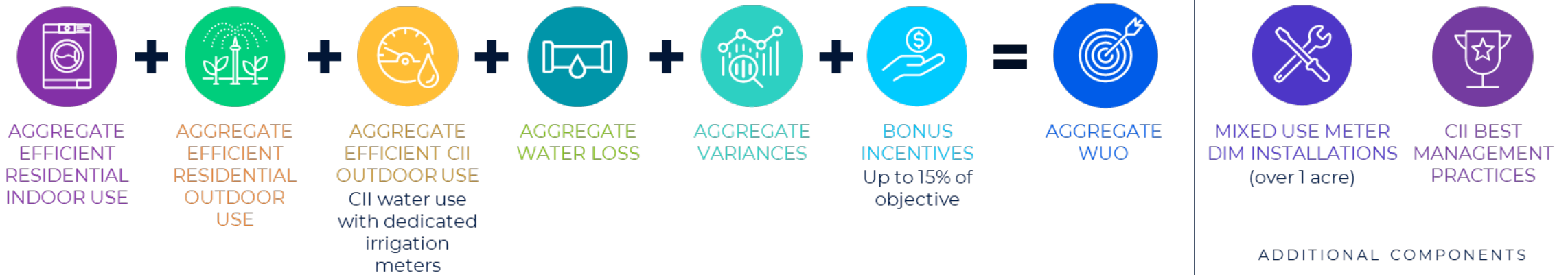
Urban Water Use Objective



Urban Water Use Objective (UWUO)

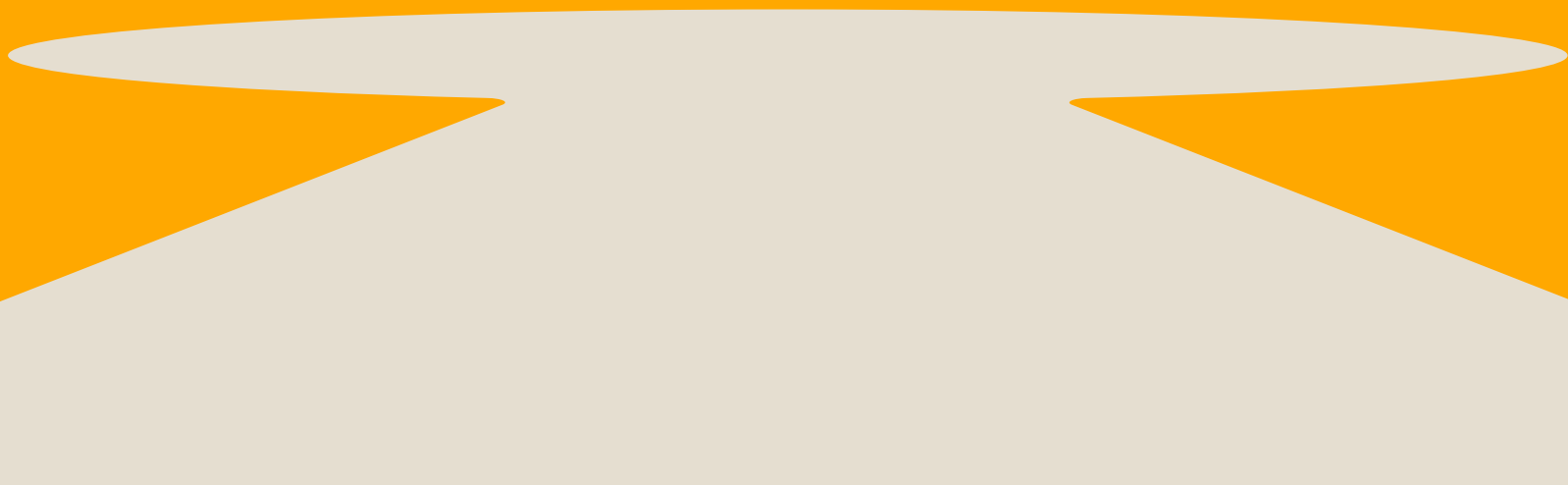
- Aggregate efficient water use based on adopted water use efficiency characteristics of the service area
- Suppliers do not have to meet each standard individually
- Budgets are not set for individual customers

Water Use Objective Calculation



WUO – Water Use Objective | CII – Commercial, Industrial and Institutional
DIM – Dedicated Irrigation Meter | MUM – Mixed Use Meter

WUO Components



Requires an update to our water budget calculation during rate study

Residential Indoor Standard

Established by SB1157

	Gallons Per Capita per Day
Through December 31, 2024	55
From January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029	47
January 1, 2030, onwards	42

An urban retail water supplier may request a temporary provision to respond to negative impacts to wastewater collection, treatment, and reuse systems.

Requires an update to our water budget calculation during rate study

Outdoor Standard



	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	
	2025: 0.80	2025: 0.80	
	↓	↓	
LEF Standards	2030: 0.63	2030: 0.63	<u>Special Landscape Areas</u>
	↓	↓	
	2035: 0.55	2035: 0.45	2025 onward: 1.00

Outdoor Variances

Variance Category		Threshold
1) Horses and other livestock		>5% of the UWUO
2) Landscape areas irrigated with recycled water with high TDS		>5% of the UWUO >900 mg/L TDS
3) Dust control (i.e., horse corrals and animal exercise arenas)		>5% of the UWUO
4) Ponds and lakes to sustain wildlife		No threshold
5) Water for emergency events (excluding droughts)		>5% of the UWUO
6) Residential agriculture		>5% of the UWUO

Water Loss



- Separate Legislation SB555
- Must meet the standard starting in 2028
- In 2028, select best performance of the last 3 years
- In 2031, must use average of the last 3 years
- Complete questionnaire by December 31, 2023
- Submit Water Break Registry by January 1, 2029

Temporary Provisions

Temporary provisions may be requested for:

- Water for existing pools, spas, similar water features
- Water for planning new, climate-ready trees
- Water for the establishment of qualifying landscapes (low-impact development, ecological restoration)

CII Best Management Practices



Mixed Use Meters

- Identify CII accounts with irrigation
- Threshold for “large landscape” defined as 500,000 gallons per year
- Install dedicated irrigation meters or in-lieu technologies
- 20% to be done by 2026
- 20% each year after

Non-Functional Turf

- Must ban irrigation of non-functional turf with potable water on all CII landscapes by July 1, 2025
- Exceptions
 - *Necessary to ensure the health of trees and other perennial non-turf plantings*
 - *Turf is a low water use plant with a plant factor of 0.3 or less, and demonstrates the actual use is less than 40% of reference evapotranspiration*
- Make annual progress of at least 20% by 2026
- 20% each year after

CII Performance Measures

Jan. 1, 2025	July 1, 2025	20% by 2026 + 60% by 2028 + 100% by 2030
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify all disclosable buildings in suppliers service areas (>50,000 SF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ban the irrigation of non-functional turf on CII landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classify all CII customers in accordance with ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager's Categories• Identify all CII large landscapes that have mixed-use meters and either install dedicated irrigation meters or employ in-lieu technologies for large landscapes• Design and implement a conservation program for customers at or above the 80th percentile for water use in each classification category that includes a best management practice: outreach, technical assistance and education, incentive, landscape, collaboration and coordination, operational.

Requires an update to our
water budget calculation
during rate study

CII Water Use Standard

Dedicated Landscape Meters

2023 – 2029 = 0.80 LEF

2030 – 2035 = 0.63 LEF

2035 + = 0.45 LEF

New Developments = 0.45 LEF

Special Landscape Areas (SLA) = 1.0 LEF

DIM – Dedicated Irrigation Meter | LEF – Landscape Efficiency Factor

CII Compliance

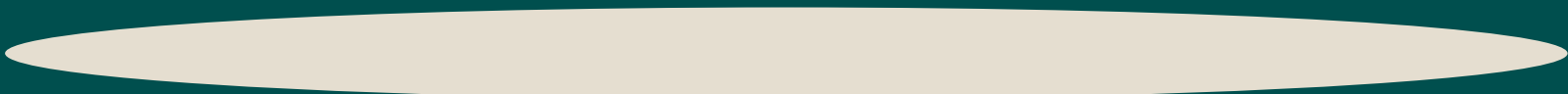
Standard

- Dedicated Irrigation Meters (DIM) water budget equation applies
- If large landscapes do not have DIM, either convert meter or move to In-Lieu Tech Performance Measures
- Report annual water use

Performance Measures

- DIM water budget equation applies
- If large landscapes do not have DIM, either convert meter or move to In-Lieu Tech Performance Measures
- Employ at least two in-lieu technologies

Enforcement



Enforcement

1846.5.

(a) An urban retail water supplier who commits any of the violations identified in subdivision (b) may be liable in an amount not to exceed the following, as applicable:

(1) If the violation occurs in a critically dry year immediately preceded by two or more consecutive below normal, dry, or critically dry years or during a period for which the Governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency under the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code) based on drought conditions, ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

(2) For all violations other than those described in paragraph (1), one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day in which the violation occurs.

Corona's *Activity* to Date



Response to Regulations (Submitted October 17, 2023)

- The 2035 efficiency standard is **too aggressive** and **unattainable** for the inland regions
- The framework as written **disproportionately** and **negatively** impacts inland residents
- Forcing water suppliers to **pass through the financial burden to customers** to fund aggressive regulations is not a fiscally responsible way to encourage behavior change
- The State Water Board is **overstepping** their regulatory authority, and the proposed framework is not in alignment with the 2018 legislation
- Conservation alone will not save us from water supply issues created by **changing climate and ongoing infrastructure investment needs** to capture, store, and move water throughout California

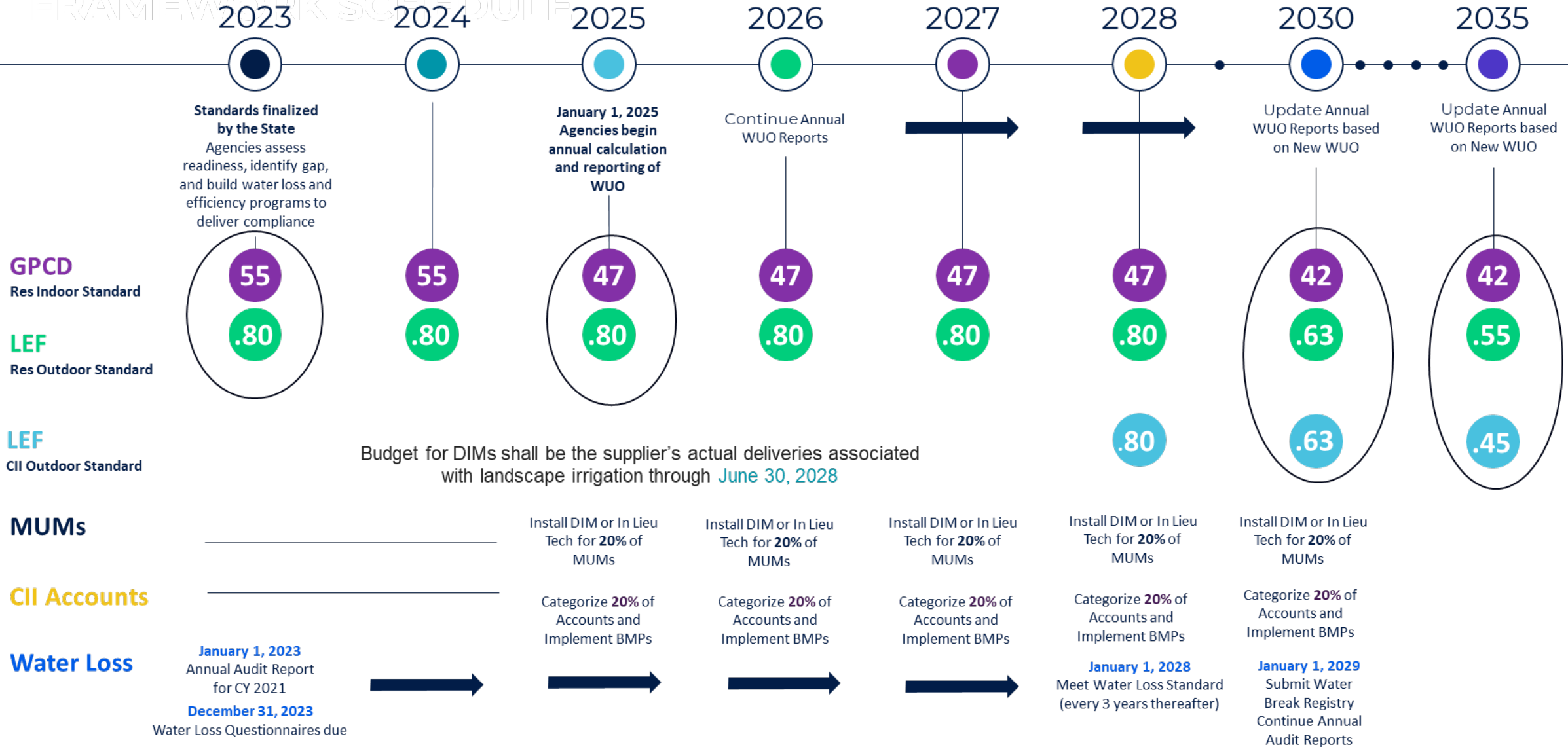
Corona's Take

- Compliance will be a significant administrative lift
- Unless there are rebate/assistance programs, this could be costly for residents and businesses to meet the requirements
- AMI will provide us data to help customers meet their water budgets
- Residents and businesses have answered the call to conserve every time and asking again is unfair - It's time the State makes real infrastructure improvements and stops relying on conservation only
- Will require immediate and future adjustments to customer water budgets through the rate study process
- Assigning different water budgets for different customer types could be a violation of Prop 218

Next Steps

Framework Timeline

FRAMEWORK SCHEDULE



Next Steps

- Continue to monitor communications from the State Water Board
- Prepare for January 1, 2024, report filing
- Incorporate 5-year requirements into upcoming rate study
- Expect final regulations adopted Summer 2024

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Thank you.

