

Water Loss Standards Update

July 16, 2020



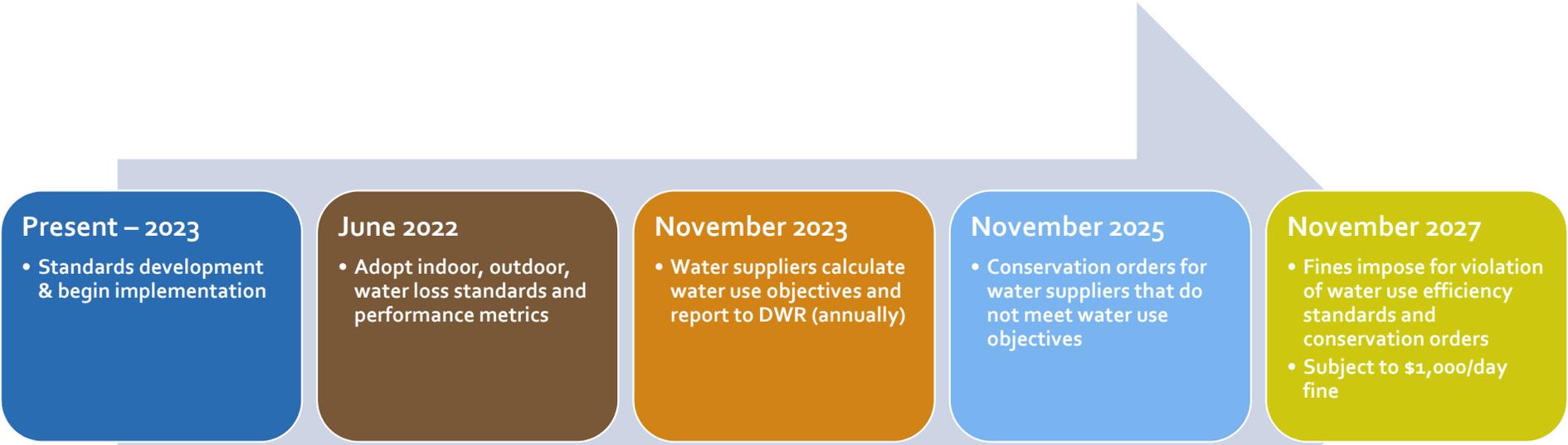
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Monthly Conservation Reporting Background

- Governor Brown signed SB 606 & AB 1668 in 2018
 - Long-term statewide improvements in water conservation and drought planning
 - Creates new state reporting requirements
 - Water production
 - Water use
 - Water conservation



Regulatory and Compliance Milestones



Present – 2023

- Standards development & begin implementation

June 2022

- Adopt indoor, outdoor, water loss standards and performance metrics

November 2023

- Water suppliers calculate water use objectives and report to DWR (annually)

November 2025

- Conservation orders for water suppliers that do not meet water use objectives

November 2027

- Fines impose for violation of water use efficiency standards and conservation orders
- Subject to \$1,000/day fine



Water Loss Regulation

- SB 555
 - Approved in October 2015
 - Addresses retail water loss standards
 - Requirements for water audits:
 - Validated water loss audit submitted annually starting in 2017
 - Provided one year of validation assistance
 - Requires the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt volumetric performance standard



SB 555 Volumetric Standards Language

“No earlier than January 1, 2019, and no later than July 1, 2020, the board shall adopt rules requiring urban retail water suppliers to meet performance standards for the volume of water losses. In adopting these rules, the board shall employ full life cycle cost accounting to evaluate the costs of meeting the performance standards. The board may consider establishing a minimum allowable water loss threshold that, if reached and maintained by an urban water supplier, would exempt the urban water supplier from further water loss reduction requirements.”



Revised Water Loss Regulation

- April 2020 update addressed some concerns:
 - Remove pressure and asset management plans
 - Provides off-ramp for suppliers with low levels of water loss
 - Moving from retail unit costs to variable production to value water loss
- Water Authority coordinated response letter w/ 10 member agencies to emphasize concerns in June 2020



Comments to State Water Board

- Economic model
 - Agency specific data did not produce expected results
 - Model calculations and assumptions
- Off-ramp requirements not obtainable
- Only one adjustment period (2022)
- Data may not be available
- Water loss target is not an efficiency standard
- Feasibility of meeting targets
- Questionnaires beyond scope



Next Steps

- Continue coordination with Water Authority
- Workgroups with ACWA, CMUA and other member agencies
 - Data streamlining and accuracy
- Update Board later in the year on conservation and water loss reporting

