Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

Efficiently Providing Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Services to All Californians

Michelle Frederick, P.E.
Consolidation & Water Partnerships Coordinator, Northern California Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board

Human Right to Water (AB-685)

• 7,400 Public Water Systems
• Red Stars Represent Water Systems with Violations in Community Water Systems or Schools
• 90% of Violations Occur in Water Systems Serving Less than 500 connections

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/hr2w/index.html

Distribution of CWS in CA

Number and Percentage of Community Water Systems

CALAFCO Annual Conference 2019
Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

Compared with Other Utilities
Water Service Is *Inefficient* in CA

In California there are approximately:
- 7,500 Public Water Systems
- 900 Wastewater Treatment Plants
- 75 Electricity Providers

http://www.energy.ca.gov/almanac/electricity_data/utilities.html#service

LAFCO Drinking Water Dilemma

[Graph showing historical population growth]

What are “we” to do?

Option A: Business as Usual Approach
Option B: Widely Expand LAFCO jurisdiction
Option C: SWRCB further expands authorities
Option D: Develop Partnerships

https://population.us/ca/
2016 -- Building our Toolbox

- Mandatory Consolidation (SB-88)
- Liability Protection for LWS that Consolidate (SB-88)
- Administrator Authority…but no money (SB-88)
- Stop the Bleeding (SB-1263)
- Two Consolidation & Partnership Positions

2018 – More Tools (AB-72)

- $3 million for a State-wide Needs Analysis
- $10 million for Urgent Needs
- $7 million for Schools & Daycares
- $10 million for Administrators
- Other Legislative Changes

2019 – Safe and Affordable Fund

- $130 million for the next 11 years for Drinking Water

- Legislative changes
  ✓ Clearer authority for financial capacity data collection
  ✓ Data collection and mapping for domestic wells
  ✓ Administrator authority and funding
  ✓ Fund expenditure plan
  ✓ Clearer ability to prevent new water systems when they could connect to another system
Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

Safe and Affordable Fund
Supplemental funding heavy focus on:
• DAC communities serving:
  - Public water systems
  - State small water systems
  - Domestic wells
• Consolidations and extension of service
  • both physical and managerial
  • Administrators

State-Wide Needs Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Identifying Public Water Systems (PWS) in Violation or At-Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Identifying State Small Water Systems (SSWS) &amp; Domestic Well Clusters At-Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cost Analysis for Water Systems in Violation or At-Risk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Needs Assessment Immediate Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (PWSs)</td>
<td>Develop draft screening list of at-Risk PWSs less than 3,300 connections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (Domestic Wells &amp; SSWS)</td>
<td>Develop draft locations &amp; densities of domestic wells impacted by contamination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (Cost Analyses &amp; Prioritization)</td>
<td>(1) Develop cost and prioritization methodology (2) Develop interim water supplies evaluations &amp; costs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

New Hazard Maps Coming Soon

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nitrate_project/nitrate_tool/

Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (SB-200)

- Fund Expenditure Plan
  - Policy in February 2020
  - Expenditure Plan in ~June 2020

- Advisory Group
  - PWS, local agencies, technical assistance providers, public nongovernmental organizations, etc.

Thank you!

Contact: Michelle.Frederick@waterboards.ca.gov

Let us explore how we can partner!
Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

SANTA MARGARITA WATER DISTRICT

165,000+ RESIDENTS
155 FACILITIES
1,500 MILES OF PIPELINE
4 TREATMENT PLANTS
DRINKING WATER + RECYCLED WATER + WASTEWATER

CALIFORNIA WATER SUPPLY

Risk Factors
Climate Change
Drought
Regulations & legislation
Natural disasters

Opportunities
Partnership
Innovation
Reuse
Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

STATEWIDE WATER SUPPLY RESILIENCY
Definition of Resiliency
Shared Responsibility
Challenges
Portfolio Approach

SMWD IN ACTION
Water Reliability since 1970s
Legislative & Regulatory Collaboration
Investing in Water Portfolio

STRATEGIC GOALS:
MAXIMIZE REUSE
DEVELOP LOCAL WATER SUPPLY
EMERGENCY STORAGE

RECAP
Resiliency is a Shared Responsibility
One Size Does Not Fit A Collaboration
How SB-88 Can Assist LAFCOs

- LAFCO’s existing tools are limited
- SB-88 intended to address worst-case scenarios with failing water systems:
  - unwillingly provider
  - unwilling recipient
Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

**Within a Sphere of Influence**

*Typical Options Include:*
- Outside Service
- Extension

---

**Within a Sphere of Influence**

*Stanislaus Example*

**Healthy City**
- Sustainable water supply
- Willing to provide water
- Annexation not on table (yet)

**Struggling District**
- Super low rates!
- Governance issues
- Poor water quality
- Unwilling to admit problem
- LAFCO foresees dissolution

---

**Outside a Sphere of Influence**

*Limited Options:*
- Outside Service Extension
- Sphere Expansion & Annexation rarely make sense
Outside a Sphere of Influence

Stanislaus Example

Special District
- VERY willing to serve everybody

Mobile Home Park
- Received funding for water extension

Remaining Issues for LAFCO:
- Balancing need for clean water with potential growth inducement
- Should the provider’s Sphere of Influence be expanded?

Preparation is Key

- Obtain list of existing failing systems
  - Note disadvantaged communities, mobile home parks (for potential SB-88 applicability)
- Identify these systems in Municipal Service Review (MSR) for nearest city/district
  - Include recommendations as appropriate
Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink

Staying Ahead of the Game

- Coordinate early with local land use authority (e.g. County Planning)
  - Be sure LAFCO is on their list for ALL project referrals
  - Provide comments regarding new development and potential LAFCO actions

Questions?