

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3441
Fax: (303) 866-4474
www.cwcb.state.co.us



John Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
DNR Executive Director

Jennifer L. Gimbel
CWCB Director

TO: House Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources
Committee

Senate Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy
Committee

FROM: CWCB Board of Directors

DATE: February 1, 2012

SUBJECT: **Report to the Colorado General Assembly concerning the *Guidelines Regarding the Reporting of Water Use and Conservation Data by Covered Entities***

Introduction and Background

As directed by C.R.S. 37-60-126 (4.5), the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) provides this report to the Senate Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy Committee and the House of Representatives Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee concerning the ***Guidelines Regarding the Reporting of Water Use and Conservation Data by Covered Entities*** no later than February 1, 2012. C.R.S. 37-60-126 (4.5), requires covered entities to report, on an annual basis, water use and conservation data to be used for statewide water supply planning. The statute directs the CWCB to adopt guidelines regarding the reporting of water use and conservation data by covered entities (guidelines). The CWCB Board of Directors adopted the guidelines at the November 2011 CWCB Board Meeting in Berthoud, CO.

Components of Guidelines

The final guidelines (attached to this Report) include:

- Guidelines Regarding the Reporting of Water Use and Conservation Data by Covered Entities
- Reporting Data Definitions

Public Participation Process

The enacting statute also directed an inclusive stakeholder public participation process when developing the guidelines. This involved outreach to municipal water providers with geographic

and demographic diversity, nongovernmental organizations, and water conservation professionals.

Water Conservation Technical Advisory Group (WCTAG) – CWCB engaged the WCTAG to provide recommendations and advised on specific data reporting requirements and definitions included in the Guidelines. The group focused on technical issues to ensure the usefulness of the data for statewide water supply planning. This group met monthly from December 2010 through October 2011 to review draft guidelines and supporting documents.

Members of the Water Conservation Technical Advisory Group included the following:

Municipal Water Providers

Steve Witter	Arapahoe County Water & Wastewater Authority
Greg Baker	Aurora Water
Mark Cassalia	Aurora Water
Rick Marsicek	Aurora Water
Lyle Whitney	Aurora Water
Emily Coll	Castle Pines Metropolitan District
Rick Brinkman	City of Grand Junction Utilities
Laura Froelich	City of Steamboat Springs
Stu Feinglas	City of Westminster
Martha Moore	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Scott Winter	Colorado Spring Utilities
Greg Fisher	Denver Water
Jeff Tejral	Denver Water
Sarah Fleury	Eagle River Water & Sanitation District
Diane Johnson	Eagle River Water & Sanitation District
Katie Melander	Northern Water
Esther Vincent	Northern Water
Mat deGraf	Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation District
Steve Balcerovich	Parker Water & Sanitation District
Craig Miller	Parker Water & Sanitation District
Phil Richards	Parker Water & Sanitation District
Pat Fitzgerald	Platte Canyon Water & Sanitation District
Alyssa Quinn	Platte Canyon Water & Sanitation District
Paul Fanning	Pueblo Board of Water Works
Alan Ward	Pueblo Board of Water Works
Bud O'Hara	Pueblo Board of Water Works
Jean Van Pelt	Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District
Gary Roberts	Town of Breckenridge
Zach Margolis	Town of Silverthorne
Mike Berry	Tri-County Water Conservancy District

Water Conservation Professionals

Bill DeOreo	Aquacraft, Inc.
Peter Mayer	Aquacraft, Inc.
Tracy Bouvette	Great Western Institute
Beorn Courtney	Headwaters Corporation

Non-Governmental & Other Organizations

Becky Long	Colorado Environmental Coalition
Chris Goemans	Colorado State University
Sally Kline	Colorado Water Partnership
Shanna Koenig	Northwest Colorado Council of Governments
Drew Beckwith	Western Resource Advocates

Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) – CWCB engaged the SAG to provide general recommendations for the Guidelines. The group met in conjunction with the WCTAG on May 25, 2011 and on August 23, 2011. The SAG provided review and comment on the draft Guidelines through October 2011. All covered entities in Colorado were contacted via email and encouraged to participate.

Members of the Stakeholder Advisory Group included the following:

Jim Dyer	Arapahoe County Water & Wastewater Authority
Mark Pifher	Aurora Water
Joe Stibrich	Aurora Water
David Irish	Bancroft-Clover Water & Sanitation District
John Klassen	Centennial Water & Sanitation District
Russ Sands	City of Boulder
Jack Rogers	City of Durango
Laurie D'Audney	City of Fort Collins
Mike Fink	City of Fountain
Ruth Quade	City of Greeley
Grant Glover	City of Longmont
Nelson Tipton	City of Longmont
Sarah Smith	City of Loveland
Heather Waters	City of Thornton
Laura Wing	City of Thornton
Kevin Bommer	Colorado Municipal League
Ann Seymour	Colorado Springs Utilities
Wayne Vandershuere	Colorado Springs Utilities
Chris Treese	Colorado River Water Conservation District
Doug Kemper	Colorado Water Congress
Brenda O'Brien	Colorado WaterWise
Dave Little	Denver Water
Melissa Essex-Elliott	Denver Water
Timothy Murrell	Douglas County Government
George Sibley	Freelance Stakeholder
Erik Anglund	Little Thompson Water District
Jay Winner	Lower Arkansas Water Conservancy District
Barbara Biggs	Metro Wastewater Reclamation District
Eric Wilkinson	Northern Water
Dick Brown	Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority
Pam Droesch	South Adams County Water & Sanitation District
Jim Broderick	Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District
Duane Tinsley	Southgate Water & Sanitation District
Dan Luecke	Water Resources Consultant
Melinda Kassen	Water Resources Consultant

Bart Miller
Deb Pilon

Western Resource Advocates
Willows Water District

Public Comment Period – Following development of the draft Guidelines through the Water Conservation Technical and Stakeholder Advisory Group processes, the CWCB completed a 45-day public review of the draft Guidelines from September 15 to October 29, 2011. The CWCB posted the documents for review on its website and outreached to a broad group of stakeholders including those water providers that would be required to report. Public comments were gathered by the CWCB, reviewed with the WCTAG and integrated into the final Guidelines that were considered for adoption by the CWCB Board of Directors in November 2011.

CWCB Board of Directors– The CWCB Board of Directors adopted the Guidelines after reviewing two iterations of draft Guidelines. These draft guidelines were provided at two separate CWCB board meetings, the first in September 2011 and the second time in November 2011.

Outreach and Communication

As a compliment to the public participation process outlined above, the CWCB implemented a broad communications strategy to educate and inform multiple stakeholder groups on the Guideline development process.

Following are examples of some key meetings and presentations that were made regarding the Guidelines.

- CWCB Board Meetings
- Interim Water Resources Review Committee – August 23, 2011, Steamboat Springs, CO
- Nine Basin Roundtables (as established by Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act)
- Colorado WaterWise Annual Event– a Colorado non-governmental entity whose membership consists primarily of municipal water providers and whose mission it is to promote the efficient use of Colorado's water
- South Platte Forum – an annual event that explores issues surrounding the South Platte River

The CWCB also employed a variety of communication methods to contact stakeholders and facilitate the exchange of ideas among the WCTAG/SAG members and other interested parties. These methods included the following:

- Broadcast emails to covered entities throughout Colorado
- 1051 Fact Sheet – developed and disseminated for educational and informational purposes
- WCTAG and SAG Meeting Summaries – detailed summaries were created to capture the topics, issues, concerns, and solutions discussed at WCTAG and SAG meetings
- Google Docs – an interactive online repository for documents and information related to the Guideline development initiative
- One-on-one meetings and discussions with stakeholders

Next Steps

CWCB's next steps are to fully implement C.R.S. 37-60-126 (4.5) through the development of an online reporting tool that covered entities can utilize to annually report water use and water conservation data. The CWCB will continue to work closely with the WCTAG, and other stakeholders, during the development and testing phase of the online tool. The CWCB hopes a prototype will be completed no later than December 2013 for possible testing with a select group of municipal water providers. Development and preliminary testing of the online tool will allow the CWCB to correct any issues with the prototype, and be prepared to launch the tool no later than June 30, 2014, when the first report is due.

The CWCB will report to the Senate Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy Committee and to the House of Representatives Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee on the guidelines and the water use and water conservation data reported to the CWCB under the guidelines no later than February 1, 2019, as directed by the statute.

Attachments

- Guidelines Regarding the Reporting of Water Use and Conservation Data by Covered Entities
- Reporting Data Definitions