



News for Immediate Release

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DWR Releases Methodologies for Calculating Baseline and Compliance Urban Per Capita Water Use

SACRAMENTO -- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the document, "*Methodologies for Calculating Baseline and Compliance Urban Per Capita Water Use for Consistent Implementation of the Water Conservation Act of 2009*".

It was prepared in consultation with the California Urban Water Conservation Council and guidance from a 33-member urban stakeholder committee and is accessible at <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/sb7/committees/urban/u3/>. Written copies are also available by contacting Peter Brostrom, SBx7-7 Urban Program Manager, Brostrom@water.ca.gov, (916) 651-7034.

The Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SBx7-7) set a goal of reducing urban per capita water consumption 20 percent by 2020. To reach this goal, the act requires certain urban retail water suppliers to develop urban water use targets for the year 2020.

California's Legislature directed DWR to develop technical methodologies for calculating baseline and compliance year urban per capita water use for consistent implementation of the Act.

The Methodologies document contains eight methodologies:

- Gross Water use
- Service Area Population
- Base Daily per Capita Water Use
- Compliance Daily per Capita Water Use
- Indoor Residential Use
- Landscape Area Water Use
- Baseline Commercial
- Industrial and Institutional Water Use Regional Compliance

The Water Conservation Act directed DWR to develop the first seven methodologies and Regional Compliance was added to give regional water management groups additional guidance.

At a later date, DWR will release a ninth methodology: Criteria for Compliance Year Adjustment. This methodology is not required for water suppliers to complete 2010 urban water management plans. The later release allows additional time for data analysis and development of a weather normalization model.

Background on Water Conservation Act of 2009

The California Legislature passed the Water Conservation Act in November 2009. The Act identifies four pathways that water agencies can choose to set urban water use targets. Three target methods are outlined in the Act. The Act also requires DWR by December 2010 develop a fourth target method that urban water suppliers may choose to calculate their 2020 urban water use targets. More information is available on the Water Conservation Act of 2009 Web site:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/sb7/> or by contacting Peter Brostrom, SBx7-7 Urban Program Manager, Brostrom@water.ca.gov, (916) 651-7034.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.