

## Colvin, Judith

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**From:** Joanna Kind [Joanna.Kind@erg.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 19, 2008 12:09 PM  
**To:** mweo@water.ca.gov  
**Subject:** EPA's WaterSense Program - Question on Landscape Model Ordinance

I sent the below message to Julie, but received an Out of Office Reply. I thought I'd try this email address to see if someone could contact me or pass this message along to the right person. I've copied in my message to Julie below. Please let me know if there is an additional person I could contact.

Hi Julie,

My name is Joanna Kind and I work as a contractor to EPA's WaterSense program (<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>) on the outdoor water efficiency team. I've worked with Warren Gorowitz of Ewing Irrigation over the past couple years and he has kept me posted on your Landscape Model Ordinance while he's been on the irrigation committee. I was excited to see the posting of the revision on your web site this month.

I had a question regarding the water budget calculation, so I hope you don't mind that Warren passed along your contact information. A little background as to why I'm asking about the calculation: WaterSense is in the process of labeling new homes that are water efficient. I'm not sure how familiar you are with the program, but our main goal is to label water efficient products. As a part of the New Homes Specification, we are giving the landscape designer an option of using the water budget approach. We are currently in the process of deciding on how much rainfall to allow to be used in the calculation. I see in your ordinance, you allow 25% of rainfall to be included in your budget. We'd like to use something similar, so I wondered if you had a reasoning or citation to backup why you used this. I'm not finding anything in the literature about what percentage should be used because it depends on many, many variables. The Irrigation Association BMPs cite that no more than 50% should be used, but I'd like justification to go lower than that. If you have a reference that supports the 25%, or someone I could speak with regarding this number, it would be great if you could pass that information along. I'm in and out of the office the next couple days, but can give you a call if you'd like to speak by phone. Please let me know if you think you can point me in the right direction.

Thanks,  
Joanna

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