

March 21, 2008

Judy Colvin
Department of Water Resources
Office of Water Use Efficiency and Transfers
901 P Street, Room 313A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1881 update to Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 2.7 Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance

Dear Ms. Colvin:

I would strongly encourage the Department of Water Resources to include language regarding the use of pressure regulating devices in irrigation systems when inlet water pressures exceed a set limit. All national and international plumbing codes address the effects on water conservation provided by pressure regulating valves by mandating that these pressure reducing valves be installed in plumbing systems when the system pressure exceeds 80 psi. The net effect is reduced water waste.

I suggest that since water pressure regulators provide conservation, Title 23 include language that resembles the language provided by Title 24, part 5 plumbing code Part 5 which is the 2007 California Plumbing Code containing plumbing standards of state adopting agencies. This Code is preassembled with the 2000 Uniform Plumbing Code of the IAPMO which reads:

608.2 Excessive Water Pressure

Where local static water pressure in the water supply piping is in excess of eighty (80) pounds per square inch (552 kPa), an approved type pressure regulator preceded by an adequate strainer shall be installed and the static pressure reduced to eighty (80) pounds per square inch (552 kPa) or less.

The purpose of the Code requirement is to provide water conservation and the premature destruction of components of the water system.

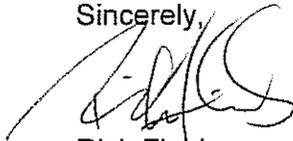


The same principles apply to irrigation systems. By regulating the pressure, the irrigation system can be set to perform at optimum design levels, creating larger water droplets and reducing misting through spray heads, resulting in less evaporation and wind drift. The net effect is that more water is applied to the vegetation, reducing the total water wasted and therefore a reduction in water use.

I've enclosed a brochure that provides more detail on this subject.

Thank you for considering my voice in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick Fields', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Rick Fields
VP Sales and Marketing
Wilkins, a Zurn Company

Cc: Chris Connors, Brad Noll