

Hi Julie,

I attended the MWELo public meeting in Los Angeles at the Metropolitan Water District on June 16th. I want to thank you and the Department of Water Resources for reaching out to the many stockholders and asking for their vital input regarding proposed changes to MWELo in such a short time frame.

As a licensed Landscape Architect that has specialized in irrigation design for many years, I was both quite pleased with most of the proposed changes, yet had a number of concerns with others. Many of the attendees at the public meeting spoke succinctly about concerns with changes to irrigation efficiency, ETAF and Pr, so I won't be covering these in my comments.

The item I have concern with is on page 15, under section 492.7 Landscape Design Plan, subsection (b) The Landscape design plan, at a minimum, shall: #(13) as highlighted below.

I strongly recommend that the title ***landscape designer*** be removed from the final language of this section, as its confusing and misleading at best and does not reflect any language in the code sections referenced. I read through each section referenced in the excerpt below and none of the sections provide any standing/language allowing a non-license landscape designer to either prepare irrigation plans or legally sign them. How it is that in one part of the sentence it states a licensed landscape architect or licensed landscape contractor can sign, just as well as a non-licensed landscape designer? The clause "*or any other person authorized to design a landscape*", could be misconstrued as 'misleading language' (along with all the code section references), that a landscape designer ***is*** allowed by code to sign or prepare irrigation plans, which, there is plainly no language in any of these codes section to that effect.

I included a highlighted section from the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC), website with specific language as to what plans a landscape design can and cannot prepare. If they are not allowed to prepare irrigation plans then why would they be allow to sign them if they are not authorized by code?

Attached PDF's of the all the referenced codes with the specific number sections along the entire section form LATC for your review, including links to these websites.

(13) bear the signature of a **licensed landscape architect, licensed landscape contractor, *landscape designer*** or any other person authorized to design a landscape. (See Sections 5500.1, 5615, 5641, 5641.1, 5641.2, 5641.3, 5641.4, 5641.5, 5641.6, 6701, 7027.5 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 832.27 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, and Section 6721 of the Food and Agriculture Code.)

Note: Authority Cited: Section 65595, Government Code. Reference: Section 65596, Government Code and Section 1351, Civil Code.

Below is the code section from the Landscape Architects Technical Committee website with specific language that includes landscape designs:

UNLICENSED PERSONS

Landscape/Garden Designers, etc.

- May prepare plans, drawings, and specifications for the selection, placement, or use of plants for single family dwellings
- May prepare drawings for the conceptual design and placement of tangible objects and landscape features
- May NOT prepare construction documents, details, or specifications for tangible landscape objects or landscape features
 - May NOT prepare grading and drainage plans for the alteration of sites

Thank you once again for your time and effort to consider our comments on this most important issue as the future use and conservation of water in our California landscapes.

Best Regards.

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