

Summary of the Community Advisory Work Group Meeting

June 25, 2024, 5 pm – 7 pm

Reynolds Desalination Facility

Topic: Understanding Your Consumer Confidence Report

Presentation: Welcome and General Information on Community Advisory Work Group (CAWG) (Carlos Quintero, General Manager), Meeting Agenda (Principal Public Affairs Representative Gwyneth Shoecraft)

Presentation & Recap of Topic Discussion: Understanding Your Consumer Confidence Report (Justin Brazil, Director of Water Quality) ([Presentation PDF](#))

- Overview of reporting requirements
- Contaminants included in Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)
- Water quality monitoring

Discussion & Q&A (CAWG attendees, Sweetwater Authority representatives)

- Areas of discussion; recommendations and feedback provided:
 - Water resources
 - Questions on total water system storage
 - Discussion on managing water resources in event of facility outage
 - Customer communication regarding CCR and water quality
 - Suggestion to enhance messaging around safety standards (clarify “meets standards” vs. “exceeds standards”)
 - Discussion of Triannual Public Health Goals report
 - Suggestion to enhance communication regarding report
 - Clarification that the report is provided to the Board and filed in a regular open session meeting
 - Discussion of which customers receive water from specific water sources
 - Clarification provided that CCR data is an average of all drinking water sources
 - Watershed protection related to water quality
 - Discussion of multi-barrier approach to water quality
 - Review of Urban Water Diversion System (URDS)
 - Discussion of Sweetwater River Watershed Sanitary Survey
 - Questions regarding industrial pollutants in the watershed
 - PFAS monitoring and removal
 - Discussion on new U.S. EPA water quality standards for PFAS
 - Discussion of analysis of surface water supply expected to begin this fall
 - Clarification provided on National City Wells reported with PFAS are pre-treatment
 - Discussion of reverse osmosis (RO) as a best available technology for PFAS removal
 - Water treatment at Reynolds Desalination Facility (Desal Facility)
 - Questions regarding blending process at Desal Facility
 - Clarification that delivered water is 80% RO and 20% bypass water
 - Suggestion to communicate that more explicitly to customers
 - Clarification that PFAS are at below detectable levels in water provided to customers from Desal Facility
 - Questions regarding total dissolved solids recovery and discharge at Desal Facility

- Discussion of monitoring brine discharge and outfall
 - Questions regarding discharge permitting
- Updates to CCR standards
 - Discussion of new EPA standards for bi-annual CCRs
 - Suggestion to communicate information clearly to customers regarding CCRs and water quality
- At-home water testing
 - Clarification that any customer can ask for a water quality test at their property
 - Suggestion to add link to list of independent, certified labs to website: [CA Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program \(ELAP\) Certified Laboratories](#) (provided)
 - Discussion of water testing scams that have been reported in service area

What's on Your Mind? (CAWG attendees, Sweetwater Authority representatives)

- Question regarding algae blooms and aeration/destratification system
 - Suggestion to include aeration system as a future CAWG topic
 - Suggestion to include information on Gillingham Feasibility Study
- Discussion of [CIP Dashboard](#) and request for link (provided)
- Discussion of [Strategic Plan Detailed Work Plan](#) and request for link (provided)
- Suggestion to change time of CAWG meetings to later in the evening to accommodate those coming from work
- Questions regarding solar project
 - Request for discussion of the "200-acre array"; reference to flyer
 - Suggestion to update project webpage to reflect new timeline
- Suggestion to record future CAWG meetings