

Memorandum

Date: April 22, 2009
To: All DWR Employees
From: Department of Water Resources
Subject: Sustainability Workgroup

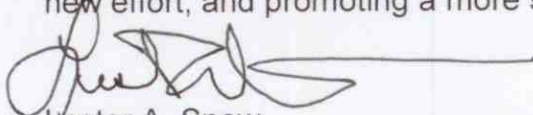
As we celebrate Earth Day this year, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) must resolve to carry out its mission in a more sustainable manner, by minimizing its impact on the environment and reducing its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. DWR is already responding to the Governor's Climate Change Initiative (Executive Order S-03-05), Green Building Initiative (Executive Order S-20-04), the Global Warming Solutions Act (AB 32), and State Agency Recycling and Waste Diversion (AB 75) requirements by making changes to the Department's business operations and the State Water Project.

We must now build upon these existing efforts to become a sustainability leader within State government and the California water community. These changes will not only make us better stewards of the environment, but should also yield long-term cost savings to State taxpayers through reduced operations and maintenance costs, as well as provide healthier and more productive work environments for staff and visitors. Overall, sustainability must be integrated into every aspect of DWR's work.

DWR's goals and measures for ecosystem stewardship and sustainability will be achieved through implementation of DWR's new Sustainability Policy (attached). Implementation of the policy will explicitly consider technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness of changes, utilize environmental management systems, and focus on the following business areas:

- Climate Protection Practices;
- Ecosystem Stewardship;
- Sustainable Business Operations;
- Greening Facilities;
- Greening Fleet;
- Recycling and Waste Management; and
- Environmentally Preferable Procurement.

With this memo, I am creating a Sustainability Workgroup, under the leadership of John Engstrom and Dale Hoffman-Floerke, to collaboratively develop the guidelines for implementing the new Sustainability Policy, informed by industry best practices, by no later than April 2010. Please join me in supporting John and Dale in this exciting new effort, and promoting a more sustainable future for DWR.



Lester A. Snow
Director

**Department of Water Resources
Sustainability Policy
April 2009**

Sustainability¹ of natural resources may be the defining issue of 21st century. It is the policy of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to become a sustainability leader and ecosystem steward within State government and the California water community. DWR will do so by promoting, advocating, and facilitating sustainability practices throughout its business operations and the State Water Project (SWP). The Department will consider sustainability and ecosystem stewardship in its current and future activities and plans and, in the context of technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness, will make sustainability a criterion in all decision-making processes. Specifically, DWR will:

- Incorporate energy and water efficiency and conservation in all capital and renovation projects, as well as operations and maintenance activities, within budgetary constraints and programmatic requirements;
- Model state-of-the-art water use efficiency practices within State government, with a goal of reducing its per capita water consumption by at least 20% by 2020;
- Maximize the use of technically feasible and cost-effective clean and renewable energy sources for the SWP and DWR's business operations;
- Track and report its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the California Climate Action Registry²;
- Reduce its GHG emissions to at least 1990 levels by 2020, consistent with the goal set for State government leadership by CARB in the AB 32 Scoping Plan;
- Minimize the amount of waste sent to landfill by maximizing opportunities to reduce, reuse, and recycle materials;
- Develop sustainable business practices for its facilities, fleet, workplaces, procedures, and management decisions, through collaborative opportunities for sustainability with other State agencies and the water industry;
- Utilize its purchasing power to meet its sustainability objectives; and
- Promote sustainability in its grantmaking processes.

With this commitment in mind, DWR will convene a standing, working group on sustainability, which will develop guidelines to implement this Sustainability Policy by April 2010. To ensure this policy's effectiveness, the Department shall keep abreast of best practices for sustainability, monitor progress, and adjust this policy and its implementing guidelines as needed. Each February, the Deputy Directors for the SWP and Business Operations shall prepare an annual report regarding implementation progress, including any recommendations of changes, for the Director's review.

¹ The *California Water Plan Update 2005* defines "sustainability" as "a specific resource that avoids complete depletion over a specified time horizon" and "the continued feasibility of a specified economic activity over a specified time horizon, usually influenced by management and policy actions".

² In 2010, the California Climate Action Registry will become The Climate Registry.