Legislation & Communications Committee

Quarterly State and Federal Regulatory Update

Item 6d
August 17, 2026
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Item 6d Summary

Subject

Quarterly State and Federal Regulatory Update

Purpose

Provide update on regulatory developments that may impact Metropolitan

Next Steps

- Regulatory matrices will be updated quarterly and posted on Metropolitan's website
- Key rules will be presented at their respective committees

State and Federal Updates

State

- Manganese Notification and Response Levels
- Lead and Copper Rule Improvements
- Advanced Clean Fleets
- Invasive Mussels Regulation

Federal

- PFAS
- Sixth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule
- Proposed Unmanned Aircraft Flight Restrictions

State Water Resources Control Board

CALIFORNIA Water Boards

Manganese Notification and Response Levels

- On June 2, 2026, DDW formally issued a revised Notification Level (NL) and Response Level (RL) for manganese
- Revised NL cancels applicability of manganese secondary MCL waivers
- DDW asked OEHHA to set a PHG for manganese

Manganese SMCL: 50 ppb		
Year	**NL (ppb)**	**RL (ppb)**
2003	500	5000
2023 (proposed)	20	200
2026	50	200

State Water Resources Control Board

Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)

- On May 18, 2026, DDW proposed LCRI emergency rulemaking
  - Requires PWSs to identify and replace all lead service lines within 10 years
  - Removes the lead trigger level and lowers lead action level from 15 ppb to 10 ppb
  - Plans an AB 1096 policy handbook for school and childcare lead testing
- Board hearing: August 19, 2026
- Anticipated effective date: November 1, 2027

California Department Fish and Wildlife

Invasive Mussels Regulation

- On July 6, 2026, California Department of Fish and Wildlife published proposed Invasive Mussels regulations
  - Expands the definition to include golden and other invasive mussels
  - Strengthens inspection and decontamination requirements
  - Requires water systems to update permits, control plans, and reporting requirements
- Public comments are due August 18, 2026

California Air Resources Board

Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF)

- On April 2, 2026, CARB released the 15-day Rulemaking Package for State and Local Governments (SLG)
  - Extends 50/50 ZEV and internal-combustion vehicle purchasing option through 2029
  - Requires 100% ZEV purchasing beginning in 2030
- On June 1, CARB released a Second 15-day Rulemaking Package
  - Requires SLG fleets to report vehicles they own, rent, lease or operate under contract

California Air Resources Board

Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF)

- Metropolitan submitted comments on June 16
  - Contractor requirement creates ambiguity, procurement concerns, and compliance risk
- On July 30, 2026, CARB submitted the final ACF package for OAL approval
- Contracted vehicle requirements remain
  - Applies when an agency dispatches a specific vehicle to a specific destination (Statement of Reasons)
  - Evaluated by CARB on a case-by-case basis
- Pending OAL approval by September 11, 2026; tentative effective date January 1, 2027

PFAS

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- On May 20, 2026, EPA published two proposed PFAS drinking water rules
- Compliance Extension Rule
  - Extends the compliance deadline for PFOA and PFOS from 2029 to 2031
- PFAS Rescission Rule
  - Rescinds the MCLs for PFHxS, PFNA, GenX chemicals and PFBS
  - Metropolitan previously commented that regulating these PFAS was premature
- Public hearing: July 7; Public comments: July 20

Sixth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 6)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- On July 1, 2026, EPA proposed UCMR 6 to require Public Water Systems to monitor 30 unregulated contaminants
- Key provisions
  - 12-month monitoring period between 2028-2030
  - 30 contaminants including certain PFAS, pesticides, and chemicals used in industrial processes
  - UCMR 5 listed 29 PFAS and lithium
- Public comments are due August 31, 2026

Unmanned Aircraft Flight Restrictions (UAFR)

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

- On May 6, 2026, FAA proposed to establish drone restrictions over critical sites
  - Input from 16 critical sectors to develop criteria for UAFR eligibility
  - Rule aims to mitigate potential threats from drones operating near critical infrastructure
- Metropolitan submitted comments on August 5, 2026
  - Recommend a flexible risk-based approach
  - Security needs of large, open water systems

Quarterly Update on
Federal and State Regulatory Activities

Questions

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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