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Q&A session for applicants submitting screening information for water storage projects

The California Water Commission is accepting screening information for water storage projects that may be eligible for Proposition 1, Chapter 8 funding through the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP). Interested parties are encouraged to attend an informational session on April 22, 2021, to learn more about the program's requirements and to ask any questions they may have regarding potential water storage projects.

Project Screening Q&A Session

1-2 p.m. Thursday, April 22, 2021

Register **here**

Info: (916) 834-3177, cwc@cwc.ca.gov

The workshop will be conducted via the web-based videoconferencing service Zoom. More detailed instructions on how to participate in the meeting will follow upon registration.

Prerequisites for the screening process include, at a minimum, the statutory requirements found in Water Code 79757:

- 1. Completed feasibility studies and draft environmental documentation made available for public review;
- Information that describes how the project will advance the long-term objectives of restoring ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Delta; and
- 3. Commitments for at least 75% of the nonpublic benefit cost share of the project.

A screening form can be downloaded from the Project Screening dropdown menu on the <u>WSIP</u> <u>webpage</u>. If a project proponent wishes to understand the feasibility components of the WSIP, the <u>Regulations</u> and the <u>Technical Reference</u> are instructive.

To be considered as part of the screening process, project proposals should be submitted no later than October 22, 2021. The Commission must make its findings regarding project feasibility no later than the December 2021 regularly scheduled Commission meeting for the project to be potentially eligible for funding from the WSIP.

This process does not involve any immediate funding. The Commission would need to decide to proceed with a rulemaking process and another solicitation in the future before a full project

application could be submitted and reviewed. If the Commission moves forward with additional regulations and a second solicitation, only projects successful in the screening process would be eligible to apply. On January 20, 2021, the Commission decided to hold \$64 million that could be applied to a second solicitation. The projects determined to be feasible through the screening process will inform the Commission's future decision regarding a second solicitation.

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The nine-member California Water Commission uses its public forum to explore water management issues from multiple perspectives and to formulate recommendations to advise the director of the California Department of Water Resources, and as appropriate, the California Natural Resources Agency, the Governor and Legislature on ways to improve water planning and management in response to California's changing hydrology. For more information regarding the California Water Commission visit cwc.ca.gov.