

From Article 4: Procedures

§ 353.6. Initial Notification

(a) Each Agency shall notify the Department, in writing, prior to initiating development of a Plan. The notification shall provide general information about the Agency's process for developing the Plan, including the manner in which interested parties may contact the Agency and participate in the development and implementation of the Plan. The Agency shall make the information publicly available by posting relevant information on the Agency's website.

(b) The Department shall post the initial notification required by this Section, including Agency contact information, on the Department's website within 20 days of receipt.

(c) Upon request, prior to adoption of a Plan, the Department shall provide assistance to an Agency regarding the elements of a Plan required by the Act and this Subchapter, however, the Agency is solely responsible for the development, adoption, and implementation of a Plan that satisfies the requirements of the Act and this Subchapter.

Note: Authority cited: Section 10733.2, Water Code.

Reference: Sections 10723.4, 10727.8, 10729, and 10733.2, Water Code.

§ 353.8. Comments

(a) Any person may provide comments to the Department regarding a proposed or adopted Plan.

(b) Pursuant to Water Code Section 10733.4, the Department shall establish a comment period of no less than 60 days for an adopted Plan that has been accepted by the Department for evaluation pursuant to Section 355.2.

(c) In addition to the comment period required by Water Code Section 10733.4, the Department shall accept comments on an Agency's decision to develop a Plan as described in Section 353.6, including comments on elements of a proposed Plan under consideration by the Agency.

(d) Comments shall be submitted to the Department by written notice, with a duplicate copy of the comment provided to the Agency. Organizations or government entities providing comments shall include the name, address, and electronic mail address, if available, of the person or entity providing the comments and information.

(e) Comments received by the Department shall be posted on the Department's website.

(f) The Department is not required to respond to comments, but shall consider comments as part of its evaluation of a Plan.

Note: Authority cited: Section 10733.2, Water Code.

Reference: Sections 10727.8, 10733.2, and 10733.4, Water Code.

From Article 5, Subarticle 1

§ 354.10. Notice and Communication

Each Plan shall include a summary of information relating to notification and communication by the Agency with other agencies and interested parties including the following:

- (a) A description of the beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the basin, including the land uses and property interests potentially affected by the use of groundwater in the basin, the types of parties representing those interests, and the nature of consultation with those parties.
- (b) A list of public meetings at which the Plan was discussed or considered by the Agency.
- (c) Comments regarding the Plan received by the Agency and a summary of any responses by the Agency.
- (d) A communication section of the Plan that includes the following:
 - (1) An explanation of the Agency's decision-making process.
 - (2) Identification of opportunities for public engagement and a discussion of how public input and response will be used.
 - (3) A description of how the Agency encourages the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the basin.
 - (4) The method the Agency shall follow to inform the public about progress implementing the Plan, including the status of projects and actions.

Note: Authority cited: Section 10733.2, Water Code.

Reference: Sections 10723.2, 10727.8, 10728.4, and 10733.2, Water Code