

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 16, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2015

SENATE BILL

No. 555

Introduced by Senator Wolk
(Coauthor: Senator Pavley)

February 26, 2015

An act to add Section 10608.34 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 555, as amended, Wolk. Urban retail water suppliers: water loss management.

Existing law requires the state to achieve a 20% reduction in urban per capita water use in California by December 31, 2020, and requires the state to make incremental progress towards this goal by reducing per capita water use by at least 10% on or before December 31, 2015. Existing law requires each urban retail water supplier to develop urban water use targets and an interim urban water use target, in accordance with specified requirements.

This bill would require each urban retail water supplier, on or before July 1, 2017, and annually each year thereafter, to ~~conduct a~~ *submit a completed and validated water loss audit report for the previous calendar year* as prescribed by rules adopted by the Department of Water Resources on or before ~~July 1, 2016, January 1, 2017,~~ and updated as provided. ~~This bill would require an urban retail water supplier to submit a completed and validated water loss audit report for the previous calendar year to the department, as specified.~~ The bill would require the department to post all validated water loss audit reports on its Internet Web site in a manner that allows for comparisons across water suppliers and to make these reports available for public

viewing. This bill would require the department to provide technical assistance to guide urban retail water suppliers’ water loss detection programs. The bill would require the department, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board, to develop metrics for reporting year-over-year progress on water loss reduction and would require the board to adopt rules requiring urban retail water suppliers to meet performance standards for the volume of water losses.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 10608.34 is added to the Water Code, to
 2 read:
 3 10608.34. (a) (1) On or before ~~July 1, 2016~~, *January 1, 2017*,
 4 the department shall adopt rules for all of the following:
 5 (A) The conduct of standardized water loss audits by urban
 6 retail water suppliers in accordance with the method adopted by
 7 the American Water Works Association in the third edition of
 8 Water Audits and Loss Control Programs, Manual M36 and in the
 9 Free Water Audit Software, version 5.0.
 10 (B) The process for validating a water loss audit report prior to
 11 submitting the report to the department.
 12 (C) The method and timing of submitting a water loss audit
 13 report to the department.
 14 (2) The department shall update rules adopted pursuant to
 15 paragraph (1) every five years and no later than six months after
 16 the release of subsequent editions of the American Water Works
 17 Association’s Water Audits and Loss Control Programs, Manual
 18 M36.
 19 (b) On or before July 1, 2017, and annually each year thereafter,
 20 each urban retail water supplier shall submit a completed and
 21 validated water loss audit report for the previous calendar year as
 22 prescribed by the department pursuant to subdivision (a).
 23 (c) Each water loss audit report submitted to the department
 24 shall be accompanied by information, in a form specified by the
 25 department, identifying steps taken in the preceding year to increase
 26 the validity of data entered into the final audit, reduce the volume
 27 of apparent losses, and reduce the volume of real losses.

1 (d) At least one of the following employees of an urban retail
2 water supplier shall attest to each water loss audit report submitted
3 to the department:

4 (1) The chief financial officer.

5 (2) The chief engineer.

6 (3) The general manager.

7 (e) The department shall deem incomplete and return to the
8 urban retail water supplier any final water loss audit report found
9 by the department to be incomplete, not validated, unattested, or
10 incongruent with known characteristics of water system operations.

11 A water supplier shall resubmit a completed water loss audit report
12 within 90 days of an audit being returned by the department.

13 (f) The department shall post all validated water loss audit
14 reports on its Internet Web site in a manner that allows for
15 comparisons across water suppliers. The department shall make
16 the validated water loss audit reports available for public viewing
17 in a timely manner after their receipt.

18 (g) Using available funds, the department shall provide technical
19 assistance to guide urban retail water suppliers' water loss detection
20 programs, including, but not limited to, metering techniques,
21 pressure management techniques, condition-based assessment
22 techniques for transmission and distribution pipelines, utilization
23 of portable and permanent water loss detection devices, and
24 funding.

25 (h) (1) The department, in consultation with the board, shall
26 develop metrics for reporting year-over-year progress on water
27 loss reduction.

28 (2) On or before July 1, 2020, the board shall adopt rules
29 requiring urban retail water suppliers to meet performance
30 standards for the volume of water losses.