Presentation Goals

1) Share an overview and updates on the SAFER Program

2) Answer your questions!
What is SAFER?

The SAFER Program is a set of tools, funding sources, and regulatory authorities designed to help struggling water systems sustainably and affordably provide safe drinking water.
SAFER Overview

**SB 200 (Monning, 2019)** -- Establishes the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (Fund) to address funding gaps and provide short- and long-term solutions to water systems.

**Fund Expenditure Policy** -- Guides how the Fund Expenditure Plan will be developed and implemented. The Policy defines key terms, discusses who is eligible for funding, and what types of projects are eligible.

**Fund Expenditure Plan** -- Adopted annually by the State Water Board, directs how money from the Fund can be spent. The Fund Expenditure Plan is based on a drinking water needs assessment that prioritizes projects for funding.
SAFER Overview – State Water Board

SAFER PROGRAM

Division of Financial Assistance
Fund Expenditure Plan & Executing Funding

Division of Drinking Water
Needs Assessment, Data Collection, & Engagement

Division of Water Quality
State Smalls & Domestic Well Sourcewater Quality

Office of Public Participation
Public Engagement & Meeting Facilitation

*This image will be available in Spanish in the future
SAFER Advisory Group

• Consultative body (required by SB 200)
• Provides constructive advice and feedback on the Fund Expenditure Plan and other key analyses and policies as determined by the State Water Board
• Composed of 19 representatives from 6 categories
• Governed by a charter
• Application period is open until September 30, 2020!
Available Funds for SAFER Program (FY 2020-21)

$496 million

- $117 million Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund
- $31.5 million General Fund
- $151.4 million Drinking Water Bonds
- $110 million Proposition 1 Groundwater
- $86 million Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
Upcoming SAFER 2020 Timeline

**June 2020**
- 12th- Advisory Group Meeting #4
- 16th- End of Public Comment Period for Plan

**July 2020**
- 7th- Board Adoption of Plan
- 22nd- Risk Assessment Webinars
- Advisory Group Applications open

**August 2020**
- 27th- Public Workshop: How to Apply for the SAFER Advisory Group

**September 2020**
- Advisory Group Meeting #5
- SAFER update to Board
- 30th- Advisory Group Member Applications close
Get Involved!

- Visit the SAFER website for more information
- Apply for the Advisory Group
- Attend future Board meetings, Advisory Group meetings, or webinars

www.waterboards.ca.gov/safer
Questions?
safer@waterboards.ca.gov

www.waterboards.ca.gov/safer
Save the Date

State Water Resources Control Board Public Workshop:
How to Apply for the SAFER Advisory Group
August 27, 2020
Remote Participation Only

Register for the workshop here:
https://waterboards.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0vcOmsrj8oEtRMSURcQoCth2nTZ2m1Q9y
Thank you!