

Recycled Water Program Update

Overview

The City of San Diego has determined that in order to meet the requirements of its Pure Water Program, no new applications for connections to the City's Recycled Water Program will be accepted in the northern part of the City after December 31, 2023. More specifically:

- For projects that require discretionary approval prior to ministerial construction permit approval, discretionary approval applications deemed complete prior to December 31, 2023, may be considered for recycled water connection.
- For projects that only require ministerial construction permit approval, ministerial permit applications deemed complete prior to December 31, 2023, may be considered for recycled water connection.

Update Details

Pure Water Phase I is required under the state's regulatory permit to produce 30 million gallons of purified water per day when it begins operation in 2025. Pure Water is generated through the advanced treatment of recycled water to drinking water standards. There will be a shortage of wastewater flow for Pure Water Phase I if new recycled water connections are not curtailed.

There is currently less wastewater being generated in the City than originally forecasted when designing the Pure Water Program, thanks in part to water conservation. A portion of wastewater flow is allocated to the Pure Water Program, which will significantly reduce the amount of flow left over for the Recycled Water program.

Connections will still be allowed in the southern part of the City, as they will not impact Pure Water Phase I. The City will reevaluate the Recycled Water Program in the coming years as part of Pure Water Phase II.

Current Policy

Projects in the vicinity of existing distribution system must use recycled water if capacity is available or wherever feasible. This is found in the Muni Code ([Section 64.0801](#) et seq.), Council Policy 400-15 ([111014councilpolicy.pdf \(sandiego.gov\)](#)) and Reclaimed Water Ordinance (https://docs.sandiego.gov/council_reso_ordinance/rao1989/O-17327.pdf).

For questions or more information, please refer to the following link: <https://www.sandiego.gov/public-utilities/sustainability/recycled-water>

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