



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

May 29, 2015

California Building Standards Commission
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833

RE: Adoption of Emergency Building Standards — Executive Order B-29-15 Landscape Irrigation —
Regarding the 2013 Green Building Standards Codes (May 29, 2015 proposed adoption)

To Whom It May Concern:

The California Council, American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA) is an advocacy organization representing over 1,400 California ASLA members and 3,500 licensees. The purpose of the Council is to represent the profession of Landscape Architecture in the State of California as an instrument of services in the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Landscape Architects are intimately involved in the design and creation of many of the landscapes to be affected by the objectives and individual directives to be adopted by the CBSC. Although we are in general agreement with the provisions of this action, we are concerned with the specific proposal (Item 7) to "prohibit irrigation with potable water outside newly constructed homes and buildings that is not delivered by drip or microspray systems."

Often, site conditions and other factors on new project sites require the flexible use of a wide range of irrigation technologies to address those conditions and provide the necessary irrigation efficiencies desired. Drip and microsprays can be an effective means in water savings in some of those situations, if accompanied by a high level of maintenance and monitoring. Other issues would include fragility in areas of heavy public use and inappropriateness for use on large turf areas, such as parks, golf courses, schools, etc. These issues must be recognized.

Limiting all new systems and potentially, the retrofitting of existing systems to the use of this equipment alone may not prove feasible. We agree that controlling the application of water through "smart" technologies is extremely important. What equipment is utilized to actually apply the water should continue to depend on the specific project requirements. We recommend altering the language of Item 7 to allow for "the use of efficient irrigation equipment designed to meet 'current' ET Adjustment Factors."

We appreciate the opportunity to address this matter and offer our continued support in helping meet the stated goal of achieving maximum irrigation efficiency throughout California.

Sincerely,

Jon Wreschinsky, President
California Council of ASLA

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