



December 8, 2015

Michael L. Nearman  
Acting Executive Director  
Building Standards Commission  
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130  
Sacramento, California 95833

**Subject: CALGreen Certifying Rulemaking November 23, 2015 15-Day Public Notice**

Dear Mr. Nearman,

I submit this letter on behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) in response to the 15-day public notice for the CALGreen certifying rulemaking. NRDC supports the efforts of the Building Standards Commission (BSC) to update CALGreen so it is consistent with the revised Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Model Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance (MWELo) for residential, nonresidential, and other building types that was adopted in July 2015. We also recognize the important efforts of the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and other agencies in the effort to update CALGreen.

The state building code will play a very important role in the enforcement of MWELo, which currently lacks an effective enforcement mechanism. Therefore it is essential that the language in CALGreen accurately reflect the essential of the model ordinance directly rather than by reference. Unfortunately, this latest version of the CALGreen code demonstrates that attempts to harmonize with MWELo has not been fixed.

In general, we recommend including several key elements in the current update and considering additional options to align with MWELo landscape irrigation water efficiency requirements during future code adoption cycles as noted below. Please also see our detailed proposed underline/strikeout code language in Attachment A, public comment form.

We would also like to provide comment on the process of this and other recent rulemakings with BSC and HCD. While we understand that BSC and HCD staff were under tremendous pressure during this emergency rulemaking, NRDC is concerned about the lack of transparency in the development of this code language, specifically the lack of response to stakeholder comments and concerns throughout the public process. NRDC recommends that in future rulemakings, stakeholder comments be posted to the rulemaking website and that the agencies provide public responses addressing the public's comments, concerns and recommendations.

- 1) NRDC recommends that BSC and HCD update rather than eliminating the definition and references to the ET adjustment factor (ETAF) and special landscape area (SLA) (BSC Item 1, 2 and 3; HCD Item 1 and 2)**

The rationale for striking the definition for ETAF and SLA provided in the 15-day language is based on the fact that the ETAF adopted by BSC in the May 29, 2015 Emergency Regulation does not align with the subsequently adopted MWELo. Instead, NRDC believes it would be more effective for CALGreen to maintain this language and simply revise the values to align with MWELo. The inclusion of the water budgets in CALGreen is important for the enforcement of MWELo and an inspector can easily verify plans demonstrating compliance.

**NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL**

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**2) NRDC recommends that BSC and HCD update rather than eliminate pre-existing CALGreen requirements for landscape irrigation controllers and metering (BSC Item 9 & 10; HCD Item 2).**

We agree with the Industry Coalition's October 26, 2015 comment letter that including MWELO requirements in CALGreen can help facilitate MWELO implementation and reduce the compliance burden on building officials and builders. We recommend updating the existing requirements for residential and nonresidential landscape irrigation controllers (sections 4.204.1 and 5.304.3) and nonresidential metering (section 5.304.4) rather than deleting them as proposed. We also recommend including cross-references for additional MWELO requirements, such as water budgets, maximum slope, etc. as informational notations to indicate the additional scope of CALGreen requirements.

**3) NRDC recommends including a pointer to the MWELO Irrigation System Efficiency Audit requirement during the certifying rulemaking and adopting additional requirements during the interim cycle revision.**

NRDC supports the Utility C&S Team recommendation requiring project applicants to submit an irrigation audit report for new and expanded landscapes for three reasons, as noted in their October 26, 2015 letter and prior comments. First, a broad consensus of stakeholders has acknowledged at CALGreen and DWR workshops that many jurisdictions historically have not implemented the MWELO. This failure is due largely to a lack of familiarity with the steps needed to comply with the ordinance and the lack of an available compliance tool. Secondly, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found that irrigation controllers will typically decrease water usage by 15% when properly configured, but can increase water use if not properly configured. The proposed audit will provide a resource for building inspectors to verify the proper installation and configuration of both irrigation equipment and irrigation controllers. Third, this revision will improve consistency with the current MWELO audit requirement (MWELO section 492.12(c)(1)).

We understand that including additional requirements in this CALGreen update may be outside the scope of the current certifying rulemaking. If BSC and HCD do not add this code language during the current CALGreen certifying rulemaking, we recommend including an informational notation to the code that instead cross-references to MWELO section 492.12(c)(1). In this case we would also recommend adding additional code language to the CALGreen during the interim cycle.

**4) NRDC supports the proposed addition of MWELO Appendix D into Chapter 8 of CALGreen (BSC Item 12).**

Appendix D will be a helpful reference for builders and inspectors regarding landscapes that are small enough to qualify for the Appendix D "checklist" approach to MWELO compliance, as noted in the Industry Coalition's October 26, 2015 letter. We understand that HCD may be including Appendix D in the online implementation materials that will be posted on HCD's website. We encourage HCD to also include a cross-reference to Chapter 8 from Chapter 4 section 4.304.

**5) NRDC supports the proposed applicability language and recommends further clarification to the proposed residential applicability language (HCD Item 2).**

We suggest that HCD add code language to section 5.304.2 stating that rehabilitated landscapes of 2,500 square feet or greater are subject to the MWELO for consistency with MWELO 490.1(a)(2) (similar to BSC proposed Item 4). We also recommend adding code language stating that Appendix D is an available compliance option for lots or parcels under 2,500 square feet using graywater or rainwater for consistency with MWELO 490.1(d) (similar to BSC proposed item 5).

**6) NRDC supports HCD's proposed applicability threshold for voluntary metering requirements in A4.304.3 and recommends amending the proposed applicability test (HCD Item 3).**

We agree that HCD should change the applicability threshold from landscapes greater than 2,500 square feet to landscapes less than 5,000 square feet. Since the updated MWELO contains a mandatory requirement for landscapes greater than 5,000 square feet, the existing CALGreen voluntary requirement would only extend this requirement to landscapes between 2,500 and 5,000 square feet. In addition, metering or sub-metering of very small landscapes may not lead to significant water savings. Therefore, we recommend including a minimum applicability threshold of 500 square feet, which is also the level at which the MWELO applies. We also support the proposed definition of “water meter” in Chapter 2 to support this voluntary requirement (HCD Item 1).

Given that many backyards are landscaped after the initial sale of a new home, and after water service is established, we recommend revising A4.304.3 to require separate metering or submetering for the installation of new landscapes between 500 and 5,000 feet regardless of whether a new water service is required. This comment is also noted in our October 26, 2015 comment letter.

We also recommend considering the addition of a mandatory metering requirement during the interim cycle code revision, if not adopted during this certifying rulemaking.

**7) NRDC recommends that BSC revise voluntary water metering applicability determination. (BSC Item 11)**

We recommend revising section A5.304.2 to base applicability on whether a new landscape has been installed, rather than whether a new water service has been installed, for the same reasons noted above.

**8) NRDC recommends evaluating opportunities to streamline future alignment with the MWELO.**

We recognize that BSC and HCD have invested significant resources to update landscape irrigation efficiency requirements in May 2015 due to the drought emergency, as well as proposing additional revisions to align with the July 15, 2015 MWELO update. The Independent Technical Panel (ITP) coordinated by DWR is currently considering a recommendation that DWR schedule future MWELO updates to complement CALGreen code adoption cycles. This option could reduce, though not entirely eliminate, the resources needed to align CALGreen with the MWELO and to potentially include additional details regarding the MWELO in CALGreen.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our support for BSC’s efforts to revise the CALGreen standards to reduce water usage. We recommend that BSC also include the revisions noted above during the certifying rulemaking, and consider additional revisions for the CALGreen interim cycle. We thank BSC for the opportunity to participate in this process and for carefully considering the recommendations outlined in this letter.

Sincerely,



Tracy Quinn, P.E  
Senior Policy Analyst, Water Program  
Natural Resources Defense Council

cc: Kyle Kraus, HCD  
Julie Saare-Edmonds, DWR  
Enc. Attachment A

**Attachment A: Public Comment Form**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AGENCY  
CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION  
2525 NATOMAS PARK DR., SUITE 130  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833  
(916) 263-0916 Phone  
Email: [cbsc@dgs.ca.gov](mailto:cbsc@dgs.ca.gov)

Office Use Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PARTICIPATION COMMENTS FOR THE NOTICE DATED NOVEMBER 23, 2015**

Written comments are to be sent to the above address.

**WRITTEN COMMENT DEADLINE: December 8, 2015 (no later than 5:00 pm)**

Date: December 7, 2015

From:

Tracy Quinn

Name (Print or type)

(Signature)

Natural Resources Defense Council

Agency, jurisdiction, chapter, company, association, individual, etc.

1314 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Street

Santa Monica

City

CA

State

90401

Zip

[tquinn@nrdc.org](mailto:tquinn@nrdc.org)

Email address

(310) 434-2300

Phone number

I/We (do)(do not) agree with:

[ X ] The Agency proposed modifications As Submitted on Section No. 4.304, A4.304, 5.304, A5.304.2

and request that this section or reference provision be recommended:

[ ] Approve    [ ] Disapprove    [ ] Further Study Required    [ X ] Approve as Amended

**Suggested Revisions to the Text of the Regulations:**

Please see below. We believe that each proposed change is consistent with Health and Safety Code Section 18930 (a) 1 through 8.

Note: The proposed changes to the existing (2013) CALGreen code proposed by the NRDC are marked with red line double underline and ~~double strikethrough~~. Changes proposed by BSC and HCD in the Express Terms released November 20, 2015 for the 15-day public comment period ending on December 8, 2015 are marked with double underline and ~~double strikethrough~~. Changes previously proposed by BSC and HCD for the 45-day public comment period ending on October 26, 2015, and carried forward in the latest 15-day notice, are marked with single underline and ~~single strikethrough~~.

Code language from the current CALGreen code that the NRDC proposes to retain is shown in normal text. For code sections where BSC or HCD have proposed to delete a requirement that the NRDC proposes to instead modify, the BSC or HCD deletion is shown followed by the NRDC proposed revisions to the existing code language.

## CHAPTER 2

### Definitions

**ET ADJUSTMENT FACTOR (ETAF) [BSC]** For the purposes of this Part, ETAF means a factor of 0.45 that, when applied to reference evapotranspiration, adjusts for plant factors and irrigation efficiency, two major influences upon the amount of water that needs to be applied to the landscape.

**ET ADJUSTMENT FACTOR (ETAF) [HCD]** For the purposes of this Part, ETAF means a factor of 0.55 that, when applied to reference evapotranspiration, adjusts for plant factors and irrigation efficiency, two major influences upon the amount of water that needs to be applied to the landscape.

**SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREA (SLA) [BSC]** means an area of the landscape dedicated solely to edible plants, areas irrigated with recycled water, water features using recycled water and areas dedicated to active play such as parks, sports fields, golf courses, and where turf provides a playing surface. For the purposes of this Part, the additional water allowance for SLA's shall be 1.0.

**SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREA (SLA) [HCD]** means an area of the landscape dedicated solely to edible plants, areas irrigated with recycled water, water features using recycled water and areas dedicated to active play such as parks, sports fields, golf courses, and where turf provides a playing surface. For the purposes of this Part, the additional water allowance for SLA's shall be 0.45.

**Rationale:** It is important to maintain the requirements for a landscape water budget in CALGreen to maintain and support the effectiveness of MWEL0 and provide an important enforcement mechanism.

**CHAPTER 4**  
**RESIDENTIAL MANDATORY MEASURES**  
**Division 4.3 – Water Efficiency and Conservation**

4.304.1 Outdoor potable water use in landscape areas. On or after June 1, 2015, a water budget shall be developed for landscape irrigation use that conforms to the local water efficient landscape ordinance or to the California Department of Water Resources' Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance, whichever is more stringent.

The following factors shall be effective until subsequent revision of the MWELO by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

1. ET Adjustment Factor (ETAF) - 0.55.
2. Special Landscape Areas (SLA) - 0.45. (The resulting total ETAF for SLA shall be 1.0).

Notes:

1. Prescriptive measures to assist in compliance with the water budget are available in the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance which may be found at: <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/WaterOrdSec492.cfm>
2. The water budget calculator for use with the 0.55 ETAF is available at: [Web address to be established]
3. The MWELO prescriptive compliance measure Appendix D may be found at the following link: [verify link with DWR]. In addition, a copy of MWELO Appendix D may be found in Chapter 8 of this code.

**Rationale:** CALGreen should maintain the water budget requirement specifically rather than by reference.

4.304.1 Outdoor potable water use in landscape areas. After December 1, 2015, new residential developments with an aggregate landscape area equal to or greater than 500 square feet and rehabilitated landscape projects with an aggregate landscape area equal to or greater than 2,500 square feet shall comply with one of the following options:

1. A local water efficient landscape ordinance or the current California Department of Water Resources' Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO), whichever is more stringent, or
2. Projects with aggregate landscape areas less than 2500 square feet may comply with the MWELO's Appendix D Prescriptive Compliance Option.

**Note:**

CALGreen does not contain a complete list of MWELO requirements.

**Rationale:** The MWELO applies to rehabilitated landscapes of equal to or greater than 2,500 square feet, as noted in the proposed revision

NRDC also supports HCD's proposed applicability language regarding new landscapes.

~~4.304.1-4.304.2 Irrigation controllers. Automatic irrigation system controllers for landscaping provided by the builder and installed at the time of final inspection shall comply with the following:~~

- ~~1. Controllers shall be weather or soil moisture based controllers that automatically adjust irrigation in response to changes in plants' needs as weather conditions change.~~
- ~~2. Weather based controllers without integral rain sensors or communication systems that account for local rainfall shall have a separate wired or wireless rain sensor which connects or communicates with the controller(s). Soil moisture based controllers are not required to have rain sensor input.~~

~~**Note:** More information regarding irrigation controller function and specifications is available from the Irrigation Association.~~

4.304.1- **4.304.2 Irrigation controllers.** Automatic irrigation system controllers shall be installed for new development projects with an aggregate landscaped area equal to or greater than 500 square feet, and rehabilitated landscape areas greater than 2,500 square feet and provided by the builder and installed at the time of final inspection shall comply with the following:

....

Notes:

1. The Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance contains additional requirements, including a section 492.7 (a)(1)(B) requirement that landscape irrigation controllers contain non-volatile memory.
2. Developers who choose the MWELO Appendix D prescriptive option are subject to additional requirements.

**Rationale:** The MWELO mandates the installation of a landscape irrigation system controller meeting certain requirements (section 492.7(a)(1)(B)). The current CALGreen Code contains requirements for landscape irrigation controllers if installed, but does not require installation of a landscape irrigation system controller. Therefore, the proposed revision will improve consistency with the MWELO and improve water savings by mandating the installation of an automatic irrigation system controller, as well as providing an informational note regarding additional MWELO requirements.

**4.304.3 Irrigation System Efficiency Verification.** Project applicants for landscapes requiring a building or landscape permit, plan check or design review shall comply with 4.304.3.1 if they are either:

- 1) Newly-constructed landscape of at least 500 square feet; or
- 2) Rehabilitated landscapes of at least 2,500 square feet.

4.304.3.1. The project applicant shall submit an irrigation audit report along with the Certificate of Completion form to the local agency implementing the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) or a locally adopted WELO, and provide a copy to the local building inspector. This report shall include but is not limited to: inspection, system tune-up, system test with distribution uniformity, reporting of overspray or run off that causes overland flow, and preparation of an irrigation schedule for the irrigation controller, including configuring irrigation controllers with application rate, soil types, plant factors, slope, exposure and any other factors necessary for accurate programming.

**Note:** additional information regarding audits can be found in Title 23 section 492.12 “Irrigation Audit, Irrigation Survey, and Irrigation Water Use Analysis”

**Rationale:** Inspectors often lack a mechanism to enforce CALGreen landscape irrigation efficiency requirements such as a water budget and a requirement that irrigation controllers installed at time of inspection contain weather or soil-moisture based features. Thus, landscapes at new construction may not comply with water budget requirements. In addition, the US EPA has found that improper programming of landscape irrigation controllers can in some cases increase rather than decrease water use (WaterSense Specification for Weather Based Irrigation Controllers Supporting Statement, 2011).

The recently revised MWELO requires that project applicants provide a landscape irrigation audit report (section 492.12). The proposed CALGreen language would ensure that the report is also provided to local building inspectors to help them verify compliance with CALGreen landscape irrigation controller and water budget requirements.

*Note: If HCD is unable to include this code language in the scope of the certifying rulemaking, we would recommend alternatively including an informational notation during the certification rulemaking and then considering additional code language during the interim cycle.*

**4.304.4 Irrigation metering device.** New landscaped irrigated areas with more than 5,000 square feet shall be provided with separate submeters or metering devices for outdoor portable water use.

**Rationale:** The proposed change would add a mandatory landscape irrigation metering requirement, consistent with MWELo section 492.7(a)(1)(A). The CALGreen residential code currently contains only a voluntary metering requirement for residential landscapes (A4.306.6). Metering will allow homeowners and residents to monitor the water efficiency of landscape irrigation, track controller and hardware efficiency over time, and detect leaks in landscape irrigation systems.

*Note: If HCD is unable to include this code language in the scope of the certifying rulemaking, we would recommend alternatively including an informational notation for the certification language and then considering additional code language during the interim cycle.*

## APPENDIX A4 RESIDENTIAL VOLUNTARY MEASURES

### DIVISION A4.3 WATER EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

#### Section A4.304 Outdoor Water Use

~~A4.304.6~~ **A4.304.3 Irrigation metering device Landscape water meters.** ~~For new water service connections,~~ landscaped irrigated areas ~~more than 2,500~~ less than 5,000 square feet and greater than 500 square feet shall be provided with separate submeters or metering devices for outdoor potable water use.

**Rationale:** The current CALGreen code triggers metering if the landscaped area falls within the designated window and an upgraded water service is required. The proposed code revision would remove the first requirement because it is inconsistent with MWELo section 492.7(a)(1)(A). While landscape of this size are not directly subject to the MWELo, consistency with the MWELo will increase the scope and benefit of the proposed code language since some landscapes are installed after water service is connected.

## CHAPTER 5

### NONRESIDENTIAL MANDATORY MEASURES

#### Division 5.3 – Water Efficiency and Conservation

~~5.304.42 Outdoor water use in landscape areas equal to or greater than 2,500 500 square feet, or greater. [BSC] When water is used for outdoor irrigation for landscape projects 2,500 square feet or greater, one of the following shall apply. When water is used for outdoor irrigation for new construction projects with an aggregate landscape area equal to or greater than 500 square feet requiring a building or landscape permit, plan check or design review, one of the following shall apply:~~

1. ~~A local water efficient landscape ordinance that is, based on evidence in the record, at least as effective in conserving water as the updated model ordinance adopted by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) per Government Code Section 65595 (c), including an evapotranspiration adjustment factor (ETAF) of 0.45 and an additional water allowance for special landscape areas (SLA) of 1.0.~~
2. ~~The California Department of Water Resources Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) commencing with Section 490 of Chapter 2.7, Division 2, Title 23, California Code of Regulations, including an evapotranspiration adjustment factor (ETAF) of 0.45 and an additional water allowance for special landscape areas (SLA) of 1.0.~~

**Rationale:** CALGreen should maintain the water budget requirement specifically rather than by reference.

~~5.304.3 Outdoor water use in landscape areas 1,000 to 2,500 square feet. [BSC] When water is used for outdoor irrigation for landscape projects at least 1,000 square feet but not more than 2,500 square feet, the following shall apply:~~

~~5.304.3.1 5.304.3 Irrigation design controller and sensor application.~~

~~In new nonresidential construction or building addition or alteration with at least 1,000 but not more than 2,500 square feet of cumulative landscaped area (the level at which the MWELO applies), install irrigation controllers and sensors which include the following criteria, and meet manufacturer's recommendations.~~

~~5.304.3.2 5.304.3.1 Irrigation cControllers:~~

~~Automatic irrigation system controllers installed at the time of final inspection shall comply with the following:~~

1. ~~Controllers shall be weather or soil moisture based controllers that automatically adjust irrigation in response to changes in plants' needs as weather conditions change.~~

~~2. Weather based controllers without integral rain sensors or communication systems that account for local rainfall shall have a separate wired or wireless rain sensor which connects or communicates with the controller(s). Soil moisture based controllers are not required to have rain sensor input.~~

~~Note: More information regarding irrigation controller function and specifications is available from the Irrigation Association.~~

**5.304.3.1 5.304.3 Irrigation design-controller and sensor application.** In new nonresidential construction or building addition or alteration with at least ~~500-1000 but not more than 2,500~~ square feet of cumulative landscaped area ~~(the level at which the MWELO applies),~~ install irrigation controllers and sensors which include the following criteria, and meet manufacturer’s recommendations.

**5.304.3.1 5.304.3.2 Irrigation eControllers.** Automatic irrigation system controllers ~~installed at the time of final inspection~~ shall comply with the following:

...

Notes:

1. The Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance contains additional requirement, including a section 492.7 (a)(1)(B) requirement that landscape irrigation controllers contain non-volatile memory.
2. Developers who choose the MWELO Appendix D prescriptive option are subject to additional requirements.

**Rationale:** The MWELO mandates the installation of a landscape irrigation system controller meeting certain requirements (section 492.7(a)(1)(B)) for new landscaped areas of 500 square feet or more. The current CALGreen Code contains a higher applicability threshold. Therefore, the proposed revision will improve consistency with the MWELO and improve water savings by mandating the installation of an automatic irrigation system controller.

~~5.304.4 5.304.2 Outdoor potable water use meters.~~

~~For new water service or for addition or alteration requiring upgraded water service for landscaped areas of at least 1,000 square feet but not more than 5,000 square feet (the level at which Water Code §535 applies), separate submeters or metering devices shall be installed for outdoor potable water use.~~

**5.304.4 Outdoor potable Landscape water use meters.** For new water service or for addition or alteration ~~requiring upgraded water service for landscaped areas~~ of at least 1,000 square feet but not more than 5,000 square feet (the level at which Water Code section 535 applies), separate submeters or metering devices shall be installed for outdoor ~~potable~~ water use.

**Rationale:** The current CALGreen code triggers landscape irrigation metering if the landscaped area exceeds 1,000 square feet and an upgraded water service is required. The proposed code revision would remove the later requirement because it is inconsistent with MWELo section 492.7(a)(1)(A) and limits the benefit of the proposed code language.

Metering will allow homeowners and residents to monitor the water efficiency of landscape irrigation, track controller and hardware efficiency over time, and detect leaks in landscape irrigation systems.

**5.304.5 Irrigation System Efficiency Verification.** Project applicants for landscapes requiring a building or landscape permit, plan check or design review shall comply with 5.304.5.1 if a newly-constructed landscaped area is equal to or greater than 500 square feet or a rehabilitated landscape area is equal to or greater than 2,500 square feet.

**5.304.5.1** The project applicant shall submit an irrigation audit report along with the Certificate of Completion form to the local agency implementing the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo) or a locally adopted WELo, and provide a copy to the local building inspector. This report shall include but is not limited to: inspection, system tune-up, system test with distribution uniformity, reporting of overspray or run off that causes overland flow, and preparation of an irrigation schedule for the irrigation controller, including configuring irrigation controllers with application rate, soil types, plant factors, slope, exposure and any other factors necessary for accurate programming.

**Note:** additional information regarding audits can be found in Title 23 section 492.12 “Irrigation Audit, Irrigation Survey, and Irrigation Water Use Analysis”

**Rationale:** Inspectors often lack a mechanism to enforce CALGreen landscape irrigation efficiency requirements such as a water budget and a requirement that irrigation controllers installed at time of inspection contain weather or soil-moisture based features. Thus, landscapes at new construction may not comply with water budget requirements. In addition, the US EPA has found that improper programming of landscape irrigation controllers can in some cases increase rather than decrease water use (WaterSense Specification for Weather Based Irrigation Controllers Supporting Statement, 2011).

The recently revised MWELo requires that project applicants provide a landscape irrigation audit report (section 492.12). The proposed CALGreen language would ensure that the report is also provided to local building inspectors to help them verify compliance with CALGreen landscape irrigation controller and water budget requirements.

*If BSC is unable to include this code language in the scope of the certifying rulemaking, we would recommend alternatively including an informational notation for the certification language and then considering additional code language during the interim cycle.*

## APPENDIX A5 NONRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTARY MEASURES

### DIVISION A5.3 WATER EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

#### Section A5.304 Outdoor Water Use

##### A5.304.2 ~~A5.304.2.1~~ Outdoor potable water use.

~~For new water service not subject to the provisions of Water Code Section 535, s~~ Separate meters or submeters shall be installed for indoor and outdoor potable water use for landscaped areas of at least 500 square feet but not more than 1,000 square feet. ~~(the level at which Section 5.304.2 applies)~~

**Rationale:** The current CALGreen code triggers metering if an upgraded water service is required and the landscaped area falls within the designated window. The proposed code revision would remove the first requirement because it is inconsistent with MWELo section 492.7(a)(1)(A) and limits the benefit of the proposed code language.

Metering is a key tool for allowing nonresidential property owners and managers to monitor the water efficiency of landscapes, track efficiency of controllers and hardware over time, and detect leaks in landscape irrigation systems.