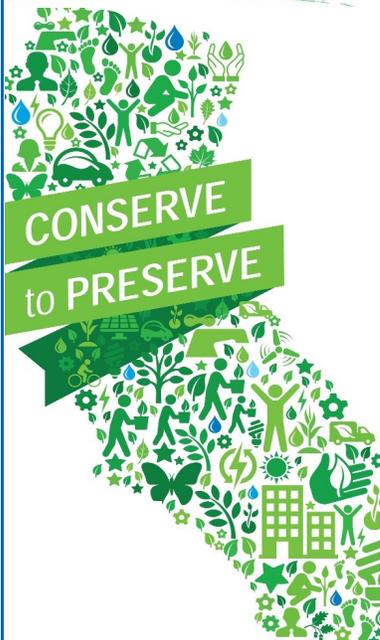




# California Building Standards Commission

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# CAL CODE QUARTERLY

From The Executive Director



Jim McGowan

Well, sadly the elephant in the room continues to be the drought conditions in California. As you know by now, emergency CALGreen provisions became effective on June 1, 2015. Please take a moment and review Building Standards Information Bulletin [15-02](#), if you have not already, and the respective emergency rulemakings on the California Building

Standards Commission (CBSC) [website](#). The [Department of Housing and Community Development, Division of the State Architect, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development](#), and CBSC proposed emergency provisions that were approved by the commission on May 29.

I overheard a comment during the recent emergency process that gave me pause. The individual commented that the commission acted on something in a matter of weeks that normally takes three years. If I chose to take the comment literally, I might well have become frustrated. But instead, I realized that this person was

not well versed in the 18-month statutory driven transparent code adoption process that creates California's 13-part Building Standards Code. Relative to the emergency code adoptions, CBSC and the other proposing state agencies responded to Governor Brown's earlier proclamations declaring the drought emergency and to the governor's recently issued Executive Order [B-29-15](#) dated April 1, 2015. Please take time to read the following article regarding the commission's emergency rulemaking

*(Continued on page 2)*

## YES, IT IS AN EMERGENCY!



The continuing drought in California has created a critical need for immediate action on the part of state government to impose water conservation measures. On April 1, 2015, Governor Brown issued Executive Order [B-29-15](#), directing several state agencies to take more aggressive enforcement and regulatory actions. Additionally, CBSC and other state agencies have proposed emergency green building standards aimed at imposing water conservation measures for building landscape irrigation into the CALGreen Code (Part 11, Title 24). Accordingly, over the next several months you will see and hear about additional emergency building standards.

### Emergency Building Standards - The Process

Emergency building standards published in Title 24, California Code of Regulations, known as the California Building Standards Code, become effective and enforceable when approved by the California Building Standards Commission and filed with the California Secretary of

*(Continued on page 4)*

## 2015 COMMISSION MEETING DATES

The California Building Standards Commission meeting location has recently changed. Please double check the address on all future meeting notices for the new location. The notice and agenda items are issued at least 15 days prior to each meeting.

NEW MEETING  
LOCATION  
California Victim  
Compensation  
and Government  
Claims Board  
400 R Street  
Sacramento CA 95811

**July 21, 2015**

**October 20, 2015**

**December 16, 2015**



## From The Executive Director *(Continued from page 1)*

process and complete the CALCode Quiz on the last page of this issue to test your knowledge!

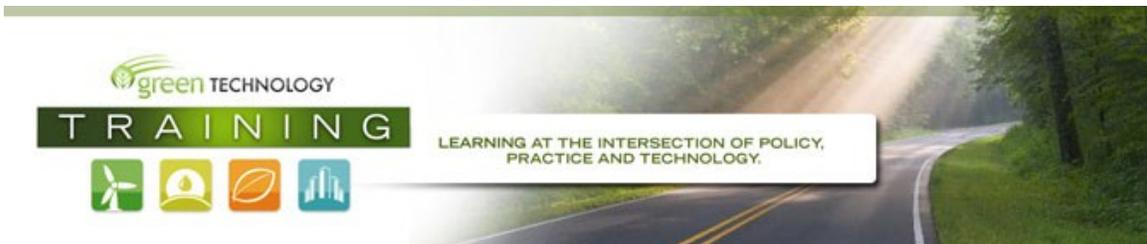
In the meantime, CBSC staff is extremely busy preparing submitted state agency rulemakings for the upcoming Code Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings. The CAC meeting dates are included in this issue of the newsletter and also are posted on the CBSC website; <http://www.bsc.ca.gov>. The respective CAC meetings followed by public comment periods are the next step in the [2015 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle](#).

Lastly, for those who took an active role in promoting Building Safety Month in May, I thank you for making the extra effort to increase building safety awareness throughout California. Like our water, people often take safe buildings for granted. Food for thought...

Stay cool!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim McGowan".

Jim McGowan



## Graywater, Recycled Water, Water Recycling; Plumbing Code Changes Offer Conservation Strategies

This course is aimed at property and building owners, and those in the design, construction and enforcement community who are affected by the extreme drought in California. Governor Brown's Executive Order mandating significant reductions in potable water use and strategies for compliance will be reviewed. Recent changes in the California Plumbing Code have opened the door to new opportunities for reducing potable water use, establishing gray water systems, on-site water recycling and rainwater catchment systems. This class will cover the CALGreen emergency water conservation regulations. For more information visit the [Green Technology website](#) or click below on Register Now!

July 17, 2015	San Jose, CA	<a href="#">Register Now!</a>
August 14, 2015	Sacramento, CA	<a href="#">Register Now!</a>
August 28, 2015	San Diego, CA	<a href="#">Register Now!</a>
September 11, 2015	Orange County, CA	<a href="#">Register Now!</a>
September 25, 2015	South San Francisco, CA	<a href="#">Register Now!</a>

## Education And Outreach



The Green California Summit & Exposition was held April 6-8 at the Sacramento Convention Center. CBSC along with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) hosted a State of California CALGreen booth on the exhibit floor. Some 2,000 attendees passed through the convention doors this year to hear about and see the latest in green technology.



(l to r) CBSC staff members Laurie O'Brien, Architectural Associate, and Leann de la Motte, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, greet attendees in the CALGreen exhibit booth during the Green California Summit & Exposition.

CBSC and HCD presented a CALGreen educational workshop. Attendees heard about the Intervening Code Adoption Cycle updates that go into effect on July 1, 2015. CBSC staff also participated in a commissioning workshop that provided a high-level overview of the CALGreen and California Energy Code requirements.



(l to r) Enrique Rodriguez, Associate Construction Analyst, CBSC; Michael Nearman, Deputy Executive Director, CBSC; Dave Walls, Executive Director, Sustainability Programs, ICC.



Commissioning workshop participants (l to r) Dave Walls, Executive Director, Sustainability Programs, ICC; Orry Nottingham, PE, Certified Commissioning Professional; Enrique Rodriguez, Associate Construction Analyst, CBSC; Gregory Mahoney, Chief Building Official, City of Davis; Courtney Ward, Energy Commission Specialist, California Energy Commission.

## UC Davis Presentation

At the request of the University of California, Davis, CBSC Deputy Executive Director Michael Nearman made a presentation to members of its engineering staff on April 29, 2015. Nearman provided updates concerning the drought and pending water legislation, the Intervening Code Adoption Cycle Supplement that goes into effect on July 1, 2015, and the 2015 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle.

[Click here](#) to read about the electric vehicle infrastructure requirements that go into effect on July 1, along with information about indoor water use, and more, in the PowerPoint presentation.



↓ Click Below ↓

- [What you should know](#)
- [What you can do](#)
- [What's new](#)

## THE PROCESS (Continued from page 1)

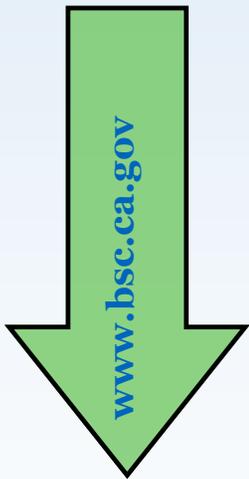
State. The filing with the Secretary of State most often occurs on the day following the approval by the commission.

The adoption of emergency building standards is governed by very restrictive requirements established in [Government Code Section 11346.1](#). In addition, there are provisions regarding emergency building standards within the California Health and Safety Code, Division 13, Part 2.5, known as the California Building Standards Law. The first requirement is to clearly establish that an emergency exists as defined in Government Code Section 11346.1. The document explaining the emergency put before the commission at a public meeting is called a *finding of emergency*. It must explain the emergency to the satisfaction of the commission during the public meeting. Members of the public may comment on the proposed emergency standards. The lack of planning, staffing, or other constraints are not cause for an emergency adoption of building standards.

When a *finding of emergency* is presented to the commission, the regulatory language must be in the form of a document called the *express terms*. Both the *finding of emergency* and *express terms* must be made available to the public. The notification to the public of a planned emergency adoption is published in a *meeting notice and agenda* by CBSC, issued at least 15 days before the commission meeting date.

When the commission approves an emergency building standard, the standard is in place for up to 180 days, and may be considered temporary. Within the next 180 days, the state agency responsible for the emergency action must complete the required rulemaking process, or the emergency building standard may expire. State law allows for up to two 90-day extensions of time for specific circumstances. The state agency must bring the action back before the commission at a public meeting for a final adoption to make the building standard a published provision within Title 24. The final emergency building standard language often includes amendments in response to public comment and the state agency's experience with the temporary building standard adopted previously by emergency action.

All announcements and documents associated with any proposed building standard are available on the CBSC [website](#). Due to the ongoing 2015 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle activities and the potential for additional emergency standards, this summer and fall will be a time of considerable rulemaking activity for the commission.



### Stay up-to-date with CBSC!

Add your name and contact information to the [CBSC database](#).

You will receive meeting notices, information bulletins, newsletters and more.

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## Mark your calendars!



Learn more [here!](#)

# Code Advisory Committee Meetings\*

Accessibility (ACCESS):	July 14, 15 & 16
Building, Fire & Other (BFO):	July 28 & 29
Health Facilities (HF):	August 11
Structural Design/Lateral Forces (SD/LF):	August 12 & 13
Green Building (GREEN):	August 25, 26 & 27
Plumbing, Electrical, Mechanical & Energy (PEME):	September 9 & 10

Meeting notices, which include the meeting location and start time, are issued at least 15 days prior to each committee meeting. If you would like to receive meeting notices please add your name to the CBSC [database](#).



\* Meeting dates are subject to change

## Legislative Update

The deadline for the California Legislature to pass bills out of the house of origin was June 5. Bills that failed to meet this deadline are considered dead/2-year bills and should not be active again until the Legislature reconvenes in early 2016. As anticipated, the weeks preceding this deadline were filled with heavy committee activity. Following are some bills pertaining to buildings or building standards that have been introduced during the first year of the 2015-2016 legislative session. Some of these bills address issues that relate to the design or construction of buildings in California, and some specifically address the California Building Standards Commission.

<a href="#">AB 12 (Cooley)</a>	State government: administrative regulations: review
<a href="#">AB 81 (Wood)</a>	Hospitals: seismic safety
<a href="#">AB 85 (Wilk)</a>	Open meetings
<a href="#">AB 576 (Ting)</a>	California Building Standards Commission: advisory panels
<a href="#">AB 662 (Bonilla)</a>	Public accommodation: disabled adults: changing facilities
<a href="#">AB 723 (Rendon)</a>	Plumbing fixtures: WaterSense standards
<a href="#">AB 764 (Quirk)</a>	Parking lots: design: insurance discount
<a href="#">AB 1236 (Chiu)</a>	Local ordinances: electric vehicle charging stations
<a href="#">AB 1463 (Gatto)</a>	Onsite recycled water
<a href="#">SB 7 (Wolk)</a>	Housing: water meters: multiunit structures
<a href="#">SB 287 (Hueso)</a>	Automated external defibrillators



### CBSC Staff Fundraising

California state employees annually participate in a charitable campaign. This year, CBSC staff is raising money for [Courage House Northern California](#).

Courage House provides young girls who are victims of sex trafficking a long-term stable foundation in which to rebuild their lives.

CBSC fundraising efforts will continue through October 2015. If you would like to know more about the CBSC fundraising activities or to make a donation to Courage House Northern California please contact Pam Maeda, (916) 263-0916.



# CAL Code Quiz

As mentioned earlier, emergency building standards to improve water conservation have been the recent focus of CBSC. Let's see how much you know about the process of adopting emergency building standards!

- 1.) The public's first awareness of a proposal to adopt emergency building standards will come in the:
  - a.) California Legislative Digest
  - b.) CBSC meeting notice and agenda
  - c.) Express terms
  - d.) Finding of emergency
  
- 2.) To review the specific language of a proposed emergency building standard, the public should access the rulemaking document available on the CBSC website known as the:
  - a.) Finding of emergency
  - b.) California Legislative Digest
  - c.) Notice of proposed action
  - d.) Express terms
  
- 3.) Which of the following is not a cause for the adoption of emergency building standards?
  - a.) Water shortage
  - b.) Electrical hazards
  - c.) Budget and staffing constraints
  - d.) A condition creating a fire hazard
  
- 4.) The approval and adoption of emergency building standards must be considered by the:
  - a.) CBSC at a public meeting
  - b.) California Legislature
  - c.) California Legislative Counsel
  - d.) Governor's office
  
- 5.) Unless extended, or replaced with a final adoption of building standards, the emergency building standards initially adopted will expire:
  - a.) 180 days following the enactment by the Legislature
  - b.) 180 days following the approval by CBSC
  - c.) 180 days following the filing with the Secretary of State
  - d.) 180 days following the approval by governor



## California Building Standards Commission

CALCode  
Quarterly

e-publication cycle  
Winter ~ Spring  
Summer ~ Fall

Questions or comments?

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(916) 263-0959

[www.bsc.ca.gov](http://www.bsc.ca.gov)



Answers:  
1.) b, 2.) d, 3.) c, 4.) a, 5.) c