



## WESTERN STATES WATER COUNCIL

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Web Page: [www.westernstateswater.org](http://www.westernstateswater.org)

December 16, 2019

Mr. Andrew Wheeler, Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, MC: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

Mr. David Ross, Assistant Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
William Jefferson Clinton Federal Building  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, MC: 1101A  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: EPA-HQ-OW-2019-0174 – Draft National Water Reuse Action Plan

Dear Administrator Wheeler and Assistant Administrator Ross,

The Western States Water Council (WSWC) is a government entity created by a resolution of the Western Governors in 1965. Our members are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of their respective Governors, advising them on water policy issues. Our mission is to ensure that the West has an adequate, secure and sustainable supply of water of suitable quality to meet its diverse economic and environmental needs now and in the future.

In 2011, the WSWC completed a report titled “Water Reuse in the West: State Programs and Institutional Issues.”<sup>1</sup> The report consists primarily of narrative summaries for each member state based on a survey circulated to the states in 2010. The report contains information pertaining to each state’s: (1) laws and regulations governing reuse; (2) available funding options for reuse projects; (3) legal, political, technical, and institutional issues that encourage or discourage reuse; and (4) specific state efforts to encourage reuse or overcome barriers. A number of states also provided information on their existing water reuse projects, included in an appendix.

Many of our states have made considerable progress over the past decade in developing water reuse laws, funding mechanisms, public outreach, and projects. At our Summer 2019 Council Meetings, our members determined that it would be beneficial to update this report. We believe that doing so will not only benefit our member states, but will also help fulfill one of the 46 proposed actions in your draft National Water Reuse Action Plan. Action 2.2.1 seeks to coordinate and integrate federal, state, tribal, and local water reuse programs and policies by compiling state policies and approaches to implement water reuse programs.

The WSWC will also identify and coordinate with the Western Federal Agency Support Team (WestFAST) and other technical or national organizations with common interests to co-host a workshop or symposia on water quality-quantity nexus issues, including the potential solutions of water reuse.

We appreciate EPA’s leadership in seeking to coordinate and integrate voluntary efforts across all parts of the water sector to make the most effective use of our water resources. We look forward to learning from each other and identifying ways to support our mutual goals.

Sincerely,

Tony Willardson  
Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.westernstateswater.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Water-Reuse-Report-Final.pdf>