



2020 – Second Quarterly Report

## **CEC Rulemaking on Irrigation Controllers – Soliciting Stakeholder Input on Initial Rule Making**

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CA Council of ASLA Lobbyists listened to the CA Energy Commission's (CEC) December 17 webinar, where CEC staff announced their intention to regulate landscape irrigation controllers. This regulation is in its initial phases. The CEC intends to publish a draft staff analysis with the proposed regulations and then establish a stakeholder workgroup to discuss and make any changes before beginning the formal rulemaking process.

On a high level, the regulations will establish certification and marking requirements for all devices sold in CA based on the US EPA WaterSense Specification for Irrigation Controllers. For the purposes of the regulation, a "Landscape Irrigation Controller" means an automatic device that sends a signal for automatic valves to open or close to provide the flow of water to a landscape irrigation system.

Throughout the webinar, CEC frequently emphasized the need for stakeholder feedback by joining the workgroup or discussing with the CEC staff directly. Because this rulemaking is in its initial phases, the CEC is seeking input on scope to identify which devices should be included as well as any problems or unique circumstances they may not be aware of.

CEC staff emphasized that they do not want these regulations to be in conflict with existing requirements like the CA Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo). Finally, they solicited comments on the technical feasibility of regulating these devices. In other words, they are eager for feedback if efficiency requirements would actually make irrigation controllers less functional.

The CEC presentation slides enumerate more specifics from the webinar and have been posted to the CCASLA website at [www.cc-asla.org](http://www.cc-asla.org).