

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Water-Energy Nexus Registry? What kind of data is reported?

The Water-Energy Nexus Registry is a state-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) reporting program and tool for water agencies and large water users. Participants will measure, report, and track their carbon footprints, as well as report water totals detailing their annual extraction, consumption, delivery, storage, and/or treatment of water.

Data developed in the registry will enable the measurement of the emissions intensity (e.g., metric tons GHG/AF of water) of specific aspects of California's water use cycle, help identify additional opportunities for GHG emission reductions, and track the impact of those actions over time.

2. Why do we need a GHG registry for the water-energy nexus?

California has established a state-wide GHG reduction target of 40 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2030. In the state's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan, the water sector is identified as key to achieving its reduction goals. While the state recognizes that most of the energy associated with managing our water occurs during its consumption, it also takes a lot of energy to get water to our taps or to move it away after it goes down our drains. This energy significantly contributes to the state's carbon footprint.

The Water-Energy Nexus Registry will provide a better understanding of the emissions associated with each process in water management and use. This will help water agencies and businesses in California to make their operations more efficient, reduce their GHG emissions and contribute to the state's 2030 targets.

3. Who participates in reporting to the Water-Energy Nexus Registry? Is it required?

The Water-Energy Nexus Registry is a voluntary program. It will be open to all entities doing business in California.

4. How much does it cost?

Participants will be able to use an on-line inventory management calculation and reporting tool as well as receive guidance in GHG benchmarking, goal setting, and achieving measurable reductions for free.

5. How is this program different than other existing Water-Energy Calculation tools or resources?

Existing California-focused water-energy tools and resources either (1) estimate the energy or GHG emissions savings of specific operations and end uses; (2) track water, energy, and/or cost savings resulting from water conservation or efficiency projects; or (3) provide methods to estimate the annual energy intensity of water management operations, or the energy intensity of delivered water.

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5. How is this program different than other existing Water-Energy calculation tools or resources? *(cont'd)*

None of these resources comprehensively helps businesses or water agencies measure the emissions that result from specific water operations or an entire carbon footprint. The team developing the Water-Energy Nexus Registry will draw from these existing resources when defining GHG reporting best practices. They will also be consulting with stakeholders in California during key points in the development process.

6. What are the benefits of participating?

Benefits of participation include:

- Free GHG guidance, training, calculation tools, and opportunities for recognition.
- Production of high-quality GHG data consistent with international best practice.
- Access to a planning tool that will help you identify operational efficiencies and GHG reduction opportunities, and prioritize capital investments and expenditures.

7. When is the Water-Energy Nexus Registry open for reporting? Can I join now?

TCR plans to open the registry for reporting in spring of 2019.

Throughout the remainder of 2018, TCR will work with stakeholders to develop the program. If you, or someone from your organization, are interested in participating in the development of this program, or in reporting to the registry next year, please add your name to our stakeholder list by emailing policy@theclimateregistry.org.

8. What is The Climate Registry's role in the Water-Energy Nexus Registry? What if my organization is already a member of The Climate Registry?

California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) has awarded the contract for the Water-Energy Nexus Registry to The Climate Registry. TCR is designing and administering the program, which includes developing and implementing the guidance, reporting tool, and training.

If your organization is already a TCR member and would like to participate in the Water-Energy Nexus Registry, you will receive access to the calculation tools and resources as part of your ongoing membership with TCR.

About The Climate Registry

TCR is a non-profit governed by U.S. states and Canadian provinces and territories. TCR designs and operates voluntary and compliance GHG reporting programs globally, and assists organizations in measuring, reporting and verifying (MRV) the carbon in their operations in order to manage and reduce it.

Contact us

For more information on our water-energy work please email us at policy@theclimateregistry.org or call our help desk at (866) 523-0764, ext. 3

We look forward to speaking with you!
WWW.THECLIMATEREGISTRY.ORG