
GROUNDWATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT APPLICATION INFORMATION

Groundwater Augmentation Projects are projects that add to the long-term reliable-yield of groundwater in the West Coast Basin. Water Augmentation Projects require review and approval by the West Coast Basin Storage Panel (Panel). The Panel will only approve a project providing that there is no material physical harm or threat of harm to the groundwater supplies of the West Coast Basin.¹ All water augmentation project applications shall describe the following:

- source of the water
- facilities to be used by the project
- location where the stored water will be introduced into the Basin and extracted thereafter
- government approvals needed to develop and operate the project
- status of any CEQA review documents that have been approved or will be prepared
- any contracts with other Parties to the Judgment relating to the proposed project
- any contracts with other persons or entities to purchase the Stored Water generated by the project

Submitted applications will be reviewed and acted upon in accordance with Sections V(12) and (13) of the West Coast Basin Judgment (Judgment) and the West Basin Watermaster Rules.

Per the Judgment, all parties of the Judgment will be offered an opportunity to participate in a Water Augmentation Project by the Project Lead, on condition that they share proportionally in common costs and benefits, and assume the obligation to bear exclusively the cost of any improvements that are required to accommodate their individual or particular needs. All participating parties shall be established prior to submitting an application. The Administrative Body will review applications before submittal to the Storage Panel to ensure completeness. Applicants will be responsible for completing any edits or providing additional information if deemed necessary by the Administrative Body. Should additional technical studies or modeling be necessary, the Applicant may do the work themselves or request the work to be done by WRD at the Applicant's expense.

A notice of the final project application, with copies of all supporting documents, including any modeling or studies, draft or final CEQA review documents, will be sent to each member of the Panel and each party to the Judgment within 30 days of the application being deemed "final" by the Administrative Body. Furthermore, a Panel hearing date will be scheduled within 30 days. In regards to the CEQA process, copies of all notices required under CEQA must be provided to the Panel and each party to the Judgment simultaneously with the general public. All CEQA notices pertaining to a project will be posted on the Administrative Body's website.

Applicants or their designated representatives are required to attend the hearing on the application as scheduled by the Panel. The Administrative Body will coordinate with Applicants to prepare any materials

¹ For further information regarding the definition of a water augmentation project or material physical harm, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions.

West Coast Basin
WATER RIGHTS PANEL



needed for the Panel hearing. The application review process is outlined on page 3. Per the Judgment, Section V (12)(E), any approval for a Water Augmentation Project shall include the following provisions:

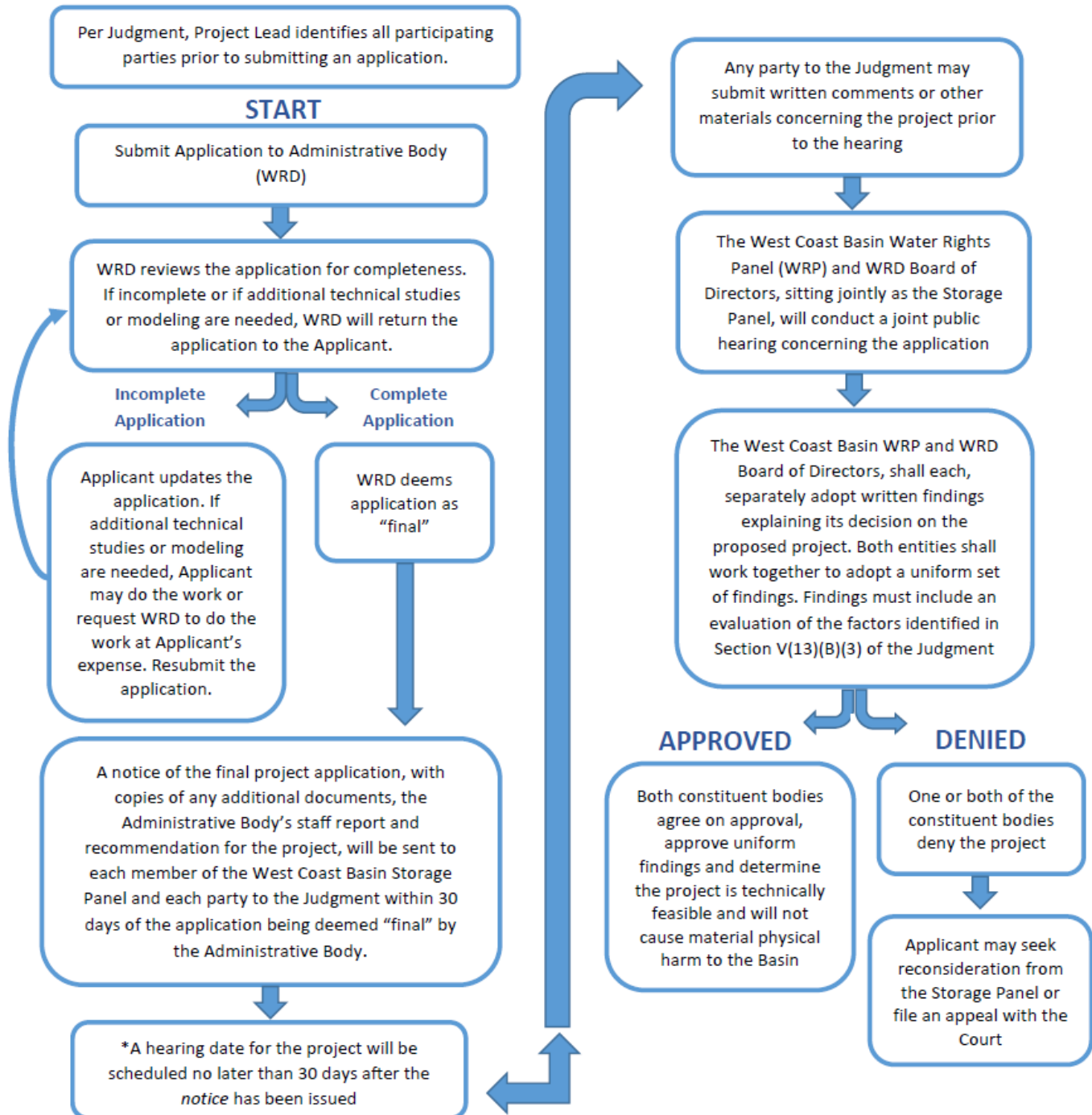
- requiring regular monitoring to determine the actual amount of such new water made available
- requiring make up water or equivalent payment therefore to the extent that actual water supply augmentation does not meet projections
- adjusting water rights attributable to the Water Augmentation Project to match the actual water created

Applicants will bear all costs associated with the review and implementation of the proposed project application per Section V (12)(B)(4) of the Judgment.

Please fully complete all sections of the application. If more space is needed, answer on separate sheets of paper. If a question is not applicable, please indicate so with "N/A." Additional documents may be provided as supplemental information, but the application must be a stand-alone document containing all relevant information. If you have any questions, please contact Esther Valle Rojas at (562) 275-4259 or erojas@wrd.org.

Mail or Email Completed and Signed Application To:
Water Replenishment District of Southern California
Attn: Esther Valle Rojas, Manager of Watermaster and Water Resources
4040 Paramount Blvd
Lakewood, CA 90712
erojas@wrd.org.

GROUNDWATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT APPLICATION PROCESS



**If the Storage Panel determines that a hearing is not required on the project based on factors listed in Section V(13)(B)(3) of the Judgment, then the Storage Panel will convene a meeting, but not hold a hearing, to make the necessary findings as to why a hearing is not required.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS) FOR WATER AUGMENTATION PROJECTS

1. **What is a water augmentation project?** *Pre-approved physical actions and management activities that demonstrate an increase in long-term annual groundwater yield in the Basin.*
2. **What is material physical harm?** *Material physical injury or material diminution in the quality or quantity of groundwater available within the Basin to support extraction of the total water rights or stored water, that is demonstrated to be attributable to the placement, recharge, injection, storage or recapture of stored water in the West Coast Basin, including, but not limited to, degradation of water quality, liquefaction, land subsidence and other material physical injury caused by elevated or lowered groundwater levels.*
3. **How do I get additional groundwater rights?** *On completion of a Water Augmentation Project, the Storage Panel will award additional pumping rights (adjudicated rights) to the Applicants if the amount of water stored/augmented is at least equal to the proposed increase in adjudicated rights.*
4. **When can I start pumping my new groundwater rights?** *No water can be produced from a new groundwater right until the quantity of water attributed to the Project is actually introduced into the West Coast Basin.*