
Nuevo Water Company

Update of The State Water Resources Control Board Cross- Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH)

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The State Water Resources Control Board Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook

On December 19, 2023, the State Water Board adopted the [Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook \(CCCPH\)](#) which will take effect on July 1, 2024. The CCCPH will replace the existing cross-connection control and backflow prevention regulations currently in title 17. While the CCCPH has the same authority as a standard regulation, it is intended to provide more technical details and explanatory language than a standard regulation.

**Compliance with the Handbook is mandatory for all Public
Water Systems**

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New Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook Objectives (CCCPH)

The primary objective of the CCCPH is the protection of public health through the establishment of standards intended to ensure a PWS drinking water distribution system will not be subject to backflow.

In addition, by providing basic educational information on backflow prevention, the State Water Board intends to build a foundation of awareness within the regulated community regarding the importance of backflow protection and cross-connection control, leading to the implementation of a robust cross-connection control program for each PWS.

A copy of the CCCPH and the associated Staff Report is available at the State Water Resource Control Board website. The State Water Board is developing additional resources for public water systems that will be available later this year.

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PURPOSE OF POLICY HANDBOOK

- ▶ **Role of Public Water Supplier (PWS) remains the same**
 - ▶ **Protect public health**
 - ▶ **Regulate compliance**
 - ▶ **Mitigate risk of Cross Connection**
- ▶ **Handbook Increased guidance**
 - ▶ **Stronger, more detailed requirements**
 - ▶ **Volume: 8 pages of Title 17 to "80" pages of the Handbook**
 - ▶ **Staff report provides reasons and justification for requirements**
 - ▶ **Greater accountability (Staff Certs, Records, and Notification)**
- ▶ **Every PWS must submit a 13 step CCC Program Plan**
 - ▶ **Survey of every connection**
 - ▶ **No service class is exempt**

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MOST NOTABLE CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS REGULATIONS

- ▶ A PWS must submit a CCC Plan to the State Water Board for review within 12 months of the Handbook's implementation.
- ▶ Failed assemblies must be repaired/replaced within 30 days. CCC Plan can include a process for extensions.
- ▶ Fire services with single checks must be upgraded to testable assembly within 10 years.
- ▶ DC assemblies must be installed above ground or retrofitted upon replacement.
- ▶ Auxiliary water supply not interconnect with PWS requires RP, interconnected requires Air Gaps.
- ▶ New service connection Air Gaps must be State Water Board approved prior to construction.

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Nuevo Water Company's status of the 10 Elements as required in the Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook

1. Adoption of operating rules or ordinances – **Complete**
2. Conducting of surveys (hazard assessments) – **Ongoing**
3. Provisions for backflow protection – **Complete**
4. Provision of person trained in cross-connection to carry out the program – **On Staff**
5. Establishment of procedure for backflow testing - **Complete**
6. Maintenance of records – **Ongoing**
7. Use of certified backflow prevention assembly testers and cross-connection control specialists – **Process in place**
8. Backflow incident response, reporting, and notification - **Complete**
9. Public outreach and education – **Under Development**
10. Local entity coordination – **Under Development**

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NWC will need to prepare and submit to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) the following elements of a Cross-Connection Control Plan as summarized below:

- The CCCPH requires that PWS's prepare a Cross-Connection Control Plan that describes how the PWS will achieve compliance with the CCCPH.
- The CCCPH includes follow-up hazard assessments periodically, or when user premise conditions change. The CCPH also includes various changes to the minimum backflow protection required for certain situations.
- Air Gap Inspections will need to be performed by the Cross-Connection Specialist
- Public Outreach and Education.
- Local Entity Coordination

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What NWC is doing to prepare for the implementation of the Cross-Connection Control Plan Handbook?

- ▶ NWC is working to build methods to promote awareness within the community about the importance of backflow protection and cross-connection control.
- ▶ NWC is also working to Identify gaps between how NWC's Cross-Connection Program is operated and the requirements of the Handbook
- ▶ Compliance planning
- ▶ Ongoing meetings with neighboring Public Water Systems for support and collaboration
- ▶ Attending online workshops and seminars
- ▶ Gathering specific information for the Cross-Connection Control Plan

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ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

For additional information about the new handbook please see
the SWRCB Cross Connection Control Policy Handbook at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/cccp.html

Or

Contact the Nuevo Water Company Cross-Connection Specialist