

## Bay Planning Coalition Sponsors Day-Long Summit on Energy and Water Nexus



The interplay between two critical resources — water and energy — was examined in-depth Sept. 12 at a day-long summit in San Francisco sponsored by the Bay Planning Coalition.

Held at the Aquarium of the Bay at Pier 39, the event, titled “Energy and Water Nexus Summit 2,” featured an array of speakers, many of whom addressed how conserving one resource — either water or energy — conserves the other resource.

Bay Planning Coalition Executive Director John Coleman — who also is vice president of ACWA — moderated the event and highlighted the importance of spreading the word about the connection between water and energy use.

“In order to maintain our vibrant economy and culture and attract new businesses and innovators, a reliable, accessible and affordable supply of water and energy must be available. The ‘Energy and Water Nexus Summit 2’ strives to bring diverse viewpoints and areas of expertise to the table to ask the tough questions about the future of water and energy in our region, state and country,” said Coleman.

Panels at the event ranged from discussions on energy development, water and energy needs for agricultural production and water supply and demand.

ACWA Executive Director Timothy Quinn participated in a panel discussion on the 2014 water bond and its implications for conveyance, storage and conservation of water. Quinn highlighted the bond’s importance for helping to meet the coequal goals of habitat restoration and water supply reliability. He added

that the current \$11.14 billion bond slated for the November 2014 ballot will need to be pared down in order to be successful with the voters, but its funding for water storage projects in particular needs to be protected.

“An ACWA Board priority is to protect the storage number,” Quinn said.

Quinn also called the state’s water infrastructure needs “one of the most important infrastructure challenges facing the California economy today.”

Felicia Marcus, chair of the State Water Resources Control Board, spoke during the summit’s luncheon and said that as a state we’ve been “naïve” not to stress the importance of the water and energy connection.

“Water and energy are intrinsically linked,” said Marcus.

Several speakers at the event referenced how the energy used to treat and transport water amounts to 19% of all energy used in the state.

Ned Spang, program manager for the Center for Water-Energy Efficiency at UC Davis, said different types of water use carry different energy “loads.” For instance, indoor water requires more energy because it must be treated before and after it leaves the home. Energy that is pumped into homes in the Berkeley Hills uses more energy than water delivered to homes in the flat lands of Berkeley, simply because it requires less energy to move water to flat land.

Nearly all of the speakers stressed the importance of educating the public about how saving water actually saves energy.

“If you don’t use that water, you save that energy,” said Spang.

Information on the summit is available at <http://bayplanningcoalition.org/2013/06/energy-and-water-nexus-summit-2/>. ■■■

## Region Elections in Progress for 2014-'15, Ballots Due Sept. 30

Region election ballots have been emailed to ACWA member agency general managers and presidents. The due date to return the completed ballots is Sept. 30, 2013.

Each ballot contains the slate recommended by the region nominating committee, as well as qualified individual candidates and voting instructions. Each agency is entitled to cast only one vote for its region, and each agency must have an authorized person sign the ballot.

The chair and vice chair of each region will serve on ACWA’s Board of Directors for the next two-year term of office, Jan. 1, 2014, to Dec. 31, 2015. The newly elected chair and vice chair will make the region’s committee appointment recommendations to the ACWA president for the 2014-2015 term. The chair or vice chair also serve on the ACWA Finance Committee. The region board members are elected to represent the issues, concerns and needs of your region.

For more information about the region election process, please log on to [www.acwa.com](http://www.acwa.com) and click on the ACWA Region Elections button or contact your regional affairs representative.

If you have questions, please contact Marcia Wulff at [marciaw@acwa.com](mailto:marciaw@acwa.com) or Katie Dahl at [katied@acwa.com](mailto:katied@acwa.com), or call (916) 441-4545. ■■■

