For those unable to attend today’s meeting of the Water Plan Public Advisory Committee, the list of handouts and other details about the presentations are available online. They include a report on developing indicators to monitor water resources sustainability, and an update from the Tribal Advisory Committee. The next Water Plan Public Advisory Committee meeting will be Thursday, May 19, in Sacramento.

DWR is accepting public comments on a proposed permanent regulation for process water exclusion from gross water calculations. A public hearing will be held in Sacramento on Wednesday, April 13. A public hearing in Los Angeles has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 19. The text of the regulation, meeting details and the notice of proposed rulemaking are available on the DWR website.

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) is looking at a plan that would take sea-level rise into consideration when making decisions about its programs. The item is on the agenda for the meeting on Friday, April 8, in Sacramento. The California Ocean Protection Council has already passed a resolution guiding state agencies to incorporate consideration of the risks posed by sea-level rise.

The Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) has released a new paper, Funding Public Benefits of Water Investments. It was developed in preparation for a state Senate hearing. The paper looks at the public funding demands for water projects, how other states pay for their projects, and the LAO’s preferred option for funding California water projects.

The Bureau of Reclamation has announced an increase in water supply allocations for users south of the Delta. Farmers will receive 65 percent of their total for the 2011 contract year. They had previously been told they would receive 55 percent. The bureau says there could be further increases in the coming months. More details are available in this news release.