

DOCKETED

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Assembly California Legislature



WILLIAM P. BROUGH
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JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
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May 15, 2015

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: CA Energy Commission emergency regulations; residential lavatory faucets

Dear Governor Brown:

I urge you to direct the California Energy Commission [CEC] to reconsider the emergency regulation pertaining to residential lavatory faucets adopted April 8, modifying them so that a 1.5 gallons per minute (gpm) standard will take effect immediately, and a 1.2 gpm standard will take effect on January 1, 2017 rather than 2016. The extension is necessary to prevent a severe disruption in commerce.

Plumbing manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers support the CEC emergency regulations that establish new, significantly lower flow rates for toilets, kitchen faucets, and public lavatory faucets. The CEC should revise the regulation to require, effective immediately, that residential lavatory faucets sold in California have a maximum flow rate of 1.5 gpm. These products are available today however, it is estimated that less than five percent of households have installed these faucets.

The 1.5 gpm standard represents significant savings over the previous appliance efficiency regulation's 2.2 gpm standard. Residential lavatory faucets have been tested at this standard within the federal WaterSense® program. There are no indications of risk to public safety and health associated with these residential lavatory faucets.

Further, the regulations should be adjusted to take into consideration the significant efforts that must be undertaken by manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and retailers to provide the California market with compliant products. Distributors, large and small, and retailers throughout the state will have to expend major resources to transition inventory and supplies to conform to the new requirements. Compliant products will need to be available for the state's rebounding residential and commercial construction sectors.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to have the CEC re-consider and revise its emergency regulation as it pertains to residential lavatory faucets so that a 1.5 gpm standard will take effect immediately, and a 1.2 gpm standard will take effect on January 1, 2017.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wm P. Brough', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

WILLIAM P. BROUGH
Assemblyman, 73rd District

Cc: California Energy Commission