

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

ITEM 243 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 799
Budget line No. 24

**For Support of the State and Regional Water Pollution Control Boards
From the General Fund**

Amount requested	\$364,921
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	350,835
Increase (4.0 percent)	\$14,086

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages	\$6,609	\$6,609	---	801	21
Operating expense	8,909	8,909	---	801	22
Equipment	-1,432	-1,432	---	801	23
Total increase	\$14,086	\$14,086	---		

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$364,921
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	364,921
Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

The current program of the State and Regional Water Pollution Control Boards is continued for the 1953-54 Fiscal Year. Three engineer positions at the regional board level have been deleted as staff requirements have become more definite with longer experience in this new field. Despite this reduction in personnel the agency's support budget for 1953-54 provides for an increase of \$14,086, or 4 percent. The major elements in the increase are \$6,609 for normal salary adjustments, \$5,555 for printing, \$2,019 for accounting services, \$1,068 for rental of building space for the regional boards, and \$1,100 for automobile replacement.

We recommend approval of the amount requested. However, it is recommended that during the 1953-54 Fiscal Year the State Water Pollution Control Board and the Central Valley Regional Board, with offices located in Sacramento, relinquish the automobiles now assigned to them and utilize the centralized automotive pool, and that the necessary adjustments in the budget allowances for automobile operation and equipment be made by the Department of Finance. This is in line with our general policy of recommending maximum use of the pool wherever feasible.

**Water Pollution Control Board
OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES—RESEARCH**

ITEM 244 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 801
Budget line No. 52

For Support of Research in Technical Phases From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$73,714
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	80,900
Decrease (8.9 percent)	\$7,186

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$73,714
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	73,714
Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

In order to develop basic technical data that the agency considers essential to the proper discharge of its responsibilities, the state board has initiated certain research projects on a contractual basis during the past few years. Funds have been requested for the following projects during the 1953-54 Fiscal Year:

1. *Investigation and evaluation of water qualities standards and their applications* \$3,950

This study was initially completed in the Fiscal Year 1951-52. The sum requested is for a maintenance contract to bring the material up to date as of 1954.

2. *Investigation of pollution by leaching from dumps* \$31,000

The portion of this study dealing with leaching from ashes has been completed; that portion dealing with garbage and mixed refuse is to be completed during the current fiscal year and the third portion, which is concerned with leaching from industrial dumps, will be finished in the 1953-54 Fiscal Year.

3. *Investigation of travel of pollution with ground water movement* \$31,264

A major part of this project involves the injection of sewage into underground aquifers to determine its effect upon the quality of underground water. This research project is scheduled for completion in the 1953-54 Fiscal Year.

4. *Study of the algae of oxidation ponds* \$7,500

This research is in an exploratory stage, and it is difficult at this time to provide an accurate termination date. However, it is the policy of the state board to limit research projects to two or three years' duration wherever possible.

Upon our request the State Water Pollution Control Board supplied us with a statement concerning the manner in which its completed research studies are being used. Our review of the statement and of the research publications themselves have convinced us of the value of this phase of the program.

We recommend approval of the amount requested.

**Water Pollution Control Board
SERVICES BY OTHER AGENCIES**

ITEM 245 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 801
Budget line No. 76

For Support of the Water Pollution Control Board, for Services by Other Agencies, From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$95,550
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	156,410
Decrease (38.9 percent)	\$60,860

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$95,550
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	95,550
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Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

In order to prevent duplication, necessary field and laboratory work is performed for the boards by other state agencies best qualified to render the required technical service. Such service consists of studies of the pollution effects of sewerage and industrial wastes, prescribing discharge requirements, determining effect of drainage wells on ground waters, and special investigations as required.

Approval of the budget request is recommended.

**Public Utilities Commission
GENERAL FUND ACTIVITIES**

ITEM 246 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 802
Budget line No. 7

For Support of Public Utilities Commission From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$1,798,189
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	1,653,861
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Increase (8.7 percent)	\$144,328

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages	\$154,439	\$127,139	\$27,300	808	10
Operating expense	6,815	6,815	---	808	11
Equipment	1,097	1,097	---	808	12
Less:					
Reimbursements	—18,023	—18,023	---	808	15
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Total increase	\$144,328	\$117,028	\$27,300		

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$1,798,189
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	1,784,173
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Reduction	\$14,016

ANALYSIS

About 54 percent of the activities of the Public Utilities Commission are financed from the General Fund (Item 246 of the Budget Bill), the remainder from the Transportation Rate Fund (Item 247 of the Budget Bill). Activities supported by the latter fund have to do with regulation of rail, truck and water carriers engaged in transportation of property.

About 80 percent of total expenditures for the agency, including salaries and wages, are paid out of the General Fund in the first instance and detailed on a line item basis in that section of the budget, the General Fund being reimbursed by the Transportation Rate Fund for its pro rata share under a plan of financial settlement.