

Basin Technical Advisory Committee

(3/17-18/15) Board Meeting- Item 7
Urban Water Emergency Regs
Deadline: 3/16/15 by 12:00 noon

March 9, 2015

via email and US Mail

Bear Valley Mutual
Water Company

City of Colton

East Valley Water District

City of Loma Linda

City of Redlands

City of Rialto

City of Riverside

San Bernardino County
Flood Control District

San Bernardino Municipal
Water Department

San Bernardino Valley
Municipal Water District

San Bernardino Valley
Water Conservation District

West Valley Water District

Western Municipal
Water District

Yucaipa Valley
Water District

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov



Dear Mrs. Townsend,

The Basin Technical Advisory Committee (BTAC) is comprised of retail water agencies, flood control, a wholesale water agency (San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District) and other stakeholders. The BTAC works collaboratively on water-related issues and water resources management within the upper Santa Ana River Watershed.


The Water Conservation Subcommittee of the BTAC recently reviewed the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) *Proposed Text of Emergency Regulations* that is to be considered by the Water Board at its March 17, 2015 meeting. The BTAC would like to suggest the following addition (shown in italics) to the proposed Section 864(a)(5):

The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and up to 48 hours after measurable rainfall *unless the irrigation system is utilizing a functioning, operational WaterSense labeled weather-based irrigation controller.*

The water agencies in our area have been promoting the installation of weather-based irrigation controllers which only apply the amount of water needed by landscapes based upon actual weather conditions. Since these controllers are keeping a careful account, it is possible that they could supplement a landscape within 48 hours of a very minor, yet measurable, storm. By including the above language, the Water Board would be recognizing those customers that have taken the initiative to install these controllers while also drawing attention to these controllers which could result in more of them being installed throughout the State.

We greatly appreciate the Water Board considering this suggestion and raising awareness about water use during this drought period.

Sincerely,


Thomas J. Crowley, P.E.
Chairman