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Martin E. Zvirbulis
Secretary / General Manager/CEO

January 28, 2016



Ms. Kathy Frevert
State Water Resources Control Board
Post Office Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Sent via U.S. Mail and E-mail to: Kathy.Frevert@waterboards.ca.gov

**Subject: 2/2/16 BOARD MEETING (Conservation Extended Emergency Regulation)
Comments on Proposed Regulatory Framework**

Dear Ms. Frevert:

The purpose of this letter is to provide feedback on the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) proposal to extend the 2015 emergency regulation and established regulatory framework for mandatory conservation by urban water suppliers through October 2016.

As noted in our prior comment letters, the Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD) has been dedicated to conservation and water use efficiency for many years, long before conservation became a State mandated regulatory requirement. Over the past decade, CVWD along with many of our neighboring agencies, has made significant investments on behalf of ratepayers including direct reuse recycled water facilities, recycled water recharge basins and associated infrastructure. We have also purchased surplus supplies and banked groundwater for nearly 10 years in the Chino Groundwater Basin. CVWD feels strongly that credit should be given for the following actions:

- Locally stored groundwater should be recognized as a drought supply:
 - CVWD's primary groundwater basin, Chino Groundwater Basin, has been sustainably managed for nearly 40 years.
 - Our region has collectively saved nearly 400,000 AF which can be safely accessed during periods of extended drought.
 - This stored water represents a significant public investment, including state bond funds.
 - The proposed regulations limit the public's access to this drought supply, and nullify the public's investment in sustainable groundwater management.

James V. Curatalo, Jr.
President

Luis Cetina
Vice President

Oscar Gonzalez
Director

Randall Reed
Director

Kathleen J. Tiegs
Director

- Concern with limitation of “drought-resilient source of supply” credit:
 - Over \$100 Million, including state bond funds has been invested in local reclaimed water.
 - Over 12,000 AFY of recycled water was recharged in 2015 as a potable water supply, which directly offsets groundwater replenishment with imported surface water.
 - State Water Board granted a permit to reclaim this water and put it to beneficial use, so by definition it is not a reduction in the supply available to another legal user or the environment.
 - Therefore, we should receive full credit for this drought-resilient source of supply as a portion of our potable water supplies.

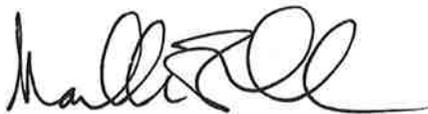
- Reconsider the regional compliance approach:
 - Our regional agencies work together on regional drought response.
 - Regional compliance is consistent with the state’s promotion and funding of integrated resource management plans and projects.
 - It is appropriate to recognize and incentivize partnerships through a regional compliance option.

- Climate Adjustment:
 - The proposed calculation excludes any adjustment for a significant portion of Inland Southern California, which is clearly an arid climate requiring higher levels of water use than coastal areas. Our being excluded from this adjustment – due to being 0.01% below the 5% threshold for adjustment – appears to conflict with the intent of the adjustment. **We respectfully request that the State Water Board establish a climate adjustment calculation that recognizes the arid environment of Inland Southern California.**

Although we appreciate the proposed adjustments to the existing framework, they offer CVWD no relief at all. We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts and concerns with the Board and look forward to working together to develop sound and justifiable revisions to the regulations that are equitable and sustainable for all agencies throughout the State.

Should you have any question or need additional information, please contact me or my staff at (909) 987-2591.

Yours truly,



Martin E. Zvirbulis
General Manager/CEO

cc: Board of Directors, Cucamonga Valley Water District