



# CITY OF OCEANSIDE

## WATER UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

February 6, 2017

The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor of California  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Delivered via email to: [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)

2-7-17 Board Meeting-Item 9  
Urban Water Conservation to Implement EO B-29-15  
Deadline: 2/6/17 12 noon



SUBJECT: February 8, 2017 SWRCB MEETING (Conservation Extended Regulation)

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Oceanside, thank you for the opportunity to provide input regarding the extension and potential modification of the current emergency drought regulations. In doing so, we ask the State Board (Board) to allow these statewide regulations to expire at the end of this month, February 28, 2017.

With an overwhelming majority of the state no longer experiencing drought conditions or water supply shortages, a statewide extension of the Board's drought-related emergency regulations fails to preserve the meaning and intent of what warrants such emergency conditions. We caution the Board to consider the credibility of the message that is going out to all Californians. In this time of increased public awareness and greater transparency, we have an obligation to our customers to provide clear messaging that is supported by fact.

The heart of the issue being considered is whether the improved hydrologic conditions warrant a lifting of the emergency regulations or an extension. While we recognize there remain some areas within the state still experiencing water supply shortfalls, those areas constitute just a fraction of the water agencies statewide that are affected by an extension of these regulations. We encourage the Board to work directly with those agencies to ensure a reliable water supply and to provide site-specific assistance and intervention as needed.

Together with a majority of the water agencies statewide, Oceanside, has demonstrated self-certified water supply sufficiency to meet demand should we experience further critically dry, drought conditions for another three years. Over the past ten years, together with the other San Diego County agencies regionally, Oceanside has implemented water-use efficiency strategies such as the development of drought resilient supplies through RO technologies, expanded recycled water plant capacity and infrastructure, introduction of IPR, the addition of a 50 million gallon per day desalination plant, increased storage, and reduction of per capita use. Moreover, while operating at a Level 1 Voluntary Drought Watch for over six months, Oceanside's cumulative water demand reduction has held strong at 18% compared to base year 2013. This is further evidence that we understand and support the need for continued water use efficiency and that our customers have received this message and have made substantial behavioral changes that support the efficient use of our water resources.

Once again, thank you for this opportunity to provide input. We appreciate your careful consideration of such a critical issue for all involved. On behalf of Oceanside and the 300+ agencies that are not experiencing drought conditions or water supply shortage, we urge you to allow these statewide regulations to expire at the end of this month, February 28, 2017.

Respectfully,

  
Cari Dale  
Water Utilities Director

CD/tkg