



COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Established in 1918 as a public agency

GENERAL MANAGER
Jim Barrett

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Robert Cheng

February 6, 2017

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

SENT VIA EMAIL:

commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

The Honorable Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Chair Marcus:

Subject: Resolution Amending and Re-adopting Drought-related Emergency Regulations for Urban Water Conservation to Implement Executive Orders B-29-15, B-36-15 and B-37-16

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) proposal to re-adopt drought-related emergency regulations. Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) understands the importance of preserving water supplies and we are committed to helping the State manage water resources sustainably.

CVWD is dedicated to helping its urban domestic/drinking water use customers achieve our water conservation goals, as is evidenced by our investment of more than \$6 million into conservation program payments for the second fiscal year in a row. Further, we tightened the water budgets for our water budget based tiered rate billing system by 25% permanently to encourage long-term, permanent change in the Coachella Valley. We remain committed to managing our water supplies in a long-term, sustainable manner. We take the drought very seriously and we will continue to promote conservation in order to ensure sustainable supplies in uncertain times. Additionally, as the local water supplier, we have, and will continue to work diligently to ensure that we have the supplies to meet our demands.

During the drought emergency, our customers stepped up, many at great cost, to reduce their water use to record levels while faced with an emergency situation. We appreciate their efforts and feel it is time to recognize their response.

CVWD believes that in an emergency situation, the stress test model is an appropriate tool for enacting emergency regulations. However, at this time, CVWD believes we are out of the emergency; therefore, the emergency regulations should expire and we should continue our work on the long-term permanent conservation efforts in which we have been engaged.

CVWD would be pleased to continue to work with the State Board on continued reporting, data collection and long-term water efficiency prohibitions; however, in order to maintain our credibility with our customers, we must stop calling this an emergency.

The Honorable Felicia Marcus, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board

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February 6, 2017

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to continued collaboration with the State Board on water efficiency efforts.

Sincerely,



J. M. Barrett
General Manager

cc: State Water Resources Control Board members:
The Honorable Frances Spivy-Weber, Vice Chair
The Honorable Dorene D'Adamo
The Honorable Steven Moore
The Honorable Tam Doduc

KE/Comm&Consv/2017/amend&readopt drought-related emergregs
File: 0022.11, 0541.38.1, 0804.