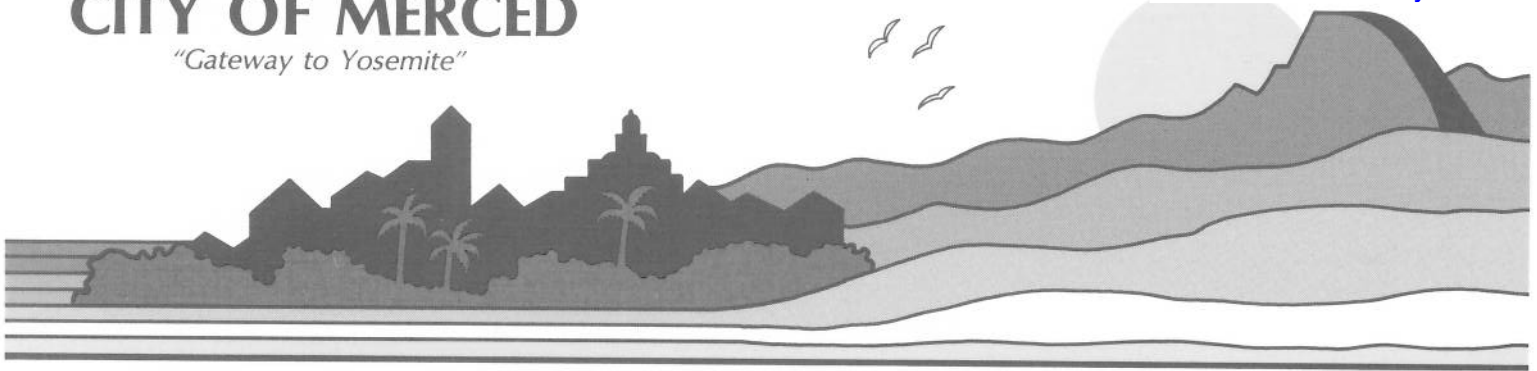


# CITY OF MERCED

"Gateway to Yosemite"



May 1, 2015

Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 24th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Subject: Comment Letter – Emergency Conservation Regulation

The City of Merced, residents, businesses, local agencies and school districts have been making considerable efforts and sacrifices to conserve water through the last four years of drought. In 2014, Merced achieved and matched the statewide conservation average reduction of 9% using the states nine month reporting system. In fact, Merced conserved much more water had the months of March, April and May been included.

Merced is working with citizens, the state and other agencies to address water issues and achieve water sustainability for the Merced region. Examples include: Integrate Regional Water Management, Groundwater Sustainability Agency formation and California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM).

Merced water supply is groundwater. Merced does not rely upon imported water and the groundwater supply is recharged naturally. Therefore, Merced supports the provision for eligible water supplier placement into a lower conservation tier.

Inclusion in a tier reduction does not mean that the City will relax conservation efforts to reduce potable water production. Merced is committed to meeting the Governor's executive orders reduction and regulations that the State Water Resources Control Board may implement for urban water conservation. We simply request inclusion in the tier reduction for water suppliers that have a minimum of 4 years of supply, do not rely upon imported water, and their groundwater supplies recharge naturally.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Bramble". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John Bramble,  
City Manager