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## State Water Resources Control Board

### **NOTICE OF TEMPORARY URGENCY CHANGE PETITION FOR PERMITS 12947A, 12949, 12950, AND 16596 (APPLICATIONS 12919A, 15736, 15737, AND 19351) OF SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY**

On October 31, 2022 Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) filed temporary urgency change petitions (TUCPs) with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Water Rights (Division) requesting approval of temporary changes to water right Permits 12947A, 12949, 12950, and 16596 (Applications 12919A, 15736, 15737, and 19351) pursuant to California Water Code section 1435. The TUCPs were submitted to address significant reductions in flows into the East Fork Russian River through Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Potter Valley Project (PVP) due to a transformer bank failure, as well as continuing drought conditions in the Russian River Watershed. The TUCPs request implementation of a hydrologic index based on Lake Mendocino storage values, rather than the current index based on cumulative inflow into Lake Pillsbury, starting December 14, 2022.

This temporary change is requested to ensure that the water supply condition for the Russian River is determined by an index that is reflective of actual watershed conditions. PG&E indicated that without the ability to generate hydropower at the PVP, it is unlikely to make discretionary transfers through the powerhouse above its requirements. The influence of Eel River imports on downstream hydrologic conditions in the Russian River will be greatly diminished. Therefore, Sonoma Water proposes that the monthly storage values listed below be used, in lieu of cumulative Lake Pillsbury inflow, to define the water supply conditions that determine which minimum instream flow requirements in Term 20 of Permit 12947A, Term 17 of Permits 12949 and 12950, and Term 13 of Permit 16596 will apply to the Russian River:

- a. Dry water supply conditions will exist when storage in Lake Mendocino is less than:
  - 45,000 acre-feet as of January 1
  - 60,000 acre-feet as of February 1
  - 71,000 acre-feet as of March 1
  - 75,000 acre-feet as of March 16
  - 77,000 acre-feet as of April 1
  - 76,500 acre-feet as of April 16
  - 76,000 acre-feet as of May 1
  - 75,500 acre-feet as of May 16
  - 75,000 acre-feet as of June 1

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- b. Critical water supply conditions exist when storage in Lake Mendocino is less than:
- 31,000 acre-feet as of January 1
  - 41,000 acre-feet as of February 1
  - 53,500 acre-feet as of March 1
  - 56,000 acre-feet as of March 16
  - 56,500 acre-feet as of April 1
  - 56,000 acre-feet as of April 16
  - 55,000 acre-feet as of May 1
  - 54,000 acre-feet as of May 16
  - 53,500 acre-feet as of June 1
- c. Normal water supply conditions exist in the absence of defined Dry or Critical water supply conditions.

More information regarding the temporary urgency change petition is available at: [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/petitions/temporary\\_urgency.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/petitions/temporary_urgency.html)

Pursuant to Water Code section 1438, subdivision (d), any interested person may file an objection to the temporary change. Objections filed in response to this notice should be submitted to the persons listed below by **4:30 p.m. on November 28, 2022**. All objections submitted on the TUCPs during the noticing period will be considered by the State Water Board. Please be advised the State Water Board may issue an order approving or denying the TUCPs before the end of the noticing period. All objections received will be considered promptly, and an amended order may be issued if necessary to address objections.

State Water Resources Control Board  
Division of Water Rights  
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Sacramento, CA 95812-2000  
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Sonoma County Water Agency  
Attn: Grant Davis, General Manager  
404 Aviation Boulevard  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403-9019  
[Grant.Davis@scwa.ca.gov](mailto:Grant.Davis@scwa.ca.gov)

For more information regarding this matter please contact Ken Emanuel at [kenneth.emanuel@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:kenneth.emanuel@waterboards.ca.gov).

DATE OF NOTICE: **November 10, 2022**