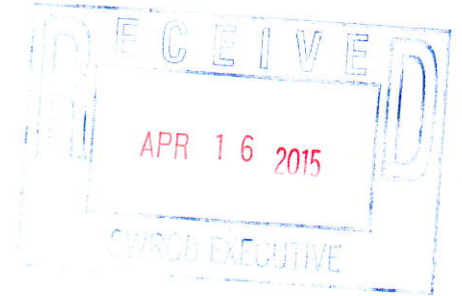




THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the Board of Directors



April 13, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown
Governor of California
State Capital, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and other water leaders across the state last week to discuss the drought emergency. Metropolitan supports and appreciates your strong leadership in managing this statewide crisis.

I do feel compelled as Chairman of the Board for The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to share with you some of the perspective we bring to this situation and the statewide call to cut urban consumption by 25%.

Southern California has led the state these past 25 years in establishing a strong conservation ethic that reduces water demands every year, not just in times of drought. We use less water to serve 19 million Californians today than we used to serve 14 million in 1990. We have achieved this result by directly investing more than \$400 million in conservation efforts, reducing our per capita usage across Southern California by over 25%. Metropolitan also sponsored the legislation in 2009 that called for a 20% reduction in per capita use by 2020 and we are on target to meet that goal.

We also did more than focus on water conservation. In order to ensure water reliability, we developed new local supplies by investing over \$350 million in water recycling and reclamation, brackish water desalination and groundwater cleanup. We made our region more drought resistant by building enhanced water treatment and new water storage facilities, including both surface and groundwater storage. All told Southern California has spent over \$12 billion since the 1990's on water delivery facilities to better serve our region.

Since your visit to Metropolitan in February 2014, Metropolitan has stepped up our efforts to deal with this drought. This past year we have spent \$100 million on conservation rebates alone and by the end of this year our service area will have singlehandedly met your statewide goal of removing fifty million square feet of lawn.

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Metropolitan also raised its financing support of recycled and reclaimed water by more than 50%, increased funding for all our other consumer rebate programs and spent \$5.5 million on public outreach and awareness. All of this was on top of the individual efforts of the cities and water districts throughout our area that have either supplemented our programs or ran their own.

These past few days there have been many in our service area that have expressed frustration to me that by measuring water reduction from 2013 as the new target, our past 25 years of investment and leadership on water management has either been forgotten or ignored. I hear complaints that other regions that have done little until recently can now easily meet this goal by simply adjusting their outdoor watering schedule or take steps on toilets and showers that we did in the early 1990's.

Despite this frustration, Metropolitan believes that we need to stand together as one state and unite in dealing with this drought. I am asking my Board to support your goal of a 25% reduction in water usage and for all Southern Californians to dramatically cut their water usage. I will direct our staff to work cooperatively with the State Water Resources Control Board to develop a practical plan that can meet this ambitious goal. Today I am asking our Board to approve mandatory restrictions on deliveries of Metropolitan water to comply with the Executive Order. And next month I will be asking our Board for yet another significant increase in funding for conservation rebates and turf removal to help Southern Californians meet this target.

I invite you to come meet with Metropolitan and mayors of our cities to hear how we are going to work with the state on meeting this goal and what the impact will be to our cities and our economy. And I would ask that you and the state work with us to provide our cities and water districts with the tools to help meet this goal.

Thank you again for your leadership during this crisis. I look forward to further dialogue with you and your leadership team as we work together to make California a stronger state.

Sincerely,



Randy Record
Chairman of the Board

cc: MWD Board of Directors
F. Marcus, SWRCB Chair