

# Santa Fe Irrigation District



February 6, 2017

2-7-17 Board Meeting-Item 9  
Urban Water Conservation to Implement EO B-29-16  
Deadline: 2/6/17 12 noon

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



Attention: Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board  
*Sent via email to: [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)*

**Subject: Comment Letter – Consideration of Proposed Readoption and Amendment to the Drought-Related Emergency Regulations for Urban Water Conservation**

Dear Chair Marcus and Members of the State Water Resources Control Board:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the potential extension or modification of the current Drought Emergency Regulation. We recommend that the State Water end the Drought Emergency Regulations and work collaborative with water agencies as we transition from emergency drought conditions to long term water use efficiency planning.

If the State were to extend the emergency regulations, it will send a message to the public that the entire state remains in a drought emergency, when current hydrological and water supply conditions throughout the state continue to improve dramatically. The message of being in an “Emergency” undermines our credibility with the public and erodes the effectiveness of future conservation messaging that would be needed during actual emergency conditions.

Should the State Water Board continue the Drought Emergency Regulation, we recommend that it be amended to only apply to counties that are experiencing water supply shortfalls. Similar to how the Governor has declared flood-related emergencies only in those counties that were in need.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the potential extension of the emergency regulation.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Bardin  
General Manager