

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-0029**

**TO ADOPT AN EMERGENCY REGULATION FOR  
STATEWIDE URBAN WATER CONSERVATION**

WHEREAS:

1. On April 25, 2014, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. issued an executive order ([April 2014 Proclamation](#)) to strengthen the State's ability to manage water and habitat effectively in drought conditions, and called on all Californians to redouble their efforts to conserve water. The April 2014 Proclamation finds that the continuous severe drought conditions present urgent challenges across the State, including water shortages in communities and for agricultural production, increased wildfires, degraded habitat for fish and wildlife, threat of saltwater contamination, and additional water scarcity, if drought conditions continue into 2015. It orders that any provision of the governing document, architectural or landscaping guidelines, or policies of a common interest development will be void and unenforceable to the extent it has the effect of prohibiting compliance with the water-saving measures contained in this directive, or any conservation measure adopted by a public agency or private water company. The April 2014 Proclamation also suspends the environmental review required by the California Environmental Quality Act to allow the emergency regulation and other actions to take place as quickly as possible;
2. The April 2014 Proclamation references the [Governor's January 17, 2014 declaration of a drought State of Emergency in California due to severe drought conditions \(Proclamation No. 1-17-2014\)](#), January 2014 Proclamation). The January 2014 Proclamation finds that dry conditions and lack of precipitation present urgent problems to drinking water supplies and cultivation of crops, which put farmers' long-term investments at risk. The conditions also threaten the survival of animals and plants that rely on California's rivers, including many species in danger of extinction. The January 2014 Proclamation also calls on all Californians to reduce their water usage by 20 percent;
3. On December 22, 2014, in light of the continued lack of rain, Governor Brown issued [Executive Order B-28-14](#), which extends the California Environmental Quality Act suspension through May 31, 2016 for Water Code section 13247 and certain activities identified in the January 2014 and April 2014 proclamations;
4. On April 1, 2015, Governor Brown issued [Executive Order B-29-15](#) that directs the State Water Board to impose restrictions on urban water suppliers to achieve a statewide 25 percent reduction in potable urban usage through February 2016; require commercial, industrial, and institutional users to implement water efficiency measures; prohibit irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf in public street medians; and prohibit irrigation with potable water outside newly constructed homes and buildings that is not delivered by drip or microspray systems; along with other directives;

5. On May 5, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted [Board Resolution No. 2015-0032](#) and an Emergency Regulation to address specific provisions of Executive Order B-29-2015 that included a mandatory 25 percent statewide reduction in potable urban water use between June 2015 and February 2016. To implement the Executive Order, the Emergency Regulation placed each urban water supplier in a conservation tier, ranging between 8 and 36 percent, based residential per capita water use for the months of July – September 2014. Resolution No. 2015-0032 also directed staff to work with stakeholders to further develop and consider a range of factors that contribute to water use, including but not limited to climate, growth, investment in local, drought resilient supplies, and others for adjustment to the current emergency regulation should it need to be extended into 2016;
6. On November 13, 2015, Governor Brown issued [Executive Order B-36-15](#) calling for an extension of urban water use restrictions until October 31, 2016, should drought conditions persist through January 2016. This Executive Order also directs the State Water Board to consider modifying the restrictions to incorporate insights gained from the existing restrictions;
7. On February 2, 2016, the State Water Board adopted [Board Resolution No. 2016-0007](#) and a revised, extended Emergency Regulation to address specific provisions of Executive Order B-36-15. The Emergency Regulation established adjustments to reduce the conservation standards of urban water suppliers in consideration of the differences in climate affecting different parts of the state, growth experienced by urban areas, and significant investments that have been made by some suppliers towards creating new, local, drought-resilient sources of potable water supply;
8. On May 9, 2016, Governor Brown issued [Executive Order B-37-16](#) calling on the State Water Board to adjust emergency water conservation regulations through the end of January 2017 in recognition of differing water supply conditions across the state;
9. Statewide precipitation in 2016 has been variable. Northern California received above-average rainfall, while much of southern California continued to experience below-average rainfall and warm temperatures. February 2016 was amongst the warmest and driest recorded for parts of southern California. Consequently, while major Northern California water reservoirs are near or above average water storage for this time of year, many Southern California reservoirs are significantly below average. In addition, the snowpack is melting fast and as of early May is at less than 50 percent of the average for this time of year;
10. Water Code section 1058.5 grants the State Water Board the authority to adopt emergency regulations in certain drought years in order to: “prevent the waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion, of water, to promote water recycling or water conservation, to require curtailment of diversions when water is not available under the diverter’s priority of right, or in furtherance of any of the foregoing, to require reporting of diversion or use or the preparation of monitoring reports”;
11. On July 15, 2014, the State Water Board adopted an emergency regulation to support water conservation ([Resolution No. 2014-0038](#)). That regulation became effective July 28, 2014 upon approval by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL);

12. On March 17, 2015, the State Water Board amended and readopted the emergency regulation to support water conservation ([Resolution No. 2015-0013](#)), which became effective March 27, 2015 upon approval by OAL;
13. On May 5, 2015, the State Water Board significantly amended, and readopted, the emergency regulation to support water conservation ([Resolution No. 2015-0032](#)), which became effective May 18, 2015 upon approval by OAL and expires February 13, 2016;
14. On February 2, 2016, the State Water Board amended and readopted the emergency regulation to support water conservation ([Resolution No. 2016-0007](#)), which became effective February 11, 2016 upon approval by OAL and expires November 7, 2016;
15. In many areas, 50 percent or more of daily water use is for lawns and outdoor landscaping. Outdoor water use is generally discretionary, and many irrigated landscapes will survive while receiving a decreased amount of water;
16. Although urban water suppliers have placed restrictions on outdoor watering, the State Water Board continues to receive reports of excessive outdoor water use;
17. Water conservation is the easiest, most efficient, and most cost-effective way to quickly reduce water demand and to extend supplies into the next year. Water saved this summer is water available later in the season or next year, reducing the likelihood of even more severe water shortages should the drought continue. Extending current water supplies offers communities flexibility in managing their water portfolios and drought response options should the drought continue into the next water year;
18. Education and enforcement against water waste is a key tool in conservation programs. When conservation becomes a social norm in a community, the need for enforcement is reduced or eliminated;
19. Public information and awareness is critical to achieving conservation goals, and the Save Our Water campaign, run jointly by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Association of California Water Agencies, is an excellent resource for conservation information and messaging that is integral to effective drought response (<http://saveourwater.com>);
20. Many California communities are facing continued social and economic hardship due to the ongoing drought. The rest of us can make adjustments to our water use, including landscape choices that conserve even more water;
21. The California Constitution declares, at article X, section 2, that the water resources of the state must be put to beneficial use in a manner that is reasonable and not wasteful. Relevant to the current drought conditions, the California Supreme Court has clarified that “what may be a reasonable beneficial use, where water is present in excess of all needs, would not be a reasonable beneficial use in an area of great scarcity and great need. What is a beneficial use at one time may, because of changed conditions, become a waste of water at a later time.” (*Tulare Dist. v. Lindsay Strathmore Dist.* (1935) 3 Cal.2d 489, 567.) In support of water conservation, the legislature has, through Water Code section 1011, deemed reductions in water use due to conservation as equivalent to reasonable beneficial use of that water. Accordingly, this regulation is in furtherance of article X, section 2 during this drought emergency. This temporary emergency

regulation is not to be used in any future administrative or judicial proceedings as evidence or finding of waste and unreasonable use of any individual water user or water supplier subject to this regulation, and are not to affect or otherwise limit any rights to water conserved under applicable law, including without limitation, water conserved consistent with Water Code section 1011;

22. Under the May 5, 2015 emergency regulation, as revised February 2, 2016, urban water suppliers, large and small, have reduced statewide potable water usage more than 23.9 percent compared to usage during the same months in 2013, through the significant efforts of the suppliers and their customers;
23. The State Water Board estimates that suppliers and their customers will save between 0.46 and 0.97 million acre-feet of water in response to the extended regulation from June 2016 through January 2017. This savings will be in addition to the 1.55 million acre-feet the State is on track to have saved from June 2015 through May 2016 compared to usage during the same months in 2013;
24. Directive one of the Governor's May 9, 2016 Executive Order Directs the State Water Board to adjust emergency water conservation regulations through the end of January 2017 in recognition of differing water supply conditions across the state;
25. On April 20, 2016 the State Water Board held a workshop to receive input on the potential modification of the current Drought Emergency Water Conservation regulation. The State Water Board solicited public comments on the proposed framework and received over 130 comments, primarily relating to the improved 2016 water year conditions, whether conservation regulations were necessary, the need to transition to a supply-based conservation regulation, and the ability of urban water suppliers to manage their own water supply options;
26. On May 9, 2016 the State Water Board issued staff-proposed regulatory language for public comment based in part on the April 20, 2016 workshop and comments received, and in part on Executive Order B-37-16. The staff proposal reflects careful consideration by the Board and staff of all comments including those directed at the levels of required reduction and the basis upon which water use reductions should be required. The draft regulatory language extends portions of the February 2016 emergency regulation and establishes a process for developing locally appropriate water conservation standards in recognition of differing water supply conditions across the state;
27. On May 13, 2016, the State Water Board initiated the formal emergency rulemaking process by issuing public notice that it would consider the adoption of the emergency regulation at the Board's regularly-scheduled May 18, 2016 public meeting, in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations. The State Water Board also distributed for public review and comment a Finding of Emergency that complies with State laws and regulations;
28. As discussed above, the State Water Board is adopting the revised emergency regulation as directed by the Governor in Executive Order B-37-16 based on the ongoing need to prevent the waste and unreasonable use of water and to promote conservation during the ongoing drought emergency; and

29. Nothing in the regulation or in the enforcement provisions of the regulation precludes a local agency from exercising its authority to adopt more stringent conservation measures. Moreover, the Water Code does not impose a mandatory penalty for violations of the regulation adopted by this resolution, and local agencies retain the enforcement discretion in enforcing the regulation to the extent authorized. Local agencies are encouraged to develop their own progressive enforcement practices to promote conservation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The State Water Board adopts California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 864.5 and amends and re-adopts sections 863, 864, 865, and 866 as appended to this resolution as an emergency regulation;
2. State Water Board staff will submit the regulation to OAL for final approval;
3. If, during the approval process, State Water Board staff, the State Water Board, or OAL determines that minor corrections to the language of the regulation or supporting documentation are needed for clarity or consistency, the State Water Board Executive Director or the Executive Director's designee may make such changes;
4. This regulation shall remain in effect for 270 days after filing with the Secretary of State unless the State Water Board determines that it is no longer necessary due to changed conditions, or unless the State Water Board renews the regulation due to continued drought conditions as described in Water Code section 1058.5;
5. The State Water Board directs staff to provide the Board with monthly updates on the implementation of the emergency regulation and its effect.
6. The State Water Board directs staff to condition funding upon compliance with the emergency regulation, to the extent feasible;
7. The State Water Board directs staff to work with DWR and the Save Our Water campaign to disseminate information regarding the emergency regulation; and
8. The State Water Board directs staff to update the electronic reporting portal to include data fields for reporting required by the emergency regulation.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

10. The State Water Board shall work with DWR, the Public Utilities Commission, and other agencies to support urban water suppliers' actions to implement rates and pricing structures to incent additional conservation, as required by directive eight in the Governor's April 1, 2015 Executive Order. The Fourth District Court of Appeal's recent Decision in *Capistrano Taxpayer Association Inc. v. City of San Juan Capistrano* (G048969) does not foreclose the use of conservation-oriented rate structures;


11. The State Water Board calls upon water suppliers to:
  - a. ensure that adequate personnel and financial resources exist to implement conservation requirements not only for 2016, but also for another year of drought should it occur. Water suppliers that face budget shortfalls due to reduced sales should take immediate steps to raise necessary revenues in a way that actively promotes continued conservation;
  - b. expedite implementation of new conservation programs by minimizing internal review periods and utilizing emergency authorities, as appropriate;
  - c. consider the relative water use and conservation practices of their customers and target those with higher water use to achieve proportionally greater reductions than those with low use;
  - d. minimize financial impacts to low-income customers;
  - e. preserve safe indoor water supplies in areas with very low R-GPCD and where necessary to protect public health and safety;
  - f. promote low-water use methods of preserving appropriate defensible space in fire-prone areas, consistent with local fire district requirements;
  - g. educate customers on the preservation of trees;
  - h. promote on-site reuse of water; and
  - i. promptly notify staff of the supplier's need for an alternate method of compliance pursuant to resolved paragraph 20 for any supplier that retains a conservation standard pursuant to section 865 of the emergency regulation.
12. The State Water Board calls upon all businesses within California's travel and tourism sectors to inform visitors of California's drought situation and actions visitors should take to conserve water;
13. The State Water Board calls upon all homeowners' associations to support and cooperate with water suppliers' and their residents' efforts to conserve water in community apartment projects, condominium projects, planned developments, and stock cooperatives statewide;
14. The State Water Board calls upon both landlords and tenants of residential and commercial properties to cooperate in taking actions that conserve potable water consistent with the emergency regulation and any applicable rules identified by the appropriate urban water supplier;
15. The State Water Board commends wholesale water agencies that have set aggressive conservation targets for their retail water suppliers;
16. The State Water Board commends water suppliers that have made investments to boost drought-resistant supplies, such as advanced treated recycled water and desalination. Those investments help to make communities more resilient in the face of drought;

17. The State Water Board commends the many water suppliers that have taken steps and made systemic changes that have led to them surpassing their 20x2020 conservation targets. Long-term conservation efforts are critical to maintaining economic and social well-being, especially in light of the impacts of climate change on California's hydrology;
18. The State Water Board commends the many water suppliers that have met or exceeded their conservation standards under the May 2015 emergency regulation and the February 2016 amended and extended emergency regulation. Those local efforts have helped the state achieve a statewide 23.9 percent potable water savings from June 2015 through March 2016 and have shown what dedicated Californians can achieve as we make water conservation a California way of life;
19. During this drought emergency, heightened conservation that extends urban resilience is necessary. The State Water Board's focus is primarily on immediate reductions in outdoor water use. Some short-term conservation efforts, such as landscape conversions and installation of efficient appliances, will also support long-term conservation objectives, and are encouraged wherever possible; and
20. The State Water Board recognizes that some commercial and industrial customers, while accounting for a significant portion of total use in a service area, have already taken steps to significantly reduce their water consumption and cannot further reduce their use without substantial impacts. However, the Board also recognizes that in many areas there are significant opportunities for reductions in water use by industries and commercial enterprises that have yet to take action, especially those with large areas of non-functional turf. The Board directs staff to respond promptly upon receipt of any request for alternate enforceable methods of compliance for suppliers that retain a conservation standard pursuant to section 865 of the emergency regulation. If the supplier believes the conservation standard is unachievable due to firm commercial and industrial water use and residential use reductions that would affect public health and safety, it should provide any supporting information or documentation for an alternate method of compliance or should use the new water supply reliability self-certification method provided for in section 864.5.

### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on May 18, 2016.

AYE:           Chair Felicia Marcus  
                   Vice Chair Frances Spivy-Weber  
                   Board Member Steven Moore  
                   Board Member Dorene D'Adamo  
  
 NAY:           None  
 ABSENT:       None  
 ABSTAIN:      Board Member Tam M. Doduc


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 Jeanine Townsend  
 Clerk to the Board

# ADOPTED TEXT OF EMERGENCY REGULATION

## Article 22.5. Drought Emergency Water Conservation.

### Sec. 863. Findings of Drought Emergency.

(a) The State Water Resources Control Board finds as follows:

(1) On January 17, 2014, the Governor issued a proclamation of a state of emergency under the California Emergency Services Act based on drought conditions;

(2) On April 25, 2014, the Governor issued a proclamation of a continued state of emergency under the California Emergency Services Act based on continued drought conditions;

(3) On April 1, 2015, the Governor issued an Executive Order that, in part, directs the State Board to impose restrictions on water suppliers to achieve a statewide 25 percent reduction in potable urban usage through February, 2016; require commercial, industrial, and institutional users to implement water efficiency measures; prohibit irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf in public street medians; and prohibit irrigation with potable water outside newly constructed homes and buildings that is not delivered by drip or microspray systems;

(4) On November 13, 2015, the Governor issued an Executive Order that directs the State Board to, if drought conditions persist through January 2016, extend until October 31, 2016 restrictions to achieve a statewide reduction in potable usage;

(5) On May 9, 2016, the Governor issued an Executive Order that directs the State Board to adjust and extend its emergency water conservation regulations through the end of January 2017 in recognition of the differing water supply conditions for many communities;

~~(56)~~ The drought conditions that formed the basis of the Governor's emergency proclamations continue to exist; and

~~(67)~~ The drought conditions will likely continue for the foreseeable future and additional action by both the State Water Resources Control Board and local water suppliers will likely be necessary to prevent waste and unreasonable use of water and to further promote conservation.

Authority: Section 1058.5, Water Code.

References: Article X, Section 2, California Constitution; Sections 102, 104, 105, and 275, Water Code; *Light v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2014) 226 Cal.App.4th 1463.

### Sec. 864. End-User Requirements in Promotion of Water Conservation.

(a) To prevent the waste and unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, each of the following actions is prohibited, except where necessary to address an immediate health and safety need or to comply with a term or condition in a permit issued by a state or federal agency:



(1) The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures;

(2) The use of a hose that dispenses potable water to wash a motor vehicle, except where the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle or device attached to it that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use;

(3) The application of potable water to driveways and sidewalks;

(4) The use of potable water in a fountain or other decorative water feature, except where the water is part of a recirculating system;

(5) The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall;

(6) The serving of drinking water other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, bars, or other public places where food or drink are served and/or purchased;

(7) The irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians; and

(8) The irrigation with potable water of landscapes outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the California Building Standards Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development.

(b) To promote water conservation, operators of hotels and motels shall provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily. The hotel or motel shall prominently display notice of this option in each guestroom using clear and easily understood language.

(c) ~~Immediately upon~~ Upon this subdivision taking effect, all commercial, industrial and institutional properties that use a water supply, any portion of which is from a source other than a water supplier subject to section 864.5 or 865 of this article, shall either:

(1) Limit outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water to no more than two days per week; or

(2) Target potable water use reductions commensurate with those required of the nearest urban water supplier under section 864.5 or, if applicable, section 865. Where this option is chosen, these properties shall implement the reductions on or before July 1, 2016.

~~(2) Reduce potable water usage supplied by sources other than a water supplier by 25 percent for the months of June 2015 through October 2016 as compared to the amount used from those sources for the same months in 2013.~~

(d) The taking of any action prohibited in subdivision (a) or (e), or the failure to take any action required in subdivision (b) or (c), is an infraction punishable by a fine of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each day in which the violation occurs. The fine for the infraction is in addition to, and does not supersede or limit, any other remedies, civil or criminal.

(e)(1) To prevent the waste and unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, any homeowners' association or community service organization or similar entity is prohibited from:

(A) Taking or threatening to take any action to enforce any provision of the governing documents or architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies of a common interest development where that provision is void or unenforceable under section 4735, subdivision (a) of the Civil Code; or

(B) Imposing or threatening to impose a fine, assessment, or other monetary penalty against any owner of a separate interest for reducing or eliminating the watering of vegetation or lawns during a declared drought emergency, as described in section 4735, subdivision (c) of the Civil Code.

(2) As used in this subdivision:

(A) "Architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies" includes any formal or informal rules other than the governing documents of a common interest development.

(B) "Homeowners' association" means an "association" as defined in section 4080 of the Civil Code.

(C) "Common interest development" has the same meaning as in section 4100 of the Civil Code.

(D) "Community service organization or similar entity" has the same meaning as in section 4110 of the Civil Code.

(E) "Governing documents" has the same meaning as in section 4150 of the Civil Code.

(F) "Separate interest" has the same meaning as in section 4185 of the Civil Code.

(3) If a disciplinary proceeding or other proceeding to enforce a rule in violation of subdivision (e)(1) is initiated, each day the proceeding remains pending shall constitute a separate violation of this regulation.

Authority: Section 1058.5, Water Code.

References: Article X, Section 2, California Constitution; Sections 4080, 4100, 4110, 4150, 4185, and 4735, Civil Code; Sections 102, 104, 105, 275, 350, and 10617, Water Code; *Light v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2014) 226 Cal.App.4th 1463.

#### Sec. 864.5. Self-Certification of Supply Reliability for Three Additional Years of Drought.

(a) To prevent the waste and unreasonable use of water and to meet the requirements of the Governor's May 9, 2016 Executive Order, each urban water supplier shall:

(1) Identify and report no later than June 22, 2016, on a form provided by the Board, the conservation standard that the supplier will be required to meet under this section;

(2) Identify and report no later than June 22, 2016, on a form provided by the Board, the data and underlying analysis relied upon by the supplier to determine the conservation standard reported pursuant to this subdivision including, but not limited to identification of each source of supply the supplier intends to rely on and the quantity of water available under that source of supply given the assumptions of this section;

(3) Certify, no later than June 22, 2016, that the conservation standard reported pursuant to this subdivision is based on the information and assumptions identified in this section;

(4) Post, within two weeks of submittal to the board, the data and underlying analysis relied upon by the supplier to determine the conservation standard reported pursuant to this subdivision to a publicly-accessible webpage; and

(5) Beginning June 1, 2016, reduce its total potable water production by the percentage identified as its conservation standard in this section each month, compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.

(b) Each urban water supplier's conservation standard pursuant to this section shall be the percentage by which the supplier's total potable water supply is insufficient to meet the total potable water demand in the third year after this section takes effect under the following assumptions:

(1) The next three years' precipitation is the same as it was in water years 2013-2015;

(2) No temporary change orders that increase the availability of water to any urban water supplier are issued in the next three years;

(3) The supplier's total potable water demand for each of the next three years will be the supplier's average annual total potable water production for the years 2013 and 2014;

(4) The supplier's total potable water supply shall include only water sources of supply available to the supplier that could be used for potable drinking water purposes;

(5) Each urban water supplier's conservation standard shall be calculated as a percentage and rounded to the nearest whole percentage point.

(c) The Board will reject conservation standards that do not meet the requirements of this section.

(d) Beginning June 1, 2016, each urban water supplier shall comply with the conservation standard it identifies and reports pursuant to this section.

(e) Compliance with the conservation standard reported pursuant to this section shall be measured monthly and assessed on a cumulative basis through January 2017.

(f) If a wholesaler and all of its urban water supplier customers agree, in a legally-binding document, those suppliers and wholesaler may submit to the board, in lieu of the individualized self-certified conservation standard applicable pursuant to section 864.5 or section 865, an aggregated conservation standard, with all supporting documentation required for individualized self-certified conservation standards by section 864.5.

(g) Each urban water wholesaler shall calculate, to the best of its ability, and no later than June 15, 2016, the volume of water that it expects it would deliver to each urban water supplier in each of the next three years under the assumptions identified in subdivision (b), and post that calculation, and the underlying analysis, to a publicly-accessible webpage.

(h) Submitting any information pursuant to this section that the person who submits the information knows or should have known is materially false is a violation of this regulation, punishable by civil liability of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each day in which the violation occurs. Every day that the error goes uncorrected constitutes a separate violation. Civil liability for the violation is in addition to, and does not supersede or limit, any other remedies, civil or criminal.

(i) Any urban water supplier that does not comply with this section shall comply with the applicable conservation standard identified in section 865.

Authority: Section 1058.5, Water Code.

References: Article X, Section 2, California Constitution; Sections 102, 104, 105, 275, 350, 1846, 10617 and 10632, Water Code; *Light v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2014) 226 Cal.App.4th 1463.

#### Sec. 865. Mandatory Actions by Water Suppliers.

(a) As used in this ~~section~~article:

(1) “Distributor of a public water supply” has the same meaning as under section 350 of the Water Code, except it does not refer to such distributors when they are functioning solely in a wholesale capacity, but does apply to distributors when they are functioning in a retail capacity.

(2) “R-GPCD” means residential gallons per capita per day.

(3) “Total potable water production” means all potable water that enters into a water supplier’s distribution system, excluding water placed into storage and not withdrawn for use during the reporting period, or water exported outside the supplier’s service area.

(4) “Urban water supplier” means a supplier that meets the definition set forth in Water Code section 10617, except it does not refer to suppliers when they are functioning solely in a wholesale capacity, but does apply to suppliers when they are functioning in a retail capacity.

(5) “Urban water wholesaler” means a wholesaler of water to more than one urban water supplier.

(6) “Water year” means the period from October 1 through the following September 30. Where a water year is designated by year number, the designation is by the calendar year number in which the water year ends.

(b) In furtherance of the promotion of water conservation each urban water supplier shall:

(1) Provide prompt notice to a customer whenever the supplier obtains information that indicates that a leak may exist within the end-user’s exclusive control.

(2) Prepare and submit to the State Water Resources Control Board by the 15th of each month a monitoring report on forms provided by the Board. The monitoring report shall include the amount of potable water the urban water supplier produced, including water provided by a wholesaler, in the preceding calendar month and shall compare that amount to the amount produced in the same calendar month in 2013. The monitoring report shall specify the population served by the urban water supplier, the percentage of water produced that is used for the residential sector, descriptive statistics on water conservation compliance and enforcement efforts, the number of days that outdoor irrigation is allowed, and monthly commercial, industrial and institutional sector use. The monitoring report shall also estimate the gallons of water per person per day used by the residential customers it serves.

(c)(1) To prevent the waste and unreasonable use of water and to meet the requirements of the Governor’s ~~November 13, 2015~~May 9, 2016 Executive Order, each urban water supplier that fails to identify a conservation standard as required under section 864.5, or that has a conservation standard rejected by the Board under section

864.5, shall reduce its total potable water production by the percentage identified as its conservation standard in this ~~subdivision~~section. Each urban water supplier's conservation standard considers its service area's relative per capita water usage.

~~(2) Each urban water supplier whose source of supply does not include groundwater or water imported from outside the hydrologic region in which the water supplier is located, and that has a minimum of four years' reserved supply available, may submit to the Executive Director for approval a request that, in lieu of the reduction that would otherwise be required under paragraphs (3) through (10), the urban water supplier shall reduce its total potable water production by 4 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013. Any such request shall be accompanied by information showing that the supplier's sources of supply do not include groundwater or water imported from outside the hydrologic region and that the supplier has a minimum of four years' reserved supply available.~~

~~(3) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was less than 65 shall reduce its total potable water production by 8 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

~~(4) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was 65 or more but less than 80 shall reduce its total potable water production by 12 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

~~(5) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was 80 or more but less than 95 shall reduce its total potable water production by 16 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

~~(6) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was 95 or more but less than 110 shall reduce its total potable water production by 20 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

~~(7) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was 110 or more but less than 130 shall reduce its total potable water production by 24 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

~~(8) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was 130 or more but less than 170 shall reduce its total potable water production by 28 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

~~(9) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was 170 or more but less than 215 shall reduce its total potable water production by 32 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

~~(10) Each urban water supplier whose average July-September 2014 R-GPCD was 215 or more shall reduce its total potable water production by 36 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013.~~

(d)(1) Beginning June 1, 2015, each urban water supplier that does not submit a self-certification in compliance with section 864.5 shall comply with the conservation standard specified in subdivision (c), with any modifications to the conservation standard pursuant to subdivision (f) applying beginning March 1, 2016.

(2) Compliance with the requirements of this subdivision shall be measured monthly and assessed on a cumulative basis through ~~October 2016~~January 2017.

(e)(1) Each urban water supplier that provides potable water for commercial agricultural use meeting the definition of Government Code section 51201, subdivision (b), may subtract the amount of water provided for commercial agricultural use from its

potable water production total, provided that any urban water supplier that subtracts any water provided for commercial agricultural use from its total potable water production shall:

(A) Impose reductions determined locally appropriate by the urban water supplier, after considering the applicable urban water supplier conservation standard specified in subdivision (c), for commercial agricultural users meeting the definition of Government Code section 51201, subdivision (b) served by the supplier;

(B) Report its total potable water production pursuant to subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the total amount of water supplied for commercial agricultural use, and shall identify the reduction imposed on its commercial agricultural users and each recipient of potable water for commercial agricultural use;

(C) Certify that the agricultural uses it serves meet the definition of Government Code section 51201, subdivision (b); and

(D) Comply with the Agricultural Water Management Plan requirement of paragraph 12 of the April 1, 2015 Executive Order for all commercial agricultural water served by the supplier that is subtracted from its total potable water production.

(2) Submitting any information pursuant to subdivision (e)(1)(B) or (C) of this section that is found to be materially false by the Board is a violation of this regulation, punishable by civil liability of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each day in which the violation occurs. Every day that the error goes uncorrected constitutes a separate violation. Civil liability for the violation is in addition to, and does not supersede or limit, any other remedies, civil or criminal.

(f) In consideration of the differences in climate affecting different parts of the state, growth experienced by urban areas and significant investments that have been made by some suppliers towards creating new, local, drought-resilient sources of potable water supply, an urban water supplier's conservation standard identified in subdivision (c) shall be reduced by an amount, not to exceed eight (8) percentage points total, as follows:

(1) For an urban water supplier whose service area evapotranspiration (ET<sub>o</sub>) for the months of July through September exceeds the statewide average evapotranspiration, as determined by the Board, for the same months by five (5) percent or more, the supplier's conservation standard identified in subdivision (c) shall be reduced:

(A) By two (2) percentage points if the supplier's service area evapotranspiration exceeds the statewide average by five (5) percent or more but less than ten (10) percent;

(B) By three (3) percentage points if the supplier's service area evapotranspiration exceeds the statewide average by ten (10) percent or more but less than twenty (20) percent;

(C) By four (4) percentage points if the supplier's service area evapotranspiration exceeds the statewide average by twenty (20) percent or more.

(D) Statewide average evapotranspiration is calculated as the arithmetic mean of all urban water suppliers' service area default evapotranspiration values for the months of July through September. Default service area evapotranspiration will be based on the California Irrigation Management System (CIMIS) ET<sub>o</sub> Zones Map zone for which the supplier's service area has the greatest area of overlap. In lieu of applying its default service area evapotranspiration, a supplier may use specific data from CIMIS stations within its service area that have at least a five-year period of record, or a three year continuous period of record, to identify a more specifically-applicable evapotranspiration

for its service area. If no CIMIS station exists within the supplier's service area, a weather station of comparable accuracy, meeting the preceding period of record requirements, may be used. To qualify for the in-lieu climate adjustment, the supplier shall submit the following data to the Board by March 15, 2016 for each station: station ID; station location; and monthly average evapotranspiration, in inches per month, for July, August, and September for either the five-year period of record or the three-year continuous period of record.

(2) To account for water efficient growth experienced in the state since 2013, urban water suppliers' conservation standards shall be reduced by the product of the percentage change in potable water production since 2013 and the percentage reduction in potable water use required pursuant to subdivision (c), rounded to the nearest whole percentage point. Change in potable water production since 2013 shall be calculated as the sum of the following:

(A) The number of additional permanent residents served since January 1, 2013, multiplied by the average residential water use per person for that supplier's service area during the months of February through October, 2015, in gallons; and

(B) The number of new commercial, industrial and institutional connections since January 1, 2013, multiplied by the average commercial, industrial and institutional water use per connection for that supplier's service area during the months of February through October, 2015, in gallons.

(C) To qualify for the growth credit the supplier shall submit to the Board the following data by March 15, 2016: the number of additional permanent residents served since January 1, 2013 and the number of new commercial, industrial and institutional connections since January 1, 2013.

(3) For an urban water supplier that supplies, contracts for, or otherwise financially invests in, water from a new local, drought-resilient source of supply, the use of which does not reduce the water available to another legal user of water or the environment, the conservation standard identified in subdivision (c) shall be reduced:

(A) By one (1) percentage point if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is one (1) percent or more but less than two (2) percent of the supplier's total potable water production;

(B) By two (2) percentage points if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is two (2) percent or more but less than three (3) percent of the supplier's total potable water production;

(C) By three (3) percentage points if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is three (3) percent or more but less than four (4) percent of the supplier's total potable water production;

(D) By four (4) percentage points if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is four (4) percent or more but less than five (5) percent of the supplier's total potable water production;

(E) By five (5) percentage points if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is five (5) percent or more but less than six (6) percent of the supplier's total potable water production;

(F) By six (6) percentage points if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is six (6) percent or more but less than seven (7) percent of the supplier's total potable water production;

(G) By seven (7) percentage points if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is seven (7) percent or more but less than eight (8) percent of the supplier's total potable water production;

(H) By eight (8) percentage points if the supplier's qualifying source of supply is eight (8) percent or more of the supplier's total potable water production.

(I) To qualify for this reduction the supplier must certify, and provide documentation to the Board upon request demonstrating, the percent of its total potable water production that comes from a local, drought-resilient source of supply developed after 2013, the supplier's investment in that local, drought-resilient source of supply, and that the use of that supply does not reduce the water available to another legal user of water or the environment. To qualify for this reduction an urban water supplier shall submit the required certification to the Board by March 15, 2016.

(J) Certifications that do not meet the requirements of subdivision (f)(3)(I), including certifications for which documentation does not support that the source of supply is a local, drought-resilient source of supply, the use of which does not reduce the water available to another legal user of water or the environment, will be rejected. Submitting a certification or supporting documentation pursuant to subdivision (f)(3)(I) that is found to be materially false by the Board is a violation of this regulation, punishable by civil liability of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each day in which the violation occurs. Every day that the error goes uncorrected constitutes a separate violation. Civil liability for the violation is in addition to, and does not supersede or limit, any other remedies, civil or criminal.

(4) No urban water supplier's conservation standard pursuant to this section shall drop below eight (8) percent as a consequence of the reductions identified in this subdivision. ~~No reduction pursuant to this subdivision shall be applied to any urban water supplier whose conservation standard is four (4) percent based on subdivision (e)(2).~~

~~(g)(1)~~ To prevent waste and unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, each distributor of a public water supply that is not an urban water supplier shall ~~take one or more of the following actions:~~

(1) Provide prompt notice to a customer whenever the supplier obtains information that indicates that a leak may exist within the end-user's exclusive control; and

~~—— (A) Limit outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water by the persons it serves to no more than two days per week; or~~

~~—— (B) Reduce by 25 percent its total potable water production relative to the amount produced in 2013.~~

(2) Each distributor of a public water supply that is not an urban water supplier shall submit a report by ~~September~~ December 15, 2016, on a form provided by the Board, that either confirms compliance with subdivision (g)(1)(A) or identifies total potable water production, by month, from December, 2015 through ~~August~~ November, 2016, and total potable water production, by month, for the same months in 2013, and any actions taken by the supplier to encourage or require its customers to conserve water.



Authority: Section 1058.5, Water Code.

References: Article X, Section 2, California Constitution; Sections 102, 104, 105, 275, 350, 1846, 10617 and 10632, Water Code; *Light v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2014) 226 Cal.App.4th 1463.

#### Sec. 866. Additional Conservation Tools.

(a)(1) To prevent the waste and unreasonable use of water and to promote conservation, when a water supplier does not meet its conservation standard required by section 864.5 or section 865 the Executive Director, or the Executive Director's designee, may issue conservation orders requiring additional actions by the supplier to come into compliance with its conservation standard.

(2) A decision or order issued under this article by the Board or an officer or employee of the Board is subject to reconsideration under article 2 (commencing with section 1122) of chapter 4 of part 1 of division 2 of the Water Code.

(b) The Executive Director, or his designee, may issue an informational order requiring water suppliers, or commercial, industrial or institutional properties that receive any portion of their supply from a source other than a water supplier subject to section 864.5 or 865, to submit additional information relating to water production, water use or water conservation. The failure to provide the information requested within 30 days or any additional time extension granted is a violation subject to civil liability of up to \$500 per day for each day the violation continues pursuant to Water Code section 1846.

(c) Orders issued under previous versions of this ~~subdivision~~section shall remain in effect and shall be enforceable as if adopted under this version. Changes in the requirements of this article do not operate to void or excuse noncompliance with orders issued before those requirements were changed.

Authority: Section 1058.5, Water Code.

References: Article X, Section 2, California Constitution; Sections 100, 102, 104, 105, 174, 186, 187, 275, 350, 1051, 1122, 1123, 1825, 1846, 10617 and 10632, Water Code; *Light v. State Water Resources Control Board* (2014) 226 Cal.App.4th 1463.