February 2, 2017

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Request to Rescind Drought State of Emergency and Pivot Focus to Long-Term Water Use Efficiency Framework

Dear Governor Brown:

Mesa Water District appreciates the efforts by your Administration, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), California’s water providers and consumers in achieving 25% water conservation statewide during the drought emergency.

Given the remarkable improvements in hydrologic conditions statewide, Mesa Water® respectfully requests that you rescind the Drought State of Emergency and instruct the SWRCB to allow its Emergency Regulation to expire on February 28, 2017, without extension. Mesa Water also believes it is now time to transition statewide focus to implementing your Executive Order B-37-16, Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life.

The fact is that current statewide hydrologic conditions no longer warrant a Drought State of Emergency in California. Additionally, to maintain credibility with water customers and the general public, it is important and necessary to acknowledge the significant and evident improvements in California’s water supply situation, with no need to extend the SWRCB’s Emergency Regulation for urban water conservation.

Furthermore, Mesa Water believes that this is an opportune time to pivot our focus to long-term water use efficiency through implementation of your Executive Order B-37-16, which includes provisions that will decrease the likelihood of future drought emergencies.

Mesa Water joins water agencies statewide in a commitment to continued water-use efficiency, with many customers maintaining and making permanent their water-wise behaviors from the drought emergency.

With our top priority being providing our customers with safe and reliable water service, Mesa Water continues to invest in improved water use efficiency as well as in developing new local, drought-resilient supplies. Thank you for your consideration of our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Ethan Temianka
Mesa Water District Board President

c: State Water Resources Control Board Members
Mesa Water Board of Directors
Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., Mesa Water General Manager