April 6, 2016

State Water Resources Control Board

Re: Del Paso Manor Water District Resolution Concerning Drought Emergency Conservation Regulations

Honorable Members of the Board:

Del Paso Manor Water District is a municipal water supplier formed under the County Water District Act. We are a small district serving approximately 1,800 residential and commercial customers in northern Sacramento County. The District relies exclusively on groundwater to supply its customers. Over the years, we have seen our groundwater tables actually rise from managing the groundwater basin within the region. Since the drought our groundwater levels at our wells have remained steady. In February, the SWRCB adopted an extension of the emergency conservation regulations giving relief to urban water supplies in warmer climates. This relief did not extend to “non-urban” or small purveyors although we are within the same warmer climate. Therefore, our Board of Directors adopted the attached Resolution at our April Board meeting to urge you, the State Water Resource Control Board, to rescind the drought emergency in Sacramento County. This does not mean that we will not continue to conserve and use water wisely as we have always done, it means there is no longer an “emergency” and allows our District Board to set policy for our residents.

Thank you for addressing these concerns and reconsidering your proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Debra Sedwick
General Manager
RESOLUTION NO: 20160404

RESOLUTION OF THE DEL PASO MANOR WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONCERNING DROUGHT EMERGENCY CONSERVATION REGULATIONS FROM THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2015, Governor Jerry Brown issued Executive Order B-29-15, which required in part that the State Water Resources Control Board impose restrictions to achieve a 25% reduction in urban potable water use by February 29, 2016, compared to usage in 2013; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted drought emergency conservation regulations to implement the Governor’s mandate, including a range of reductions by water suppliers; and

WHEREAS, the water conservation regulations required the Del Paso Manor Water District to achieve a 25% reduction in water use and/or limit outdoor irrigation to no more than two days per week; and

WHEREAS, groundwater levels in the Del Paso Manor Water District service area have remained constant; and

WHEREAS, the Del Paso Manor Water District did comply with the water conservation regulations, achieving a cumulative total of 34.4% in water use reduction through February 29, 2016 in Del Paso Manor Water District; and

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2015, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-36-15, which specified in part that, should drought conditions persist through January, 2016, the State Water Resources Control Board would continue through October 31, 2016 restrictions to achieve statewide reductions in potable water usage, including modifications to address potable and non-potable water, and to incorporate insights gained from existing restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a notice of proposed rulemaking on January 22, 2016, to extend the conservation regulations until October 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2016, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted an extension of the conservation regulations until October 31, 2016, which contained no changes in the provisions relevant to Del Paso Manor Water District, although the regulations did provide climate reductions in conservation requirements for “urban” water agencies within our region due to being in warmer and drier parts of the state, for those that recently implemented recycled water or desalination projects, and for those that had experienced population growth since 2013; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2016, the State Water Resources Control Board will conduct a public workshop on potential modifications to the conservation regulations to address hydrologic conditions through March, and will consider changes to the regulations at one of the Board meetings in May, 2016; and

WHEREAS, rainfall in the 8 station Precipitation Index in the Sacramento Region was 107% of average as of March 31, 2016 and the Folsom Reservoir was at 110% of normal on March 31, 2016;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Del Paso Manor Water District, due to the lack of any drought conditions in Sacramento County, the Board of Directors of Del Paso Manor Water District requests that the State Water Resources Control Board rescind the drought emergency conservation regulations to any water supply agency located within Sacramento County.; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Del Paso Manor Water District Board of Directors on this 4th day of April, 2016.

AYES: Allen, Matteoli, Saunders, and Wilson

NOES: Clohossey

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

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Richard B. Allen
Richard Allen, President
Del Paso Manor Water District, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

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Debra Sedwick, General Manager/Secretary
Del Paso Manor Water District