



Fact Sheet

Emergency Conservation Regulation

Assessing urban water supplier compliance with the mandatory conservation standards

On May 5, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted an emergency regulation to implement the mandatory 25 percent statewide reduction in potable urban water use (between June 2015 and February 2016) called for in Governor Jerry Brown’s April 1, 2015 [Executive Order](#).

To achieve the reduction, the emergency regulation assigns each urban water supplier (serving more than 3,000 connections) a conservation standard that ranges between 4 percent and 36 percent based on their residential gallons per capita per day (R-GPCD) for the months of July – September 2014. Collectively, urban water suppliers should achieve a 25 percent reduction in potable water use statewide. This equates to approximately 1.2 million acre-feet of water over the next nine months. For the final list of urban water supplier conservation standards, [click here](#).

How is compliance assessed?

The compliance period for 25 percent statewide conservation begins on June 1, 2015 and ends on February 29, 2016. Each month, urban water suppliers will report their total potable water production (total production) to the State Water Board. To determine if a water supplier is on track for meeting their conservation standard, the State Water Board will compare the supplier’s reported total production with the supplier’s total production for the same month in 2013. For example, June 2015 total production will be compared to June 2013 total production. The following chart shows the compliance period and baseline by reporting month:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Reporting Month | Jun-15 | Jul-15 | Aug-15 | Sep-15 | Oct-15 | Nov-15 | Dec-15 | Jan-16 | Feb-16 |
| 2013 Baseline | Jun-13 | Jul-13 | Aug-13 | Sep-13 | Oct-13 | Nov-13 | Dec-13 | Jan-13 | Feb-13 |

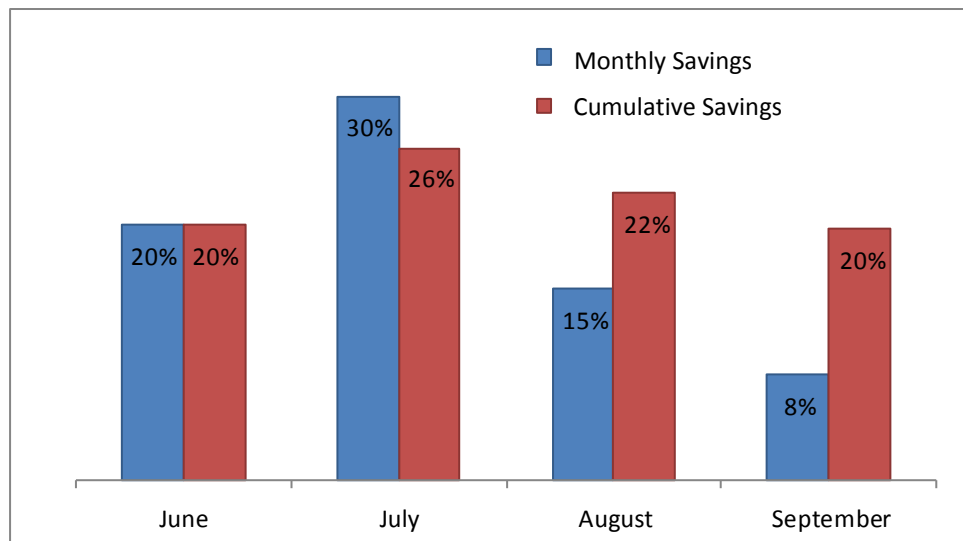
| | |
|--|---|
| Reporting month/year for assessing compliance with mandatory statewide 25% conservation standard | 2013 baseline month for assessing mandatory statewide 25% conservation standard |
|--|---|

Beyond June, the State Water Board will track compliance on a cumulative basis. Cumulative tracking means that conservation savings will be added together from one month to the next and compared to the amount of water used during the same months in 2013. For example, the cumulative percent savings for September 2015 would be calculated as follows:

$$1 - \frac{\text{Total Production for June, July, August \& September 2015}}{\text{Total Production for June, July, August \& September 2013}}$$

This tracking will look like the sample table and graph below:

| Month | 2013 Water Use | 2015 Water Use | Monthly Savings | Cumulative Savings |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| June | 1000 | 800 | 20% | 20% |
| July | 1500 | 1050 | 30% | 26% |
| August | 1200 | 1020 | 15% | 22% |
| September | 900 | 825 | 8% | 20% |



For more information about the emergency regulation visit the State Water Board's [Water Conservation Portal](#).

(Fact Sheet updated on July 7, 2015)