

ECEIVE

5-1-15

SWRCB Clerk



DIRECTORS

Richard E. Barrett Richard B. Bell Douglass S. Davert John Dulebohn William Vanderwerff

Lisa Ohlund General Manager May 1, 2015

Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

RE:

Comment Letter – Emergency Conservation Regulation
Correction to Classification of East Orange County Water District

Dear Ms. Townsend:

In the State Water Resources Control Board's April 28, 2015 proposed Regulatory Framework Tiers spreadsheet, classifying suppliers in use reduction tiers, the East Orange County Water District is erroneously listed as an urban water supplier in Tier 9.

Only a small portion of the District's service area receives retail service from the District. In this area, we provide direct retail service to 1209 metered customers representing a population of 3,247 people. The total demand for this area for 2014 was 1,017 AF.

In the remainder of its service area, the District functions solely in a wholesale capacity. In the wholesale area, the District does not service individual user accounts; the only meters or accounts are those of the cities, district and utility (15 meters) that purchase water from the District for resale to ultimate users. There is also a clear geographic delineation of the areas in which the District functions solely as a wholesaler, because the wholesale areas are identified by the geographic service boundaries of the retailers who buy water from the District. This is depicted in the attached map (Exhibit B) of our service area.

Section 865(a)(4) of the SWRCB's draft regulations defines "urban water supplier" as a supplier meeting the definition set forth in Water Code section 10617. The section 10617 definition of "urban water supplier" is "a supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually. An urban water supplier includes a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right, which distributes or sells for ultimate resale to customers...." Based on the section 10617 definition's threshold of 3,000 customers in combination with its use of the phrasing "directly or indirectly" and "ultimate resale," the District is an urban water supplier for certain purposes of

185 N. McPherson Road Orange, CA 92869-3720

www.eocwd.com

Phone 714.538.5815 Fax 714.538.0334 Ms. Jeanine Townsend Comment Letter – Emergency Conservation Regulation

section 10617, taking into consideration its wholesale operation. However, the draft regulations' Section 865(a)(4) expressly excepts from the urban water supplier definition "suppliers when they are functioning solely in a wholesale capacity." Excluding the area and service connections for which the District functions solely as a wholesaler as required by the Section 865(a)(4), the District does not meet the 3,000 customer or 3,000 acre feet per year threshold to be an urban water supplier. As stated previously, in its retail service area, the District has 1209 retail customer service connections, with a 2014 supply of 1,017 AF.

The regulations demonstrate a consistent approach of assigning reductions to urban water suppliers and non-urban water supplier distributors by their service areas. The inclusion of the District within the Urban Water Supplier Framework requires a piecemeal reading of the urban water supplier definition inconsistent with this approach: first, disregarding the clearly stated wholesale-function exception in the definition to make the District an urban water supplier based on its wholesale operations, and then excluding the wholesale area for purposes of applying the urban water supplier compliance targets. To be consistent with the service-area approach, the District should be classified based on its retail service area.

In accordance with the text of the proposed regulations, the District should be deleted from the urban water supplier reduction table. Instead, the District should be governed by Section 865(f) of the draft regulations, setting the requirements for a distributor of a public water supply that is not an urban water supplier.

Sincerely,

Cc:

Lisa/Ohlund General Manager

Joan Arneson, Esq. Bowie, Arneson, Wiles & Giannone

East Orange County Retail Zone Water Usage Report



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2013 Usage (AF)	Mar Apr	May	lul unf	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
(AF) 3,233 189 223 237 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2		101	103 104	108	111	94	87	99	1,052
(AF) (AF)		329 3	345 337	351	373	307	292	215	291
Here (AF) 3,247 261 226 222 2 2 3 3 3,247 2 43 -15 43 -15 43 -15 43 -15 43 -15 43 41 4		108 1	103 100	104	102	93	74	41	1,017
472 +3 -15 rulation Jul Aug Sep 3,233 337 351 373 3 3,247 323 336 340 3		349 3	346 323	336	340	301	249	132	280
Population Jul Aug Sep 3,233 337 351 373 3,247 323 336 340		+20	+1 -13	-14	-33	9	-43	-83	-11
3,233 327 351 373 3 3,247 323 336 340 3		Nov	Dec Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Inn	Total
3,233 337 351 373 100 104 102 3,247 323 336 340		87	66 81	63	69	08	108	103	1,073
3,247 323 336 340 3		292 2	215 262	227	223	268	350	347	296
3,247 323 336 340	2000	74	41 59	53	72	ı	1	Е	
		249 1	132 190	191	234	t.	ť	ı	
-Y over FY change in GPCD -13 -14 -33 -6		-43	-83 -72	-36	+11				

*Cumulative through the end of the last month shown *GPCD = Total Monthly Production/ Population/days in the month

Exhibit B