



QUALCOMM Incorporated



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December 2, 2015

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

SUBJECT: Comment Letter – Urban Water Conservation Workshop

Dear Ms. Townsend:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments regarding potential changes to the Emergency Regulation for Statewide Urban Water Conservation to the State Water Resources Control Board. On behalf of Qualcomm, we applaud the Board's efforts to achieve increased water conservation during drought conditions through the current Emergency Regulation.

We however want to register our concerns on the current regulation's focus on achieving the state's water reduction standards solely through conservation. This methodology does not allow regional or local water agencies to realize the benefits of their investments in water supply reliability – investments in self-reliance that are consistent with Governor Brown's Water Action Plan.

In San Diego County, we have supported our water agencies as they have made billions of dollars in investments in developing a portfolio of sustainable water supplies specifically designed to make our region less vulnerable to droughts and devastating water supply cutbacks. The current regulations strip away the drought protections these supplies provide by not allowing the region to benefit from these investments.

Qualcomm recognizes that water is a limited natural resource that is critical to our company, the communities where we operate and life on the planet. We are committed to responsible water management, both in our facilities and through our products. For example, at our headquarters, we employ an advanced water treatment system that reduces the water used in the cooling towers of our new co-generation plant by more than 5.4 million gallons annually. It is critical to maximize the water reliability benefits of drought-resilient and sustainable water supplies, during drought conditions to help support California's economy and quality of life.

We support modifications to the Emergency Regulation to allow water agencies to meet reduction targets through a combination of conservation and sustainable drinking water supplies, such as desalination, potable reuse and long-term transfers of conserved water.

This balanced, more flexible approach to drought management will help save water now given our current supply challenge and better prepare California for future droughts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monique Rodriguez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Monique" being more prominent than the last name "Rodriguez".

Monique Rodriguez
Director, Government Affairs