



10440 Ashford Street, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730-2799  
P.O. Box 638, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729-0638  
(909) 987-2591 Fax (909) 476-8032

**Martin E. Zvirbulis**  
Secretary / General Manager/CEO

November 30, 2015



Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814  
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

**SUBJECT: WRITTEN COMMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CUCAMONGA VALLEY  
WATER DISTRICT REGARDING THE POTENTIAL EXTENSION OF  
EXISTING EMERGENCY REGULATION FOR STATEWIDE URBAN  
WATER CONSERVATION**

Dear Ms. Townsend:

This purpose of this letter is to provide public comments on behalf of the Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD) regarding the proposed extension of the existing emergency regulations for statewide urban water conservation and address the three questions posed by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board).

As noted in our prior comment letters, CVWD has been dedicated to conservation and water use efficiency for many years, long before conservation became a state mandated regulatory requirement. CVWD has made significant investments in a direct-use recycled water system, recycled water recharge basins, and we have banked groundwater for nearly 10 years in the Chino Groundwater Basin. These actions were taken in order to endure drought situations like the very one we are currently experiencing throughout the state. In fact, if you cumulatively add the recent reductions in response to the conservation mandate (30% since June 1, 2015) with savings achieved before the mandate, our customers have reduced their water use by approximately 50%.

In anticipation of State mandates, CVWD implemented drought rates in an effort to, consistent with past practices, encourage continuing water use efficiency standards while ensuring our agency's financial stability and responsible management of our community's investment in infrastructure and resources. Communicating to customers the reasons for higher rates due to State mandates that do not recognize or allow the use of past, present and ongoing investment in local resources is not only difficult, but a completely unreasonable approach to statewide policy-making. Furthermore, penalizing an agency for proactive planning and prudent investments made on behalf of its customers is reactionary and irresponsible.

**James V. Curatalo, Jr.**  
President

**Luis Cetina**  
Vice President

**Oscar Gonzalez**  
Director

**Randall Reed**  
Director

**Kathleen J. Tieg**  
Director

We are glad to see that the State Board has inquired with water agencies on how to move forward in response to the Governor's most recent Executive Order extending Emergency Regulations through October 2016. We appreciate the opportunity to offer input on the questions posed by the State Board. It is CVWD's goal that our suggestions support a practical approach to management of local water supplies should drought conditions persist through January 2016. Responses to the State Board's questions are as follows:

**1. What elements of the existing Emergency Regulation, if any, should be modified in an extended Emergency Regulation?**

CVWD believes there are many good practices that came out of the Emergency Regulation. For example, many of the end-user requirements for water use efficiency should continue to be incorporated for water agencies throughout the state. These are practical, good stewardship actions that CVWD has practiced for quite some time.

The State Board should consider modifying the Emergency Regulations to address widely recognized equity, sustainability and public policy considerations. With regard to equity, regional climate characteristics of each area need to be given greater consideration. A 30% mandated reduction in a desert community is considerably different than a 30% reduction in a coastal community. Consideration should also be given to investments made by agencies for securing water rights and supplies within their service area and regionally. Those that have a demonstrated ability to utilize groundwater supplies for an extended period of time in a sustainable manner should be afforded relief in their respective conservation requirement. CVWD utilizes groundwater supplies from a well-managed adjudicated basin where parties have invested hundreds of millions of dollars and deliberately recharged and banked water supplies in order to address long-term drought conditions.

Finally, we recommend that conservation targets should not be increased for any water agency and conservation tiers should be established ranges not specific numbers.

**2. What additional data, if any, should the State Water Board be collecting through the Emergency Regulation and how would it be used?**

To date, the State Board has gathered an adequate amount of data and it is unclear the benefit of collecting additional information. Any additional data requests should be justified and have clear and direct benefit.

**3. How should the State Water Board account for precipitation after January 2016 in its implementation of any extension of the Emergency Regulation?**

The State Board should reduce conservation targets or sunset the emergency regulation if precipitation exceeds yet-to-be-determined storage and flow criteria. It is extremely important for the State Board and water agencies to maintain credibility with water users regarding the practical need for emergency conservation in the remaining months of 2015 and into the next year.

CVWD appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback as the State Board evaluates the outlook for 2016. We look forward to working with the State Board to develop sound and justifiable changes to the Emergency Regulation that are equitable and sustainable for all agencies across the state.

Should you have any question or need additional information, please contact me or my staff at (909) 987-2591.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin E. Zvirbulis', written over a horizontal line.

Martin E. Zvirbulis  
General Manager/CEO

cc: Board of Directors, Cucamonga Valley Water District