Update on State Board’s Emergency Regulation and Governor’s Executive Order

Regional Advisory Committee
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Governor’s May 9, 2016, Executive Order (EO)

Four areas of action:

1. Use Water More Wisely
   - *SWRCB modify emergency regulation (complete)*
   - *Develop new long-term water use efficiency targets*
   - Develop proposal for mandatory reductions in 2017, in case this winter is dry
   - Require permanent monthly reporting
Governor’s May 9, 2016, EO (cont.)

2. Eliminate Water Waste
   • Permanently prohibit wasteful practices
   • Minimize water system leaks

3. Strengthen Local Drought Resilience
   • Improve Water Shortage Contingency Plans
     • Plan for five-year droughts
     • Create common statewide standards

4. Improve Agricultural Water Use Efficiency and Drought Planning
EO Provision - Modify Emergency Regulation

• SWRCB amended on May 18, 2016

• Individualized conservation standard based on unique supply and demand conditions
  • In effect June 2016 through January 2017

• Determined by projecting supplies and demands for 2017, 2018, 2019
  • Supply projections based on hydrology in 2013, 2014, 2015
  • Demand projections based on potable use in 2013, 2014

• Conservation standard based on shortage, if any, in 2019
EO Provision -
Modify Emergency Regulation (cont.)

• Compliance analysis option for wholesalers to certify for region if all retailers agree
  • Required a “Legally Binding” document
  • Water Authority Board adopted resolution in June 2016
  • Member agencies required to report monthly water use

• Self-certifications submitted in June 2016

• Calculations show region has sufficient supplies to meet demands under SWRCB’s criteria

• Continued water conservation efforts
  • “Live WaterSmart” campaign
EO Provision - Develop New Long-Term Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Targets

- Build on SBX7-7 (20% reduction by 2020)
  - Generate additional savings

- Strengthen standards for
  - Indoor residential water use
  - Outdoor irrigation
    - Incorporate landscape area, local climate, satellite imagery
  - Commercial, industrial, institutional water use
  - Water lost through leaks

- Customized to unique conditions of each water agency
Key Issues in Development of New Long-Term WUE Targets

- Clearly identify the purpose of the new requirement
  - What are we trying to achieve through the long-term WUE targets?

- Differentiate between long-term efficiency and emergency drought conservation

- Part of broader water supply resiliency framework
Key Issues in Development of Long-Term WUE Targets (cont.)

- Provide water agencies options for setting and achieving targets
  - Consistent with SBX7-7 of 2009
  - Decision of local community
  - Not a “one-size-fits-all” approach
  - Definition of efficient water use will vary

- Water use characteristics of communities across California vary widely and long-term efficiency standards must allow for differences
Key Issues in Development of Long-Term WUE Targets (cont.)

- Recognize unintended consequences
  - Reduced wastewater flows for water recycling
  - Limits effectiveness of emergency drought conservation
  - Impact on urban landscapes and quality of life
  - Reduced irrigation runoff into local watersheds
Schedule for Development of New Long-Term WUE Targets

- **July 2016** – Urban Advisory Group Formed
- **2017** – Implement Framework