

MOTION

On April 1, 2015, the Governor issued an Executive Order that called for statewide mandatory water use restrictions to address the State's severe drought. Under the Executive Order, each jurisdiction/water supplier must reduce water use by 25% compared to a 2013 baseline. The State estimates that the conservation rate will result in 1.3 million acre-feet of water savings over the course of the next 9 months.

Following the Executive Order, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) released a proposed regulatory framework for implementing the 25% conservation standard. The framework identifies the specific conservation targets that each jurisdiction/water supplier must meet to obtain the overall standard.

Under the proposed framework, the SWRCB identified a 16% conservation target for the Department of Water and Power (DWP). This amount factored in conservation gains obtained from the 2013 base line year.

The City has taken an active role in implementing water conservation measures for years. The City's implementation of the Emergency Water Conservation Plan Ordinance in 2010 has played a significant role in mitigating local drought impacts. The measure has limited outdoor watering to 3 days per week and has helped the City obtain conservation gains.

In order to better understand the latest proposed conservation target and its potential impact, the DWP should be requested to report to the City Council. The DWP should also report on how it plans to meet the conservation target and what residents can do to help this effort. In this manner, the City can more effectively meet our local and regional drought challenges.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power (DWP) be requested to report to the City Council in 30 days on the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) proposed regulatory framework for implementing the statewide water conservation standard; including the 16% conservation standard applied to the City; how the SWRCB arrived at it and how the DWP plans to meet the conservation standard if implemented.

I FURTHER MOVE that the DWP be requested to report on what residents can do to help meet an implemented conservation standard; including "indicators" or "markers" on bills which identify a resident's water use and the amount of additional water savings needed to help meet the conservation standard.

PRESENTED BY:



FELIPE FUENTES
Councilmember, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

APR 22 2015