

RESOLUTION 9190

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**SUPPORTING THE GOVERNOR'S CALL FOR A 25 PERCENT REDUCTION IN CONSUMER
WATER USE AND EXECUTIVE ORDER B-29-15, IMPLEMENTING ITS WATER SUPPLY
ALLOCATION PLAN, ESTABLISHING THE REGIONAL SHORTAGE LEVEL, AND
IMPLEMENTING AN ALLOCATION SURCHARGE AS A WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM
PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 375**

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2014, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist throughout the State of California due to severe drought conditions ; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 2014, the Governor issued a second proclamation declaring a continuing State of Emergency and noting that drought conditions had persisted for the last three years; and

WHEREAS, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-29-15 on April 1, 2015 instituting emergency actions and mandatory water use reductions for the State of California; and

WHEREAS, State snowpack levels, as indicated by manual surveys and automatic gauge measurements throughout the Sierra Nevada, have been below normal for four consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, the official projections for the State of California show well below normal runoff for the fourth consecutive year, with the runoff from the Sierra snowpack being below the amounts needed to fill California's storage reservoir system or support delivery of supplies requested by Metropolitan and other export contractors; and

WHEREAS, State runoff that replenishes the state's reservoir system, as indicated by the Department of Water Resources, have been below normal levels eight of the last nine years; and

WHEREAS, rainfall levels locally, as indicated by the measurement at the Los Angeles Civic Center, have been below normal for three consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, the dry year storage available to Metropolitan has been reduced by approximately 55 percent since January 2012; and

WHEREAS, storage in the state's reservoir system is well below normal levels, with Lake Oroville at 50 percent of capacity; and

WHEREAS, runoff in the Colorado River system, as indicated by the Bureau of Reclamation, have been below normal levels 13 of the last 16 years; and

WHEREAS, storage in the Colorado River system is well below normal levels, with Lake Mead at 40 percent of capacity; and

WHEREAS, Biological Opinions issued to protect Delta smelt, Central Valley salmon, longfin smelt and other species have continued to contribute to reduced water supplies available for delivery from the State Water Project; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources' current allocation of State Water Project water available to Metropolitan and the other state water contractors is only 20 percent of contracted supply as of the date of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, in February 2008, Metropolitan's Board of Directors adopted its Water Supply Allocation Plan under which the Board may determine that a regional shortage exists, establish a regional shortage level and

implement an Allocation Surcharge for water use in excess of a member agency's annual allocation under the Water Supply Allocation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Water Supply Allocation Plan is intended to be implemented during periods of regional water shortages in order to promote conservation of scarce water supplies; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Water Supply Allocation Plan, the Board may establish a regional shortage level and assess an allocation surcharge on water use in excess of a member agency's annual allocation under the plan; and

WHEREAS, in light of the extreme drought and poor water supply conditions noted above, the Board believes it is necessary and in the best interests of Metropolitan and its member agencies to implement the Water Supply Allocation Plan at a Level 3 Regional Shortage Level and to assess an allocation surcharge on any member agency whose use exceeds its Level 3 allocations; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code section 375 authorizes public agencies to adopt programs and rate structures aimed at encouraging water conservation after holding a public hearing and making appropriate findings of necessity; and

WHEREAS, adopting the Water Supply Allocation Plan Level 3 allocations and surcharges as a water conservation program is consistent with actions taken by our member agencies and other retail agencies and will assist Metropolitan and its member agencies in public outreach efforts to communicate the severity of the current drought and the need for conservation; and

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2015 Metropolitan conducted a public hearing and made appropriate findings of necessity for the adoption of the Water Supply Allocation Plan Level 3 allocations and surcharges as a water conservation program.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of Metropolitan does hereby resolve, determine and order as follows:

Section 1. Metropolitan's Board of Directors declare Metropolitan's support for the Governor's Executive Order B-29-15; express support for the recommendations in the Chairman's April 13, 2015, letter to the Governor regarding his Executive Order; and direct staff to work with the State Water Resources Control Board to implement the Executive Order.

Section 2. Metropolitan's Board of Directors declare that the regional water shortage in Metropolitan's service area continues and declare a Water Supply Condition 3 – Water Supply Allocation.

Section 3. The Water Supply Allocation Plan shall be implemented, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Section 4. The Water Supply Allocation Plan shall be set at Regional Shortage Level 3.

Section 5. The Allocation Surcharge, as part of the Water Supply Allocation Plan, shall be the means enabled by Section 375 of the California Water Code to encourage the regional conservation of water supplies.

Section 6. The General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary action to implement the Water Supply Allocation Plan, consistent with its terms.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, at its meeting held on April 14, 2015.


Secretary of the Board of Directors
of The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California