



H.B.M.W.D. JUN 11 2015



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GOVERNOR

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SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

June 9, 2015

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District
828 Seventh Street
P.O. Box 95
Eureka, CA 95502-0095

Dear Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District:

DROUGHT EMERGENCY WATER CONSERVATION REGULATIONS – APPLICATION FOR LOWER CONSERVATION TARGET

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is in receipt of Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District's request dated May 12, 2015, for inclusion in the reserved 4 percent conservation standard tier identified in California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 865, subdivision (c)(2). To be eligible for inclusion in the reserved tier, a supplier must provide information showing that its sources of supply do not include groundwater or water imported from outside of the hydrologic region and that it has a minimum of four years' reserved supply available. Based on the May 12 letter and a review of Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District's water rights, it appears that the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District and the four urban water suppliers it serves meet the criteria outlined in section 865, subdivision (c)(2). Accordingly, the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District, the City of Arcata, the City of Eureka, the Humboldt Community Services District and the McKinleyville Community Services District are hereby approved to reduce their total potable water production by 4 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013 in lieu of the reductions that would otherwise be required under paragraphs (3) through (10) of section 865, subdivision (c).

The May 12 letter also requests that three small water systems served by Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District be required to reduce their total potable water production by 4 percent for each month as compared to the amount used in the same month in 2013. Because the 4 percent conservation standard only applies to "urban water suppliers" as defined in section 865, subdivision (a)(4) and not to the smaller "distributors of a public water supply" as defined in subdivision (a)(1), those smaller suppliers are not eligible for the 4 percent reduction conservation standard. It should be noted, however, that the May 12 letter identifies those suppliers – the City of Blue Lake, the Fieldbrook-Glendale Community Services District, and the Manila Community Services District – will be limiting outdoor irrigation to no more than two days per week. Section 865, subdivision (f) gives those smaller suppliers the choice of either reducing total potable water production by 25 percent relative to the amount produced in 2013, or to "limit outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water by the persons it serves to no more than two days per week." If those three suppliers do in fact limit outdoor

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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irrigation accordingly, in a way that is meaningfully understandable to their customers and reasonably likely to result in real reductions during the duration of the emergency regulation, the only remaining obligation for those suppliers will be to submit the required report by December 15, 2015, confirming compliance with section 865, subdivision (f)(1)(A).

Please contact Eric Oppenheimer at (916) 445-5960, if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Thomas Howard
Executive Director