

AGENDA STAFF REPORT



MEETING NAME: REGULAR BOARD MEETING(S)

MEETING DATE(S): APRIL 13 & 17, 2023

FROM: MARION CHAMPION – GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC
AFFAIRS MANAGER

FOR: ACTION X DIRECTION INFORMATION

REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZATION TO MOVE FROM LEVEL 2 TO LEVEL 1 OF THE MSWD WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt the proposed resolution authorizing the District to move from Level 2 to Level 1 of the District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan effective immediately following the action by the State Water Resources Control Board to amend its May 24, 2022 Emergency Regulation.

SUMMARY

On March 24, 2023, after an extremely wet winter, Governor Gavin Newsom announced that he was easing drought emergency restrictions with an updated Executive Order. With this Order, the Governor's directive for water agencies to be at Level 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans is no longer in place, and his call for Californians to cut water use by 15 percent has been eased.

As of this writing, staff anticipates the State Water Resources Control Board will follow the Governor's directive and amend its May 24, 2022, Emergency Regulation allowing agencies to return to Level 1 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans.

Across the Coachella Valley, Level 2 includes certain prohibitions on potable water use, including the use of sprinklers during daylight hours and restaurants serving water to guests unless they request it. Under Level 1, water conservation is still encouraged, and the following water waste remains prohibited:

- Applying any water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures is prohibited.
- Using water in a fountain or other decorative water feature is prohibited, unless the water recirculates.
- Applying water to driveways, sidewalks, concrete or asphalt is prohibited unless it addresses immediate health and safety needs. Reasonable pressure washer or water broom use is permitted.

- Spray irrigation of outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after rainfall of 0.10 inches is prohibited.
- Using a hose to wash a vehicle, windows, or solar panels is prohibited unless an automatic shut-off nozzle or pressure washer is used.
- Broken sprinklers shall be repaired within five business days of notification by agency, and leaks shall be repaired as soon as practical.
- Draining and refilling of private swimming pools is discouraged, unless necessary for health and safety or leak repair.
- Hotels will provide guests the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily.
- Agency shall discourage overseeding.
- Agency shall provide rebates for landscape efficiency.
- Agency shall offer water use surveys/audits.
- Agency shall provide rebates on plumbing fixtures and devices.

ANALYSIS

Staff is prepared to implement the provisions outlined in Level 1 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan immediately following the State Water Resources Control Board's action.

ATTACHMENTS

MSWD Resolution 2023-07

Governor Newsom's March 24, 2023, Executive Order N-5-32

State Water Resources Control Board Emergency Regulation No. 2022-0018

MSWD Water Shortage Contingency Plan