



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898



IN REPLY REFER TO:

CGB-100  
2.2.4.23

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Board of Directors  
Del Puerto Water District  
P.O. Box 1596  
Patterson, CA 95363  
ahansen@delpuertowd.org

Subject: Notice of Shortage Provisions Under Contract and Reclamation's Municipal & Industrial (M&I) Water Shortage Policy

Dear Board of Directors:

During the 2021 contract year, Reclamation implemented its M&I Water Shortage Policy due to the dry hydrologic conditions. Reclamation recognizes the difficulties our contractors faced this contract year. As we begin the 2022 Water Year, Reclamation, along with our federal and state agency partners, are preparing for the continuation of drought conditions. These planning efforts will help us all better manage the limited water resources in the event conditions remain dry.

During the September 21, 2021, Water Board meeting, Department of Water Resources (DWR) Director Ms. Karla Nemeth and I outlined a focused set of shared priorities if drought conditions persist. These included water for public health and safety with a focus on domestic use, maintaining water quality in the San Joaquin/Sacramento River Delta (the source of drinking water for many communities), water for the protection of species to meet our environmental requirements, conservation of storage to meet future crucial needs, and water to meet our water settlement and exchange contractors' obligations and refuges. In order to meet the water needs for California, planning efforts must start now so we are all prepared in the event of a persistent drought.

Both Federal and State water storage reservoirs are starting the Water Year near historic lows. Reclamation and DWR were able to avoid hitting even lower levels thanks in large part to the collective efforts of operators, the Water Board, and our contractor's conservation efforts. If the dry hydrologic conditions we experienced in 2021 persist into 2022, Reclamation and DWR find it increasingly difficult if not impossible to meet all the competing needs of the Projects without beginning the implementation of additional more severe water conservation actions. In accordance with the M&I Water Shortage Policy, each year you are asked to provide specific information such that your public health and safety numbers can be calculated using the standard calculation outlined in the Central Valley Project Municipal and Industrial Water Shortage Policy Guidelines and Procedures located at [www.usbr.gov/mp/cvp/mandi.html](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvp/mandi.html). This policy also includes provisions for the reduction of M&I Water made available under your contract. To

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CALIFORNIA\*, NEVADA\*, OREGON\*

\* PARTIAL

begin our collective preparations for 2022, please review this policy and begin planning for potentially extremely limited water supply conditions. While we remain committed to providing water for public health and safety needs with a focus on domestic use, it remains possible that Central Valley Project (CVP) water supplies may be insufficient even to meet those needs.

Reclamation will closely monitor developing hydrologic conditions and provide regular updates and communications in the coming months to share the best available data. Reclamation looks forward to close communication and coordination should the drought continue in order to most effectively operate the CVP. If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or regarding Reclamation's M&I Water Shortage policy, please contact Regional Resources Manager Adam Nickels at (916) 978-5401 or [anickels@usbr.gov](mailto:anickels@usbr.gov).

Sincerely,

Ernest A  
Conant

Digitally signed by  
Ernest A Conant  
Date: 2021.10.12  
14:18:01 -0700

Ernest A. Conant  
Regional Director