

RESOLUTION NO. _____
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF
ORANGE COUNTY DECLARING A “CONDITION 2 – WATER SUPPLY ALERT”

Whereas, Orange County depends on imported water from Northern California and the Colorado River to meet approximately half of its supply demand; with the balance of the county’s demand being met by local groundwater via a large basin under north and central Orange County, smaller basins in south Orange County, and through local water recycling; and

Whereas, precipitation for the first eight months of water year 2015-2016 has been 49% of normal in Orange County, 120% of normal for Northern California and 102% of normal for the Upper Basin of the Colorado River; and

Whereas, Orange County is in its fifth year of below average precipitation and remains in exceptional or extreme drought conditions; and

Whereas, on April 21, 2016, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) officially reported the State Water Project’s (SWP) “Table A” Allocation will be 60% of contract amounts for 2016 in comparison to 35%, 5% and 20% for 2013, 2014 and 2015 respectively; and

Whereas, the Colorado River’s two main reservoirs, Lake Powell and Lake Mead continue to decline, negatively impacting Colorado River’s Basin storage levels; and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET) has indicated that its water storage reserves, committed to meeting regional drought demands, remains relatively low at nearly 1.2 million acre-feet but is likely to increase by 300,000 to 600,000 acre-feet this year; and

Whereas, MET rescinded the “Condition 3 – Water Supply Allocation” and returned to “Condition 2 – Water Supply Alert” on May 10, 2016; and

Whereas, the MET Regional Shortage Level 3 allocation under the Water Supply Allocation Plan (WSAP) which was effective from July 1, 2015 was terminated with a continued call for heightened water awareness and conservation within its service area; and

Whereas, MET’s water conservation outreach program is funded at \$2.2 million; and

Whereas, effective May 9, 2016, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. issued an Executive Order B-37-16 “Making Water Conservation a Way of Life” that extends the Emergency Drought Regulations to January 31, 2017; and

Whereas, in response to this Executive Order, on May 18, 2016 the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) adopted a local self-certification approach

("Stress Test") that replaces the prior State imposed mandatory conservation standard. The stress test requires each retail agency to demonstrate whether or not they require a state mandated water use reduction requirement under specific, extreme conditions of high demand and low precipitation for a three year period; and

Whereas, under the previous State Board mandatory system the Orange County retail agencies were assigned use reduction requirements ranging from 8% to 36%; and

Whereas, the State Board is requiring all urban water wholesalers including the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) and MET to make projections as to how much water they expect to deliver to their retail water agency under the three dry year, extreme condition scenario; and

Whereas, the residents, cities and water agencies serving Orange County's population of 3.1 million have achieved an extraordinary accomplishment by saving over 36 billion gallons of water (112,500 acre-feet) over the past 11 months and exceeding the countywide reduction requirement of 22%; and

Whereas, Orange County customers and water agencies have achieved this remarkable water savings through a wide variety of actions and programs including public outreach, information and education, specific restrictions on watering use, extensive rebate programs, direct interaction with customers, utility system water loss control, enforcement, and rate structures; and

Whereas, the MWDOC and its member agencies continue to promote public messaging to create a heightened awareness of the state's water supply conditions and promote water use efficiency; and

Whereas, the MWDOC 2016-2017 approved budget for Water Use Efficiency is greater than \$1.1 million with additional outside funding for efficiency programs in excess of \$4.2 million; and

Whereas, the MWDOC 2016-2017 budget for Public Affairs is approximately \$850,000 with an emphasis on water supply and water use efficiency components; and

Whereas, water supply conditions have improved over last year but precipitation amounts for next winter are uncertain and a cautious approach is warranted with conservative and prudent water resource management; and

Whereas, increasing and applying efficient water use habits today is the responsible thing to do and will help ensure Orange County has enough water to maintain our quality of life and thriving economy; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Municipal Water District of Orange County Board of Directors continues to support the efficient use of water and declares a "Condition 2 – Water Supply Alert" within the District's service area, which encourages

every Orange County water agency to continue implementing extraordinary water efficiency; and encourages retail water agencies to amend their water drought ordinances to incorporate the Governor's new permanent conservation measures; and

Be it further resolved, that the Municipal Water District of Orange County calls for continued efficiency measures that will achieve a countywide water saving goal of approximately 10% from the average annual demands of calendar years 2013 and 2014.

Said Resolution was adopted on June __, 2016, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors
NOES:	Directors
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. ____ adopted by the Board of Directors of Municipal Water District of Orange County at its meeting held on June __, 2016.

Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary
Municipal Water District of Orange County