

**Queen's speech to the State Water Board 6/28/17  
regarding the evaluation of program performance based on international law**

Good evening. My name is Queen. I am a disabled cancer survivor, living in Oakland. I am speaking to you today as a member with the Service Workers Project for Affordable Water and Utilities, or SWPAWU.

I am speaking to how you should evaluate your program performance, based on international law. We are the relevant stakeholders defined in AB 401 which states that "Every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water ..."

The United Nations recommends that no household shall pay more than 1.5% or 2% of their income for water.

In September, 2015, the United States joined 192 other members of the United Nations in adopting the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, which include Goal #6: "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all." In 2010, the United Nations put for the policy that water is a human right.

We demand that the State Water Board pursue any and all state and federal resources to obtain the ways and means for extensive infrastructure upgrade, installation of water recycling facilities, desalination plants powered by solar energy, and other means to ensure adequate water supply and delivery that the region's extensive technological expertise and capabilities can devise and install, relying on the vast means of federal authorities rather than unaffordable extractions from the lowest-paid workers.

In compliance with international and state law, and to implement AB 685 and 401, the best way for the State Water Board to evaluate the performance of your program is achieving zero water shut-offs across the state. Issue a permanent moratorium on any and all water shut offs for residents living at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.