

California State Senate



**SENATOR
JIM NIELSEN**

FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
VICE CHAIR
HEALTH
VETERANS AFFAIRS
VICE CHAIR

**2-7-17 Board Meeting-Item 9
Urban Water Conservation to Implement EO B-29-15
Deadline: 2/6/17 12 noon**



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February 6, 2017

The Honorable Felicia Marcus, Chair
and Members of the State Water Resources Control Board
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Comment Letter – Urban Water Conservation

Dear Chair Marcus and Members of the Board:

In 2014, Governor Brown declared a State of Emergency due to historic severe drought conditions. Californians—on their own and in accord with emergency mandates from the State Water Resources Control Board—changed their ways of life to preserve the severely limited water supply.

This fall and winter, 50 counties are experiencing emergency flooding. The ground is saturated and reservoirs are releasing millions of gallons of water in anticipation of more rain and snow. In fact, most reservoirs in California are nearing capacity with several months remaining in the wet season.

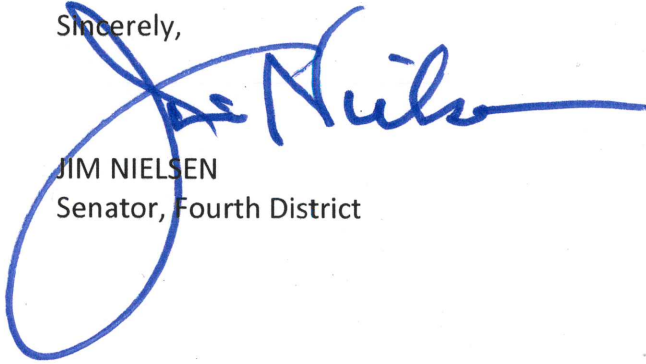
Most Californians can easily identify that we are no longer in a statewide emergency drought situation. It is imperative that Californians maintain faith in the Board; the Board should not unnecessarily extend nor exploit the emergency rulemaking process. Further conservation, if necessary, regulations should be passed through the proper legislative channels, where elected officials are accountable to the public.

Local water managers are capable of controlling their supply given specific regional conditions and needs. And, with all the precipitation throughout the state, this year is a good time for

water suppliers and users to fully divert water and distribute it across the ground for cities and rural communities, farms, ranches, wildlife refuges, fish, and groundwater recharge.

I respectfully urge the SWRCB to allow the emergency regulation for statewide urban water conservation to expire on February 28, 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Nielsen". The signature is stylized and includes a large, sweeping loop on the left side.

JIM NIELSEN
Senator, Fourth District