



Media Release

State Water Board Selects Alan Lilly as First Administrative Hearings Officer for Specified Water Rights Proceedings *Appointment Follows 2018 Legislative Mandate for Administrative Hearings Office*

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SACRAMENTO – Today the State Water Resources Control Board announced the appointment of veteran water right attorney Alan Lilly as its first Presiding Hearing Officer to lead the State Water Board’s new Administrative Hearings Office, created by a statute enacted last year, which became effective on July 1. The Administrative Hearings Office will hear specified enforcement proceedings involving water rights and be available to assist the State Water Board in other hearings.

“Alan brings a wealth of experience, keen intellect, and proven leadership abilities for the Administrative Hearings Office,” said Board Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel. “My colleagues and I look forward to Alan setting up this office, improving the water right enforcement hearing process, and carrying out the broader responsibilities of Assembly Bill 747.”

[AB 747 \(Chapter 668, Statutes of 2018, Caballero\)](#) created a new Administrative Hearings Office within the State Water Board. The legislation requires the Office to hear and decide specified water right enforcement matters, subject to review by the State Water Board. In addition, hearing officers in the Office may be available to assist the State Water Board in other hearings.

Lilly has 38 years of legal experience and was selected by the State Water Board members for his expertise in water rights implementation and law. For the last 29 years, he has practiced in the field of water rights law with a prominent Sacramento law firm. During that time, he litigated extensively in water right matters before both the courts and the State Water Board. Lilly’s clients have included public agencies, private clients, and conservation groups. He has held the positions of principal attorney, director and treasurer of the firm.

As the Office’s inaugural Presiding Hearing Officer, Lilly will manage its day-to-day responsibilities and hire hearing officers and technical staff so the Office can function effectively and efficiently.





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“I am honored that the State Water Board has selected me to be the first Presiding Hearing Officer in the new Administrative Hearings Office. I look forward to establishing this office as an independent unit of the State Water Board that will fairly and impartially adjudicate the water-right disputes that are assigned to it,” said Lilly.

[More information on this Office and its functions](#) are specified in the legislation. Additional information will be forthcoming as Lilly sets up the office and establishes its initial priorities. Lilly expects to begin work in this new office on Nov.1, 2019.

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