



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

# NEWS RELEASE

P. O. Box 54153, Los Angeles, California 90054-0153 • (213) 217-6485 • [www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com)

Contact: Bob Muir, (213) 217-6930; (213) 324-5213 mobile

Jan. 30, 2014

## METROPOLITAN GENERAL MANAGER ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNOR BROWN'S MEETING WITH SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER LEADERS

*Jeffrey Kightlinger, general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, issued the following statement regarding today's meeting with Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. to provide an overview of statewide drought conditions and water management actions:*

"The dry conditions facing California are unprecedented, and this region stands united with the governor in supporting his call for a statewide approach to a statewide problem. His message shows that California must be serious about addressing its short- and long-term water problems.

"We recognize the importance of approaching this challenge as one state with a common purpose. Metropolitan plans to respond in the coming weeks with the following proposed water management actions in consultation with the leadership of our Board of Directors;

- Declaring a formal water supply alert that embraces the governor's call on all Californians to voluntarily reduce water use by 20 percent.
- Doubling Metropolitan's conservation budget from \$20 million to \$40 million to provide more incentives for reducing water use.
- Exploring all achievable means to utilize Metropolitan's water and other resources to help address water supply challenges elsewhere in the state.

"Southern California water agencies have aimed to make conservation a local way of life. The city of Los Angeles, as a shining example, has maintained mandatory conservation measures since 2009. But what the state is facing right now is truly unprecedented. Southern California must continue to lead by example and partner with the rest of the state by all means feasible."

###

*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving nearly 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.*