

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-365

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
TO DEACTIVATE STAGE 2 OF THE WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN
AND ORDINANCE NO. 2**

WHEREAS, the State of California experienced unprecedented drought conditions from 2020 through 2022; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Project, from which SCV Water receives approximately half of its annual water supply, provided only a 5% allocation in Water Years 2021 and 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley experienced hydrological drought conditions with lower than average rainfall in Water Years 2020 and 2021; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2021, Governor Newsom issued a Drought Emergency Declaration, which was extended on both May 10, 2021, and July 9, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-10-21, which urged all Californians to voluntarily reduce water use by 15% compared to 2020 water consumption levels; and

WHEREAS, beginning in September 2021, the State Water Resources Control Board initiated monthly reporting to assess conservation performance statewide, by hydrologic region, and by urban water supplier; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 2021, Governor Newsom extended the Drought Emergency Declaration to include all counties in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2021, the SCV Water Board of Directors enacted Stage 1 of SCV Water's Water Shortage Contingency Plan and the Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2); and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-0002, which included emergency regulations designed to prohibit wasteful water uses to promote water conservation; and

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2022, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-7-22, which directed the State Water Resources Control Board to, among other actions, consider adopting emergency regulations that require urban water suppliers to implement response actions for a shortage level of up to twenty percent and that banned the irrigation of certain non-functional turf with potable water to mitigate the effects of drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2022, the SCV Water Board of Directors adopted a resolution to implement Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Shortage Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board issued emergency regulations for urban drought response actions, specifically requiring all urban water suppliers who submitted a Water Shortage Contingency Plan to the Department of Water Resources to

implement at minimum, all demand reduction actions identified in the supplier's water shortage contingency plan for a shortage level of ten to twenty percent by June 10, 2022 and prohibited the irrigation of non-functional turf with potable water in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sector; and

WHEREAS, in December 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board extended the emergency regulations specified in Resolution No. 2022-002 prohibiting wasteful uses of water until December 2023; and

WHEREAS, in Water Year 2023, following above average precipitation and snowpack accumulation, the State Water Project allocation is 100% of annual contact for public entities who receive water from the State Water Project, including SCV Water; and

WHEREAS, in Water Year 2023, the Santa Clarita Valley received more than twice the average rainfall which helped to replenish local groundwater levels; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2023, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-5-23 which, among other items, rescinded the 15% of 2020 voluntary conservation call and the directive to the State Water Resources Control Board to implement emergency regulations requiring urban water suppliers to implement the stage 2 measures of their water shortage contingency plans, but retained the drought emergency declaration and directed the State Water Resources Control Board to maintain the non-functional turf irrigation ban; and

WHEREAS, between May 2022 and May 2023, following the enactment of SCV Water's Stage 2 Water Shortage Contingency Plan, SCV Water customers took action to conserve 15.6% compared to the same period in 2020 (11,016 acre-feet, 3.6 billion gallons); and

WHEREAS, in May 2023, the State Water Resources Control Board readopted emergency regulations, effective June 2023 through June 2024, banning decorative grass watering (non-functional turf) with potable water for commercial, industrial, institutional, homeowners' associations, and common interest developments community service organizations, and other similar entities, excluding residential customers; and

WHEREAS, to augment the multi-year low allocation from the State Water Project, SCV Water utilized approximately 45% of its banked storage supplies, which will need to be replenished for future dry year use; and

WHEREAS, in non-drought years, SCV Water provides standing water conservation support to its customers including, but not limited to, engagement, education, incentives, rebates, and programs to encourage and achieve water conservation, improve water use efficiency, and promote sustainability; and

WHEREAS, in December 2022, the SCV Water Board of Directors approved the Customer Service Policy, which documents and establishes policies, rules, and regulations for water service including, among others, SCV Water protocols addressing water waste activities and water efficiency and conservation; and

WHEREAS, the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation Ordinance are intended to encourage responsible water use, conserve our water resources, and protect the Agency's customers, especially during times of drought, water shortages, and drought recovery, and the Agency remains focused on outreach, communication and education first; and

WHEREAS, because of the improved drought conditions in the State and within SCV Water's service area and Governor's March 24, 2023, executive order, the Board of Directors hereby finds and determines that it is necessary and appropriate to deactivate Stage 2 of SCV Water's Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Stage 2 of the Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. All the foregoing recitals are true and correct, and the Board of Directors so finds and determines. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein and made an operative part of the Resolution.
2. The deactivation of Stage 2 of SCV Water's Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Stage 2 of its Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance No.2) is hereby declared.
3. This Resolution is effective on the date of adoption. SCV Water shall make a public announcement of the deactivation of Stage 2 of SCV Water's Water Shortage Contingency Plan and its Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance No.2) as required thereunder.
4. This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 because this action does not qualify as a project. Alternatively, the action is categorically exempt pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15307 – Protection of Natural Resources, Section 15308 – Protection of the Environment, and Section 15061(b)(3) – the Common Sense Exemption because it includes protection of the environment and assures maintenance of water as a natural resource, ensuring that water remains available in the face of current water shortage conditions; and none of the exceptions to the categorical exemptions set forth in the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply here.
5. If any section, subsection, clause, or phrase in this Resolution is for any reason held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby. The Board of Directors hereby declares that it would have passed this Resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases, or the application thereof be held invalid.

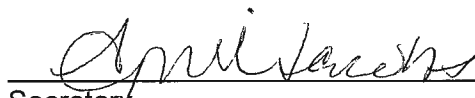


Vice President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify: That I am the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, and that at a special scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on July 11, 2023 the foregoing Resolution No. SCV-365 was duly and regularly adopted by said Board, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and that it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: July 11, 2023





Secretary