



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS      Agenda Number:  
AGENDA LETTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** CEO  
**Department No.:** 012  
**For Agenda Of:** November 14, 2017  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department      Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer  
Director(s)  
Contact Info:      Robert Lewin, Director of Emergency Management  
**SUBJECT:**      **Re-Ratification Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions,  
Last Action October 17, 2017, All Supervisorial Districts, (Thirty-Day Renewal)**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution re-ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions that exist in Santa Barbara County pursuant to Government Code Section 8630(c); and
- b) Direct the Office of Emergency Management to return monthly for re-ratification of the Emergency until such a time that weather and water supply conditions dictate otherwise; and
- c) Determine that this project was found by your Board to be exempt from the provisions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b) (3) and 15269(a), and that the proposed actions are within the scope of the prior CEQA exemption.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to re-ratify the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions that was last re-ratified on October 17, 2017.

On January 15, 2014, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Declared 27 Counties in California, including Santa Barbara County, to be designated as primary natural disaster areas due to drought conditions. On January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Governor declared a statewide State of

Emergency for Drought. On the same date the Santa Barbara County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions in Santa Barbara County.

On April 7, 2017, following significant winter rains in California, Governor Edmund G. Brown issued an executive order ending the drought state of emergency, in most counties, including Santa Barbara County. Despite the Governor ending the drought state of emergency, local drought conditions continue. Santa Barbara County remains in a “moderate” drought; reservoir levels are still at reduced levels.



**Background:**

Santa Barbara County remains at the D1 Drought level of Moderate, which warrants the re-ratification of the Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions. The County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is currently at a level one activation—essential staffing for centralized coordination and decentralized direction. OEM continues to monitor conditions and coordinate County communication and outreach plans with all stakeholder agencies to support the County Drought Task Force (DTF). The DTF convenes on a regular basis, as directed by the chair, to obtain regular updates and to identify potential plans for drought response, recovery, and mitigation.

As of October 31, 2017 the capacity of Lake Cachuma is 40.1% (from a low of near 7%) with 77,633 acre-feet. This is below the capacity in January 2014 when the County Board of Supervisors first proclaimed a drought emergency.

Meanwhile, Gibraltar Reservoir (City of Santa Barbara’s reservoir) is now at 41.7% capacity, with 2,638 acre-feet, dropping approximately 9% from last month. Jameson Reservoir (Montecito Water District reservoir) is at 51.7% capacity, with 2,646 acre-feet.

The City of Santa Barbara’s Desalination facility is still in its start-up phase and is intermittently contributing to the City’s regular water supply. Once the facility is continuously online, it will have the capacity to produce nearly 3 million gallons of water per day, which is equivalent to 3,125 acre-feet of water annually or about 30% of the City’s demand.

The Rey Fire last year and the recent Whittier Fire both occurred in the reservoirs’ watersheds. This will add significant sedimentation to the Gibraltar and Cachuma reservoirs depending on both the amount and the intensity of the next 2 to 3 year’s winter storms. This will impact their overall water storage capacity. In addition, water quality will be reduced with the increased sedimentation and carbon. Water purveyors have been discussing measures to maintain water quality to their users.

Government Code Section 8630(c) requires the Board to review the need for the continued existence of the Proclamation of Local Emergency at least every 30 days. Government Code Section 8630(d) requires termination of the Proclamation of Local Emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Costs continue to be compiled. Updates will be provided at future re-ratification Board items.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>FY 17-18 Costs to date</b>	<b>Total Inception-to-date Project Costs</b>
General Fund	\$649	\$204,428
State		
Federal		
Fees		
Other		77,086
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$649</b>	<b>\$281,514</b>

The CEO established a project code for tracking staffing costs and time associated with drought activities. Since declaration in January 2014, costs for management of emergency drought conditions have been reported by the CEO’s Office of Emergency Management and Public Works’ Department Flood Control and Water Agency Divisions; minor costs have been reported by the Agricultural Commissioner and Parks Department.

**Staffing Impacts:**

Although there are no FTE personnel resourced to management of the drought, labor hours as reported countywide at last analysis are approximately 2,360 hours for emergency drought management since tracking began in January 2014.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the following:

Office of Emergency Management, Attn: Sonia Thompson  
Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Resolution Re-ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions

**Authored by:**

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