

Proclamation of Local Emergency By Director of Emergency Services (General)



WHEREAS, Chapter 12, Section 6 of the Santa Barbara County code, empowers the County of Santa Barbara, Director of Emergency Services, to proclaim a local emergency if the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, Section 8558 (c) of the Government Code defines a "Local Emergency" as: "the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city, caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake, or other conditions other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat, and;

WHEREAS, the State of California declared a drought state of emergency effective the 17th day of January 2014; the State is experiencing record dry conditions, with 2014 projected to become the driest year on record; and

WHEREAS, the State's water supplies have dipped to alarming levels, indicated by: snowpack in California's mountains is approximately 20 percent of the normal average for this date; California's largest water reservoirs have very low water levels for this time of year; California's major river systems, including the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, have significantly reduced surface water flows; and groundwater levels throughout the state have dropped significantly, and;

WHEREAS, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within this county, caused by current drought conditions in which the County is experiencing significant reduction in water resources. In Santa Barbara County, year to date rainfall totals are currently at approximately 16% of normal with no measurable rainfall so far in January, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors will be requested by the Director of Emergency Services of the County of Santa Barbara to ratify the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists throughout Santa Barbara County; and

- 1. That all the recitals set forth herein above are true, correct, and valid; and
- 2. That these aforementioned conditions of extreme peril are not the results of labor controversy; and
- 3. That in furtherance of this proclamation of local emergency, there is hereby invoked in the County of Santa Barbara all of the powers and mechanisms set forth in the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code sections 8550 et seq.), Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 12, Section 6 and all other applicable laws, as said powers and mechanisms may hereafter be used by authorized personnel of the County of Santa Barbara; and
- 4. That, pursuant to Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 12, Section 6(a)(6)(C) and (D), the Director of Emergency Services is empowered to require emergency services of any county officer or employee and to requisition necessary personnel or material of any county department or agency; and
- 5. That a copy of this Proclamation of Local Emergency shall be posted on all outside public access doors of the County Administration Building, and personnel of said County shall endeavor to make copies of this Proclamation available to news media; and
- 6. That this Proclamation of Local Emergency shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days from the date hereof, unless ratified by the Board of Supervisors, and extended, or unless sooner terminated.

Dated: <u>1-17-14</u>

Time: 2:00 p.m.

County Administrator /

Director of Emergency Services

County of Santa Barbara

State of California