

RANCHO MURIETA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Category:	Improvements	Policy # 2011-06
Title:	Water Demand Reductions for 2020 Compliance	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to commit the District to comply with the requirements of Senate Bill X7-7(SB7) to reduce overall water consumption by 20% by 2020 and to provide guidance to assist the Rancho Murieta Community Services District in meeting the mandates for water conservation incorporated by the legislation of the State of California, the Water Conservation Act of 2009.

The Water Conservation Act of 2009 is legislation passed as Senate Bill X7-7 (SB7). Enacted in November 2009 by California lawmakers, which requires water suppliers throughout the State of California to decrease per capita urban potable water use by ten percent (10%) by December 31, 2015 and by twenty percent (20%) by December 31, 2020.

FINDINGS

1. The Rancho Murieta Community Services District Board of Directors, received and filed the September 15, 2010 report titled “**2020 Compliance Plan**” prepared by Brown and Caldwell, hereby adopts the following as the **Water Demand Reductions for 2020 Compliance Policy**.
2. The Rancho Murieta community relies on water diversions from the Cosumnes River directly upstream of the California Bay-Delta estuary that is currently threatened and was the driver behind the Water Conservation Act of 2009. The District’s main water right permit 16762 was issued in 1969 and amended in 1980. In 2001, the permit was renewed and extended with no new permit requirements through 2020 in consideration that the community was not at full build-out. It now appears likely that in 2020, the community will not have reached full build-out and the permit will need to be extended again. Given the statewide goal of reducing water consumption by twenty percent (20%) by 2020, due consideration will be given to the District’s compliance or lack thereof in meeting the reduction goal. If compliance is not shown, under one potential worst case scenario, the yearly diversion and storage could be cut back by twenty percent (20%).

3. The District currently serves 2,604 connections including residential and commercial and parks connections. However, Sacramento County has approved development of 520 lots within the District's service area, plus an additional 150 units currently being considered for approval, bringing the total lots likely to be approved in the near future to 670 units. Considering the planned development, the District will be required to develop an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) in compliance with all applicable sections of SB7 once more than 3,000 acre-feet per year or 3,000 connections are served. Plans are due every five (5) years. The next plans are due in 2015 and 2020 and are required to include information on SB7 compliance.
4. SB7 requirements that apply to the District drives an overall goal for community-wide water demand reduction. The State requirements refer to the metric on a per person (capita) amount of water demand per day, which is based on total water demand in the service area divided by number of days in the year, divided by the total number of persons served, presented in terms of gallons per capita per day.
5. In accordance with SB7 requirements, the District's historic baseline potable and non-potable water uses were analyzed in terms of gallons per capita per day (GPCD) from 1994 through 2009. The analysis was performed using total treated and recycled water production by year and estimated population for 1995 through 2009. The highest 10-year average potable GPCD was 298 GPCD, which was for the ten (10) year period of 1999 to 2008 period.
6. SB7 allows for four (4) different methods of calculating GPCD targets for reduction in potable water demand. The GPCD of 298.1 is considered the baseline water use for Method 1. Based on a 10 percent reduction for 2015 and a 20 percent reduction for 2020, the 2015 and 2020 target GPCD values are 268.3 and 238.5, respectively.
7. The water demand from the District's customers fluctuates year to year based predominately on climate conditions and, as a result, the annual average GPCD will fluctuate. It will be important to track activities and also water demand to understand the level of progress being made in reducing overall GPCD towards meeting the selected 2020 target. The District will use components of the 2020 Compliance Model developed for each conservation measure being actively used to track estimated water savings based on the number of activities (or interventions) taken in a given year.
8. The intention for the community and the District is to be proactive in meeting 2020 targets in order to help prevent the worst case scenario of the water rights for the community being reduced in the future. SB7

was explicit in the opportunity for the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to begin taking administrative or legal action after January 1, 2021 against those agencies not compliant with 2020 GPCD targets. Since the District will need to appeal for an extension for its water right permit in 2020, the timing of the appeal will bring scrutiny from SWRCB on the Rancho Murieta community's perceived wise or wasteful uses of potable water based on whether or not the 2020 GPCD target was achieved.

POLICY

The District commits to meeting the goals of SB7 to reduce water demand by twenty percent (20%) by 2020 by implementing the following policies.

- 1, The compliance with GPCD targets required by SB7 is voluntary on behalf of each individual property owner, and the District may need to proceed with more aggressive voluntary conservation measures over time, if monitoring of progress of the total annual water demand in the service area is indicating that targets are not forecasted to be achieved.
2. The District will be encouraging reductions in existing customer water demand primarily through educational efforts and conservation incentives. For new development, the Board will seek new home and commercial development building specifications that help minimize new potable demands being added to water production in an effort to meet GPCD goals.
3. The District will seek to maximize the benefits from recycled water for use in non-potable irrigation in all new development. Non-potable demands are not used in GPCD calculations according to SB7, and thus recycled water can have a significant benefit in lowering future potable water demands.
4. Over the course of the next nine (9) years, the District's Board may also strengthen some existing policies or adopt new policies to help achieve these targets.
5. Compliance with some of these Board policies may require compulsory (rather than voluntary) action, such as requirements to avoid wasteful water practices enforceable by District ordinance addressing excessive runoff from irrigation and sprinkling which may result in the imposition of fine or other sanctions for water waste violation.
6. Each year a progress update will be used to analyze the basis for meeting the 2020 GPCD target and an annual work plan and budget

will be developed to stay on track or pursue additional measures and will be brought before the Board for adoption and to reconfirm the goal of meeting the SB7 mandate.

Adopted by Rancho Murieta Community Services District's Board of Directors	July 20, 2011
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