



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR



JARED BLUMENFELD
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

Informational Drought Meeting for County Executive Staff: Projected Impacts, Funding Opportunities, Planning Requirements

Dear Members of County Boards of Supervisors:

State agencies have evaluated dry well reporting and forecasts of groundwater elevation changes due to the worsening drought conditions and anticipate significant impacts to communities across California, including those served by state small water systems and domestic wells.

On May 26, 2022, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, staff from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) will host an informational meeting for county executive staff to learn more about projected drought impacts and funding opportunities available through the State Water Board, DWR, and the Office of Emergency Services. The presentations will also cover relevant provisions from [Executive Order N-7-22](#), signed by Governor Newsom on March 28, 2022, and new drought planning requirements for counties from [Senate Bill 552](#), which was enacted in 2021.

This will be a remote meeting with no physical meeting location. State Water Board Chair Joaquin Esquivel, and DWR Director Karla Nemeth will attend. A quorum of the State Water Board will not be present. **Please RSVP by May 23, 2022 at:**

https://bit.ly/county_drought

One key objective of the meeting is to encourage counties to submit proposals for the State Water Board's [County-wide and Regional Funding Program](#). This program is designed to help counties address drought and contamination issues that can be especially challenging for state small water systems and domestic wells, the owners of which are not directly eligible for funding awards from the state. The State Water Board recognizes that with financial assistance from the state, counties can be well positioned to implement emergency relief for these entities. State Water Board funding to implement local and regional programs cannot be issued immediately upon emergency occurrence. Therefore, counties are strongly encouraged to apply as soon as possible to be ready to respond to emergencies this summer.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Eligible activities may include outreach, interim solutions like bottled and hauled water, kiosk filling stations, domestic well testing, point-of-use or point-of-entry treatment, and long-term solutions, like well repair or replacement. The State Water Board also has existing technical assistance programs that can help coordinate efforts to consolidate households into larger public water systems as a long-term solution, where feasible. Additional information pertaining to eligible entities, project types, funding limitations, and how to apply can be found on the State Water Board's webpage for the [County-wide and Regional Funding Program](#).

Your participation in the Informational Drought Meeting, on May 26, 2022, is strongly encouraged to learn more about this program and several other drought topics relevant to counties. If you have questions regarding the meeting, please contact Molly Williams in our Office of Public Participation at Molly.Williams@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Eileen Sobeck
Executive Director
State Water Resources Control Board