



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NEWS RELEASE

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Feb. 19, 2014

METROPOLITAN GENERAL MANAGER ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING CALIFORNIA DROUGHT LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

Jeffrey Kightlinger, general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, issues the following statement regarding today's announcement by Gov. Jerry Brown and leaders of the state Legislature in response to historic drought conditions facing California:

“Strategic funding of drought relief programs can lessen the impacts, and this proposal is a very important first step to providing that assistance. Expediting the flow of funding and removing regulatory barriers to relief efforts are important tools for the governor and the Legislature.

“Given that it would take a historic series of storms throughout the rest of the winter and spring to merely get back to an ‘average’ rain year, this drought presents an extremely serious challenge for California. The collaborative approach announced today by the governor and the legislative leadership exemplifies how we must face this drought as one state.”

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving nearly 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.