

NIPOMO COMMUNITY

BOARD MEMBERS

CRAIG ARMSTRONG, PRESIDENT
JAMES HARRISON, VICE PRESIDENT
LARRY VIERHEILIG, DIRECTOR
DAN GADDIS, DIRECTOR
BOB BLAIR, DIRECTOR



Serving the Community Since 1965

SERVICES DISTRICT

STAFF

MICHAEL S. LEBRUN, GENERAL MANAGER
LISA BOGNUDA, FINANCE DIRECTOR
PETER SEVCIK, P.E., DIRECTOR OF ENG. & OPS.
MICHAEL W. SEITZ, GENERAL COUNSEL

148 SOUTH WILSON STREET POST OFFICE BOX 326 NIPOMO, CA 93444 - 0326
(805) 929-1133 FAX (805) 929-1932 Website address: ncsd.ca.gov

Our Plan to Address the Water Shortage and Your Role in Conservation

Dear Customer:

March 31, 2014

With the region already in a potentially severe water shortage, the purpose of this letter is to update you about critical water supply challenges and our planned response.

Our Stressed Water Supply. Nipomo's sole source of water—the groundwater basin—has declined below sustainable levels. The unprecedented drought is one important cause, and continued growth and increased water demand are additional long-term causes.

The District has been taking aggressive actions for many years to respond to these water supply concerns.

Declining groundwater levels threaten to begin allowing ocean saltwater to infiltrate and contaminate our freshwater supply.

Information about Current and Supplemental Rates. The District's four-tier conservation rates will stay in place as well as the already approved rate changes for fall 2014 and 2015. The District's rates are currently among the lowest in the region. But our low-cost groundwater supply is no longer enough. When supplemental water arrives in 2015, a supplemental charge must be added to your bill to pay for this needed new water source.

Your Questions and Input are Important to Us. Because the drought and falling groundwater levels impact each of our customers and the entire community, we will provide additional information in the coming months, hold public meetings, and seek your input before a final decision on drought rates is made this July.

Very truly yours,

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

The District's Drought Response

First, the District has succeeded in obtaining supplemental water supplies and is constructing essential, but costly facilities to bring that water to our community. Construction is already underway and new water supplies will begin to be available starting next year.

Second, the District is developing a Water Shortage Response Plan and associated drought rates to motivate customers to reduce water use. These rates are proposed to be based on a set of five escalating drought stages. At each higher stage, the rates would be increased to motivate people to conserve increasing amounts of water, and also make up for the financial loss from reduced water sales. In short, the more you conserve the less you pay and the more you use, the more you pay. The specific rates needed to meet conservation needs are being developed.

Third, the District is working with neighboring water suppliers, the County and the court to ensure an effective and coordinated basin-wide drought response that everyone using area ground water participates in.