

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-09-7

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY*, SAN
BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF
A WATER SUPPLY ALERT**

WHEREAS, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency* (Agency) is a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan); and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan's two main sources of imported water, the Colorado River and Northern California, both of which face continuing and heightened drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, warm temperatures and extremely dry soils have depleted the expected runoff water from the Upper Colorado River Basin snowpack and Northern Sierra snowpack into reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, storage in Lake Powell, Lake Mead, and Lake Oroville are each at record low levels and that many reservoirs throughout the state are well below average conditions at this date; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources State Water Project (SWP) Table A Allocation for 2021 is at only five percent of contract amounts; and

WHEREAS, a zero percent initial SWP Allocation is anticipated for 2022 due to severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Reclamation studies indicate a first shortage declaration for 2022 for the Colorado River System; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency and its retail agencies have invested billions of dollars in conservation and other investments to increase the utilization of local supplies; and

WHEREAS, these programs increase water supply reliability and reduce the region's need to import water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan has made recent investments in its delivery system to add flexibility, allowing Metropolitan to deliver water from either of its imported water sources to most of the service area; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan has been actively adjusting system operations and partnering with its member agencies to minimize Metropolitan's use of SWP supplies in order to preserve this water for use in areas like the Agency that are only able to take SWP supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Agency and its retail member agencies are increasing public messaging to create a heightened awareness of the region's supply challenges; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous resources and programs to assist us in region-wide water use efficiency efforts, including rebates for water saving devices and information on water-saving strategies at <https://www.ieua.org/drought-status/>, and www.bewaterwise.com.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency* that it acknowledges and supports Metropolitan's Water Supply Alert condition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agency encourages retail water agencies in its service area to implement local water-use efficiency measures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agency is coordinating with its retail agencies to develop regional media and outreach campaigns to communicate the need for continued conservation to the general public, businesses, stakeholders, industries and public officials; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Agency will work to obtain state funding and other resources to accelerate conservation and supply programs.

ADOPTED this 15th day of September 2021.

Jasmin A. Hall
President of the Inland Empire Utilities
Agency* and of the Board of Directors thereof

ATTEST:

Steven J. Elie
Secretary/ Treasurer of the Inland Empire
Utilities Agency* and of the Board of
Directors thereof

*a Municipal Water District

