



NOTICE OF ENGINEERING/ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING August 4, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the San Lorenzo Valley Water District has called a meeting of the Engineering/Environmental Committee to be held on **Friday, August 4, 2023, 8:30 a.m.**, SLVWD Conference Room, 12788 Highway 9, Boulder Creek.

Any person in need of any reasonable modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting may contact the District Secretary's Office at (831) 430-4636 a minimum of 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

This meeting is being conducted as an in-person meeting under the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953, and a quorum of the Committee must participate from the location(s) within the District that are identified above. Members of the public may attend the meeting at the identified location(s). Teleconferencing/videoconferencing access as set forth below is being provided as a convenience only and is not guaranteed. The meeting may continue in person even if teleconferencing/videoconferencing capability is disrupted or unavailable.

The meeting access information is as follows:

<https://meet.goto.com/604256661>

You can also dial in using your phone.

(For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.)

United States (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679

- One-touch: <tel:+18668994679,,604256661#>

United States: +1 (571) 317-3116

- One-touch: <tel:+15713173116,,604256661#>

Access Code: 604-256-661

AGENDA

1. Convene Meeting/Roll Call
2. Oral Communications

This portion of the agenda is reserved for Oral Communications by the public for items which are not on the Agenda. Please understand that California law (The Brown Act)

limits what the Board can do regarding issues raised during Oral Communication. No action or discussion may occur on issues outside of those already listed on today's agenda. Any person may address the Committee at this time, on any subject that lies within the jurisdiction of the District. Normally, presentations must not exceed three (3) minutes in length, and individuals may only speak once during Oral Communications. Any Director may request that the matter be placed on a future agenda or staff may be directed to provide a brief response.

3. New Business:

Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address each scheduled item prior to Committee action. The Chairperson of the Committee may establish a time limit for members of the public to address the Committee on agenda items.

- a. RAINFALL TOTALS AND CHANGING THE DROUGHT STATUS
Discussion by the Committee the drought status.

4. Unfinished Business:

Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address each scheduled item prior to Committee action. The Chairperson of the Committee may establish a time limit for members of the public to address the Committee on agenda items.

- a. ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS UPDATE
Review and discussion by the Committee regarding projects updates.

5. Informational Material

Here is a link to previous Engineering/Environmental Committee meeting minutes:
[All Engineering/Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes | San Lorenzo Valley Water District \(slvwd.com\)](#)

6. Adjournment

Agenda documents, including materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet, are available for public inspection and may be reviewed at the office of the District Secretary, 13060 Highway 9, Boulder Creek, CA 95006 during normal business hours. Such documents may also be available on the District website at www.slvwd.com subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

Certification of Posting

I hereby certify that on July 31, 2023, I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda in the outside display case at the District Office, 13060 Highway 9, and at the SLVWD Boardroom, 12788 Highway 9, Boulder Creek, California, said time being at least 24 hours in advance of the special meeting of the Engineering & Environmental Committee of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District in compliance with California Government Code Section 54956.

Executed at Boulder Creek, California, on July 31, 2023.

Holly B. Hossack, District Secretary

MEMO

DATE: August 4, 2023
TO: Engineering & Environmental Committee, SLVWD
FROM: Environmental Programs Manager/Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: Rainfall Totals and Changing the Drought Status

WRITTEN BY: Carly Blanchard
PRESENTED BY: Carly Blanchard

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Engineering & Environmental Committee review this memo and make a recommendation on Drought Stage selection to the Board of Directors.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

It is recommended that the Engineering & Environmental Committee select a drought stage to recommend to the Board of Directors to adopt.

BACKGROUND

The San Lorenzo Valley area has received about 71 inches of rain this water year (since Oct. 1, 2022), about 144% of the District's historical rainfall average (49 inches). While the District continues to encourage customers to use water efficiently and implement voluntary water conservation, staff are recommending the Stage 2 drought designation be lowered to a Stage 1 drought designation. Stages and their restrictions are included as exhibit A.

District customers are averaging 53 Gallons per Capita per Day (GPCD) of usage. Since 1995, per capita water usage varied from a high of 104 GPCD in 2006 to a low of 70 GPCD in 2015. Overall, per capita consumption has decreased, which is most likely due to the past drought, state mandated water use reduction targets, more efficient appliances and plumbing, and conservation efforts made by SLVWD and its customers. A summary table of consumption from 2017-2022 is attached as exhibit B.

ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS TO DISTRICT WEBSITE

- Exhibit A: Water Shortage Stages (with exceptions)
- Exhibit B: Consumption 2017-2022
- [Annual Rainfall Totals - Boulder Creek](#)

San Lorenzo Valley Water District Water Shortage Stages (with exceptions)

Stage 1

Anticipated shortage: <10 %

Restrictions:

- Lawn, landscape or other vegetated area can only be watered before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.*
 - **Except** when performed with a bucket or watering can, or by use of a drip irrigation system or similar low volume, nonspray irrigation equipment, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of allowing landscape contractors to adjust or repair an irrigation system
- Shutoff nozzles are required on hoses.
- It's prohibited to wash down hard or paved services, or fill residential swimming pools
 - **Except** when it is necessary to alleviate safety or sanitation hazards or to prepare paved surfaces for sealing
- Restaurants can only serve water upon request.
- Hotels and motels must offer option to forego daily linen laundering.

Stage 2

Anticipated shortage: 10-20%

All Stage 1 restrictions remain in place, plus:

- District will authorize 2 "watering days" per week for lawns, landscape and other vegetated areas.
 - **Except** when performed with a bucket or watering can, or by use of a drip irrigation system or similar low volume, non-spray irrigation equipment, or for very short periods of time for the express purpose of allowing landscape contractors to adjust or repair an irrigation system. Hourly restrictions set forth in subsection 1 of Stage 1 water shortage restrictions set out in Section 6 above continue to apply on authorized watering days. This provision shall not apply to commercial growers/nurseries or to residential vegetable gardens/edible plantings watered with a hose equipped with a shutoff nozzle.
- Watering is limited to 15 minutes per station per assigned day.
 - **Except** this provision shall not apply to automatic irrigation systems exclusively using low output sprinkler equipment, including rotors, stream rotors, or micro-spray systems
- It's prohibited to wash building exteriors.
 - **Exception** of window washing and preparation of property for painting or for sale

Stage 3

Anticipated shortage: 20-30%

All Stage 1 & 2 restrictions remain in place, plus the District may establish water rationing.

Stage 4

Anticipated shortage: >30%

All Stage 1, 2 & 3 restrictions remain in place, plus:

- It's prohibited to water lawns or turf, wash vehicles, or install new landscaping that requires any watering.*
- Rights to hydrants and bulk water may be rescinded.
 - **Except** by regularly constituted fire protection agencies for fire suppression purposes

Section 10. Additional Exceptions. The District Manager, upon application made in writing by a customer on a form promulgated by the District and accompanied by supporting documentation, shall be authorized to issue an exception from the strict application of any restriction, regulation or prohibition enforced pursuant to this Ordinance, upon the customer's production of substantial evidence demonstrating the existence of one or more of the following circumstances that are particular to that customer and which are not generally shared by other District customers:

1. Failure to approve the requested exception would cause a condition having an adverse effect on the health, sanitation, fire protection, or safety of the customer or members of the public served by the customer;
2. Strict application of the subject restriction, regulation or prohibition would impose a severe or undue hardship on a particular business customer or render it infeasible for a particular business customer or class of business customers to remain in operation;
3. Alternative restrictions to which the customer is willing to adhere are available that would achieve the same level of demand reduction as the restriction for which an exception is being sought and such alternative restrictions are enforceable by the District;
4. Circumstances concerning the customer's property or business have changed since the implementation of the subject restriction warranting a change in the customer's water usage allocation;
5. A health care facility customer using industry best management practices is eligible for an exception upon demonstrating that the subject restriction, regulation or prohibition is interfering with or preventing it from providing health care service to its customers in accordance with industry hygiene, sanitation and health care standards; or
6. A business customer has already implemented environmental sustainability measures that have reduced water consumption to the maximum extent feasible. As used in this subsection the term "environmental sustainability measures" refers to installation of high efficiency plumbing fixtures, devices, equipment, and appliances, recycled

water systems, and landscaping consisting exclusively of lowwater-using plant materials using drip or similar high efficiency, nonspray irrigation systems, or to buildings that are designed, built, and continuously operated according to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification standards.

Read the full Water Shortage Emergency Ordinance 106 [here](#) on our website.

Year	Gallons Per Day Per Person (26,000 Population)	Gallons Per Day Per Connection (7,915 per CAFR)	Average Units per month per person	Average Units per month per Connection	
2017	55.56	182.52	2.26	7.42	Full year with Lompico usage
2018	54.36	178.57	2.21	7.26	
2019	52.03	170.92	2.12	6.95	
2020	55.23	181.43	2.25	7.38	
2021	50.78	166.82	2.07	6.78	
2022	49.40	162.28	2.01	6.60	
Average	52.90	173.76	2.15	7.07	

MEMO

DATE: August 4, 2023
TO: Engineering & Environmental Committee, SLVWD
FROM: Environmental Programs Manager/Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: Environmental Project Summary

WRITTEN BY: Carly Blanchard
PRESENTED BY: Carly Blanchard

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Engineering & Environmental Committee review this project summary.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

None

BACKGROUND

Staff have prepared the project summary to provide highlights of particular interest to the Committee.

Staff will be prepared to discuss any of the projects, to whatever depth the Committee desires.

Current Projects

1. CIP Project Permitting
 - a. Lyon & Big Steel Pipeline
 - i. Biological surveys completed in June 2023
 - ii. NOE filed for Irwin & East Lomond
 - b. Redwood Park Pipeline
 - i. Biological surveys completed
 - c. Blue Ridge Tank Replacement
 - i. Biological surveys completed
 - d. Lyon Treatment Plant Access Road Slide (FEMA funded - 2023)
 - i. Awaiting FEMA

- e. 5-mile and Peavine pipeline
 - i. Tree surveys complete in May 2023
- f. Huckleberry Island pipeline replacement
 - i. CEQA NOE to be refiled with updated easement information. Awaiting legal.
 - ii. Staff working to secure easements
- g. Bracken Brae & Forest Springs Consolidation
 - i. IS-MND adopted by BoDs
 - ii. Initial biological surveys completed
- h. Fuel Reduction Annual Maintenance Contract
 - i. Fuel reduction contract awarded, contract in review.
- i. Felton Heights Tank
 - i. Awaiting site selection
- j. Bear Creek Estates
 - i. Median Household Income (MHI) completed and non DAC designated
 - ii. Staff looking for other sources of funding
 - iii. County of Santa Cruz submitted SRF application for CSA-7
- k. Alta Via
 - i. Notice of Exemption (NOE) filed
 - ii. Need to complete cultural resources survey for cross-country portion of work
- l. Zayante drive pipeline
 - i. NOE filed
- m. Fall Creek Fish Ladder
 - i. California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) grant manager mid-construction meeting scheduled for August 2023
 - ii. Biological surveys and training complete.
 - iii. Fish relocation completed
- n. Valley Gardens will serve letter
 - i. Package submitted to SANDIS Engineering for review
 - ii. Staff planning to bring the recommendation to the ENV/ENG Committee in September
- o. Orman, Hermosa, and Juanita Pipelines
 - i. NOEs filed in March

2. FEMA

- a. Staff working on appeal with FEMA on denial of hazard tree removal obligation (~\$200,000 denied)
 - b. Staff working with Panorama Environmental to complete all FEMA project Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) reviews.
3. Grants
- a. Bureau of Reclamation Water and Energy Efficiency Projects - WaterSMART (large-scale) grant
 - i. Staff preparing for release of grant program.
 - ii. District will pursue AMI meter replacement (~1 million)
 - b. State Revolving Funding (SRF) - Forest Springs
 - i. Application in process for funding assistance for tank & lateral replacements
4. Conjunctive Use Planning
- a. Regulatory agency permitting (including diversion permitting) in progress.
 - b. Hydrologist kicked-off modeling in March 2023
 - c. Staff working on operational planning.
 - d. Request for information sent to staff & project biologist to develop updated project description.
 - e. Loch Lomond Feasibility Request for Proposals (RFP) in draft stage. Staff planning to release in August 2023.
5. Habitat Conservation Plan
- a. Staff working with consultant (meeting July 31) to move document forward based on future maintenance and projects occurring in sandhills
6. All other projects, outreach, and further project descriptions will be available in the August Environmental Status Report as part of the BoD agenda