



**For Immediate Release:
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State-Wide Water Shortages Facing the Inland Empire Governor Schwarzenegger Proclaims State of Emergency

Inland Empire - In response to the Governor's State of Emergency, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) is calling for all households and businesses within the Inland Empire to step up their water conservation efforts. "We need residents and business owners to recognize the severity of the drought that is affecting us," stated IEUA Board President Terry Catlin. "A few rainy days are not enough to give us the relief we need to get us out of this drought. It's time to take shorter showers, fix your leaky faucets, and turn off your sprinklers when it is raining outside! These are necessary steps to answering our water woes," continued Catlin.

The Governor's proclamation is requesting that all urban water users immediately increase their water conservation activities in an effort to reduce their individual water use by 20 percent by as early as March 30, 2009. According to the proclamation, if the emergency conditions have not been sufficiently mitigated, the Governor will consider additional steps. These could include the institution of mandatory water rationing and mandatory reductions in water use; reoperation of major reservoirs in the state to minimize impacts of the drought; additional regulatory relief or permit streamlining as allowed under the Emergency Services Act; and other actions necessary to prevent, remedy or mitigate the effects of the extreme drought conditions.

"IEUA and its local water providers have been meeting regularly to help provide solutions to the current water crisis," said Catlin. "We will continue to build on our efforts to use water more efficiently."

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency distributes imported water from Metropolitan Water District and provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, operates the Chino 1 Desalter, and other related utility services for the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Montclair, Ontario, Upland, Fontana, Rancho Cucamonga, and the Cucamonga Valley and Monte Vista Water Districts. Approximately 850,000 people reside in IEUA's service area.

For more information contact Sondra Elrod at (909) 993-1747 or visit IEUA's website at www.ieua.org.