



# San Francisco Water Power Sewer

Operator of the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System

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## MEMORANDUM

Date: February 21, 2014

To: Commissioner ~~Vince Courtney, President~~ *Ann Moller Caen, Vice President*

From: *Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.* General Manager

Subject: Declaration of Emergency - 2014 Drought Conditions

In accordance with Chapter 6, Article IV, Section 6.60(D) and Chapter 21, Section 21.15 of the Administrative Code of the City and County of San Francisco, I am declaring an emergency on behalf of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC).

California continues to experience one of the most extreme droughts since hydrologic recordkeeping began. The Hetch Hetchy system is no exception. As of February 19, precipitation in the Hetch Hetchy watershed was 47% of normal and snowpack was 22% of normal. We have requested that our customers voluntarily reduce water use 10% system-wide. On February 10, Mayor Lee issued an Executive Directive to all city departments outlining actions to be taken to reduce water use. It also directed the PUC to develop alternative sources of water supplies for both potable and non-potable uses.

This request for emergency declaration is to provide immediate authorization to enable the Water Enterprise to procure construction and professional services to extend our water supplies. Immediate actions include rehabilitation of the Lower Cherry Aqueduct which was damaged during the recent Rim Fire (a federal and state declared emergency) to be able to access the 200,000 acre-feet of water storage in Cherry Lake by October 1, 2014; pump station and water treatment plant improvements in the Sunol area and Thomas Shaft so that we can safely and efficiently treat supplies from Cherry Lake at Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant; services for installing water-saving plumbing fixtures; and other necessary work to extend our precious water supplies.

For the Lower Cherry Aqueduct, the design is being completed through an existing as-needed contract which included a streamlined competitive process for this design Task Order. HHWP and Infrastructure staff have been directed to use a pre-qualified list of large pipeline contractors to develop a short competitive process to select the construction contractor who can be brought on while the project is under design so that there will be no delays in constructing the project.

- Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor
- Vince Courtney  
President
- Ann Moller Caen  
Vice President
- Francesca Vietor  
Commissioner
- Anson Moran  
Commissioner
- Art Torres  
Commissioner
- Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.  
General Manager



This request for emergency declaration is for resources and materials to perform work as soon as possible that is beyond the capabilities of City resources. Total estimated costs at this time are \$10,000,000, but will be dependent on the duration and depth of the drought.

I am therefore declaring the existence of an emergency for contracting purposes. This declaration does not serve as a declaration of water shortage emergency under Water Code Sections 350 et. seq., which the Commission may adopt in the near future depending on conditions as a means of requiring mandatory rationing by our customers. I trust that this meets with your concurrence and approval.

CONCUR AND APPROVE

~~Wince Courtney, President~~

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

*Ann Moller Caer, Vice President*

cc: Commissioners  
City Controller