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GOVERNOR ISSUES MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS

INLAND EMPIRE, CALIFORNIA – Taking bold and decisive action, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. announced the first ever statewide mandatory water reductions today after the California Department of Water Resources’ snow survey did not detect any snow at an elevation of 6,800 feet in the Sierra Nevada. This was the first time in 75 years that no snow was found during the annual survey that takes place in early April.

These findings, which confirm the ongoing severity of the drought, prompted the governor to issue an executive order to reduce water usage across California by 25% from 2013 levels. In addition, the order will also require the replacement of 50 million square feet of lawns throughout the state with drought tolerant landscaping in partnership with local governments; and, direct the creation of a temporary, statewide consumer rebate program to replace old appliances with more water and energy efficient models.

“While agencies within the Chino Basin have saved substantial amounts of water since water conservation emergency regulations were first adopted in July 2014, there are many more opportunities for us as a region to conserve in even greater amounts,” said IEUA Board President Terry Catlin. “The executive order calls out the demand for expedited actions that are needed to reduce the harmful impacts from water shortages and other impacts of the drought.”

“This significant action was necessary to protect our great state, and as Californians we must join together and commit to all doing our part to save this vital resource,” said General Manager Joe Grindstaff. “As an agency, we will do our part by working closely with the member agencies and communities we serve by providing financial resources where appropriate to ensure these new conservation measures are quickly and fully implemented.”

For water savings tips and rebate information, please visit IEUA’s website at IEUA.org.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 830,000 people through its member agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, and Upland.

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