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To: All CCID Landowners and Water Users

From: Chris White, General Manager *W*

Subject: Potential 2014 Critical Water Year Information

Date: January 16, 2014

As you are no doubt aware, hydrologic conditions throughout California have grown steadily and significantly worse, and the District is now making plans for a likely Critical Year declaration by the Bureau of Reclamation next month. While that declaration has not officially been made, we want to give our consumers an early notice so that preparations can be made for what may be a very challenging year.

The attached memo gives some details about the amount of water that we expect to be able to deliver to our consumers this year if a Critical Year declaration is made, and some of the factors that are beyond our control that may affect our water supply. **WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO READ THE ATTACHED INFORMATION SHEET.**

We are also notifying all in-District consumers and landowners who have access to wells to be prepared to use them this year. Also, since there are no deliveries to Class 2 lands in a Critical Year, private well water would have to be used. Subject to our policy guidelines, the District will assist to the extent possible in transporting private well water through our canal system.

Along with the allocation amounts shown on the information sheet, there will be a change in the water rates. The CCID Board of Directors will meet later this month to officially adopt new Critical Year water rates, and we will send this information out by the first week of February.

If conditions change, we will notify everyone as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please call the CCID office at (209) 826-1421.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
IMPORTANT WATER SUPPLY INFORMATION

Preparing for a Critical 2014 Water Year

We know that 2013 was the driest rainfall year of record throughout California; we also know that inflow into Shasta Lake since last October is the second lowest of record going back to 1922. Near record low inflow, together with a fairly dry weather forecast means it's nearly certain that CCID will start 2014 with a critical water supply. If dry conditions persist through January, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) will declare a Critical (75%) allocation under the Exchange Contract.

Also important to note: Analysis of the USBR dry year operations forecast, which includes regulatory export pumping restrictions designed to protect fish, indicates that they will probably have to release water from Friant Dam in accordance with the Exchange Contract, **for the first time in history**, in order to meet our irrigation demands. In that case, not only would water be delivered to CCID from the Delta-Mendota Canal, as it normally occurs, water would also be delivered down the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam. Should this happen, CCID will have strict maximum flow limits in months when San Joaquin River deliveries are occurring. (According to our modeling, this would most likely occur during May, June, July and August.)

Therefore, on February 1, 2014, the District will start Critical Year irrigation deliveries, allocating a maximum quantity of water to each in-District grower on a per acre basis.

The Critical Year allocation levels will be as follows:

Tier 1 – 2.50 acre-feet/gross acre (USBR Surface Water Supply)

Tier 2 – 0.50 acre-feet/gross acre (CCID Well Water)

Water users can use their water any time from February through November EXCEPT - there will be strict monthly limits if and when the USBR makes deliveries to CCID from Friant Dam down the San Joaquin River.

Allocation in Inches per Gross Acre

	Tier 1 USBR	Tier 2 Wells
May	4.25*	1.00
June	5.00*	1.00
July	5.25*	1.00
August	4.75*	1.00

*Maximum allocation in inches per gross acre. It's possible that San Joaquin River deliveries will occur during more months and monthly maximum limits will apply. It's also possible under extremely dry conditions that even less water will be available in these months.

**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 IMPORTANT WATER SUPPLY INFORMATION
 Preparing for a Critical 2014 Water Year (continued)**

To recap:

- 1) It appears certain that USBR will declare a Critical Year Allocation for the Exchange Contractors under the Exchange Contract on February 20, 2014.
- 2) Due to the regulatory restrictions in the Delta, if dry conditions persist, the USBR will not be able to deliver all of our Critical Year supply through the Delta and the Delta-Mendota Canal. For the first time ever, they will have to release water from Friant this summer to meet our irrigation demands.
- 3) CCID will start irrigation deliveries on February 1, 2014 under a Critical Year allocation schedule to its landowners and consumers.
 - a. There will no water available for CCID Class 2 lands. Class 2 landowners will have to pump wells for their water supply.
 - b. There will be no Conserved Water transfers out of the District. Conserved water will be kept in CCID and be part of the allocation.
 - c. We will be starting the process to purchase water from private wells, our consumers, and other sources to make that small amount of water available on a subscription basis in addition to the allocation. We will be asking for participation in this program in February.
 - d. The water rates will be adopted by the Board of Directors and made available by CCID prior to February 1st.

Critical Year
Allocation in Inches per Gross Acre

	<u>Tier 1</u> <u>USBR</u>	<u>Tier 2</u> <u>Wells</u>	<u>Total*</u>
January	0	0	0
February	1.75	0	1.75
March	3.50	0.50	4.00
April	3.75	0.75	4.25
May	4.25*	1.00	5.25
June	5.00*	1.00	6.00
July	5.25*	1.00	6.25
August	4.75*	1.00	5.75
September	1.00	0.50	1.50
October	0.50	0.25	0.75
November	0.25	0	0.25
December	0	0	0
Total	30.00	6.00	36.00

*These are absolute maximums in months that we presently expect the USBR to make deliveries to CCID from the San Joaquin River. Should extreme dry conditions persist, even less water might be available during those months.

Signed:  Dated: 16 JAN 2014
 Chris White, General Manager