



Memo

To: Board of Directors
From: Karl Drew, General Manager
Date: September 11, 2015
Subject: San Bernardino County Water Conference – August 21, 2015

The SBC Water Conference was held at California State University San Bernardino and was hosted by the Building Industry Association of Southern California, Baldy View Chapter.

The information handed out by the BIA stresses that part of the solution in addressing the drought is not to reduce or halt housing construction, but the solution is to reduce outdoor water use through landscaping, and retrofitting indoor water fixtures in older homes. They also pointed out that based on the Countywide Vision Water Inventory, San Bernardino County has an adequate water supply to support the current population, agricultural needs, future residents and economic growth until 2035.

State of the State's Water Supply: The first session was a panel that discussed the State water supply issues.

Ensuring our Water Independence: This panel discussed storm water capture, maximizing recycled water use by regions, groundwater recharge, new options for conservation and SAWPA Grant funds available for water rate stability. A common theme among all the speakers was regional partnerships where the cooperation of various entities would optimize the benefits of the above items in a region.

Emergency Regulations and the Drought: The panel discussed some of the impacts that are a result of the drought and the State's Emergency Regulations. The State has adopted a new model landscaping ordinance, gray water systems are becoming more popular in California, and the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Board is concerned about the use of more Colorado River water as its salt content is higher than State Water Project water.