ENSURING ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR ALL COMMUNITIES:

Resources Available to Assist Local Communities with Water Shortages

Leaders in the Sacramento Valley are committed to advancing a comprehensive approach to expand and ensure access to safe drinking water.

With the dry years in the Sacramento Valley, the following are programs that are available to assist small communities and households with drinking water challenges.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Department of Water Resources (DWR)

- Small Community Drought Relief Program
  - Eligible Agencies (Counties, Cities, Special Districts, Mutuals, Non-Profits)
  - Eligible Projects (See Table 1 Guidelines)
  - Applications Anytime (First come, first served—provisions for urgency applications)

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Programs

- County-Wide and Regional Funding Program
- Small Community Funding Program:
  - Open Application Process for Small Disadvantaged Communities
  - Administrator to Assist Disadvantaged Communities
  - SAFER Fund Expenditure Plan

Support for Consolidation of Entities

See SB 88 (2015), AB 2501 (2018), and SB 200 (2019) to help deliver drinking water solutions to some impacted communities where consolidation makes sense. See Regionalization link below.

Community Services and Development

- Low Income Household Water Assistance Program
**Non-Profit Organizations**

RCAC Drinking Water Programs
- Drinking Water for Schools
- Bottled Water for Schools
- Drinking Water Well Replacement Grant Program (individual households and small water systems less than 15 connections)
- Household Water Well and Septic System Loan/Grant Program
- Regionalization Facilitation Program

North Valley Community Foundation Drought Relief Program for Glenn County
Electrical and plumbing installation of water tanks and the delivered water. Can be expanded to other interested areas.

**Federal Programs**

Reclamation Domestic Water Supply Projects
Funding in new Inflation Reduction Act will be available through the Bureau of Reclamation for the next ten years (§50231).

**Water Transfers**

Water agencies in Northern California can transfer surface water to neighbors under California law. Transfers within the Sacramento Valley for urban and domestic uses have been prioritized in dry years and can be used in future years to ensure reliable drinking water.

**Coordinated Local Outreach**

The North State Drinking Water Solutions Network meets regularly to coordinate across the region and to provide updated information on resources available to help local communities. See the attached template for County Outreach.

For more information or assistance, or if you have additional resources available, please email Bruce Houdesheldt at bruceh@norcalwater.org.