July 15, 2015

Jeffrey Kightlinger, general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, issues the following statement on the announcement today by the California Department of Water Resources to increase this year’s State Water Project allocation from 15 percent to 20 percent:

“While welcome news, today’s modest increase in State Water Project allocation does not substantially change the water supply picture for Southern California in 2015. Metropolitan will continue to carefully monitor water supply conditions in Northern California and the Colorado River watershed, the sources of our two imported supplies.

“Although Metropolitan continues to maintain water in reserve, we must carefully manage these supplies should the drought stretch beyond this year. Metropolitan has updated its allocation plan should conditions require the district to limit supplies to our 26 member public agencies. Allocation decisions traditionally happen no later than April and go into effect July 1.”

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The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving nearly 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.