

COUNCIL AGENDA: JUNE 17, 2014

SUBJECT: WATER CONSERVATION PHASE II, WATER SYSTEM STATUS

SOURCE: Public Works Department - Field Services Division

COMMENT: Phase II water conservation efforts for 2014 began in March. Actions were prompted by the Governor on January 17<sup>th</sup> proclaiming a State of Emergency and asking all Californians to reduce water consumption by 20%, and referring residents and water agencies to the Save Our Water campaign. Staff has responded with early implementation of our media campaign with newspaper, radio messages and website information.

The City promoted May as water awareness month and provided water conservation information and water saving ideas to the public during the Porterville Fair along with billing inserts heightening the public's awareness. Staff also directly notifies any customer observed over using water by serving them with a door hanger advising them of our voluntary watering schedule and the impact each and every user has on our system.

The water system has been impacted from the lack of rain the last three years. Well yields have shown reductions in gallons per minute of about 16% compared to the five-year average, due to deeper pumping levels. Some wells will occasionally experience air problems with deeper pumping levels and have to be throttled back to correct the situation.

Currently, the City is experiencing a 16% reduction compared to the five-year average and a 32% reduction compared to May 2013 production. Staff anticipates high temperatures and demand throughout July and August and will be continuing public outreach measures on water conservation. Staff will continue to monitor groundwater levels and production, and will inform Council if conditions change requiring Council action, which may include mandatory measures.

RECOMMENDATION: Informational Item.

ATTACHMENT: Production Graph

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Dir BSR Appropriated/Funded

MVB CM JW  
ACTING

Report No. II-1

# Monthly Production Status 2014 Comparison to 2013 & 5 Year Average

