

RESOLUTION NO. 14-094

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
ESTABLISHING POLICIES FOR PROVISION OF EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY
OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

WHEREAS, California is experiencing one of the driest years in state history, prompting the County and State to declare a state of emergency and for the City to implement its local water shortage contingency plans; and

WHEREAS, owners of some private wells in the unincorporated area near the City have reported that their wells have gone dry, and water well drillers report a backlog of requests to deepen wells; and

WHEREAS, both the City and the Nacimiento Project Commission have received requests for either filling of water trucks or temporary supply of unused Nacimiento water; and

WHEREAS, the City could receive additional requests for water supply to individual rural residents whose wells have gone dry, from neighborhoods looking to supplement water through treatment and wheeling arrangements with the City, and possibly from irrigators seeking to use unused Nacimiento Project water or available recycled water; and

WHEREAS, the City at times has issued permits for the use of water from fire hydrants for temporary uses within the City limits and bills such usage at the same rates as other potable water customers; and

WHEREAS, the City's adopted Water Conservation and Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Municipal Code chapter 14.02) provides for the discretionary suspension of the issuance of new hydrant meters and/or the recall all outstanding hydrant meters at Levels 2 and 3 water supply shortage conditions; and

WHEREAS, at Level 4, no new commitments or arrangements to provide water are allowed; and

WHEREAS, although City continues to operate at a Level 2 water supply shortage condition, as a result of the City's careful water supply planning, diversification, and conservation efforts, the City has sufficient water supplies to serve the existing and future water demands of the City, and also has sufficient resources to serve a limited amount of emergency water to neighbors outside City limits that are facing a hardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles does hereby establish policies in support of the following:

1. Allowing potable water haulers to apply for hydrant meters to provide emergency water to rural residents outside the City limits, subject to City discretion to disapprove, cease or suspend any such hydrant water use in accordance with the City's Water Conservation and Water Shortage Contingency Plan and other City powers and authorities.
2. Entertaining proposals to treat and wheel unused Nacimiento supplies to neighborhoods bordering the City to more fully utilize available surface supplies, lessen pumping from the basin, supplement water supply where needed most, and address pressing needs of rural residents in unincorporated areas.

3. Entertaining proposals to wheel a portion of the City's unused and untreated Nacimiento entitlement on a temporary basis and/or available recycled water for irrigation and/or other non-potable uses outside City limits to supplement area water supplies, lessen basin pumping, and more fully utilize available surface water supplies.

The policies established herein in support of the provision of emergency water supplies do not apply to applications for new and permanent water service connections to customers outside existing City limits.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles at a regular meeting of said City Council held on the 1st day of July, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Martin, Steinbeck, Strong
NOES: Hamon, Picanco
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:



Duane Picanco, Mayor

ATTEST:


Caryn Jackson, Deputy City Clerk