



City of Avenal

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Avenal, CA 93204
Phone (559) 386-5766
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March 17, 2014

Mr. Carl Wofford, Warden
Avenal State Prison
P. O. Box 8
Avenal, CA 93204

RE: 2014 USBR Water Allocation
& Local Emergency Declaration

Dear Warden Wofford:

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the 2014 USBR Water Year (March 1, 2014 – February 28, 2015) and the reduced allocation to the City. Due to the on-going water shortage and drought conditions in California, the City's allocation has been reduced by the Bureau of Reclamation to "50% of historic use"; however, we were fortunate to be one (1) of two (2) contractors in our unit to receive approval for Public Health & Safety water which is beneficial, but not enough to meet need and demand through the 2014 water year. The following is a summary of how the water year looks at this time:

City of Avenal USBR Contract Water Allocation at 100%:	3,500 acre feet
2013 Water Used:	2,603 acre feet (est.)
2014 Water Estimate:	
Historic Use Calculation: (number needed for 2014 calculation)	<u>2696 acre feet</u>
50% of Historic Use:	1348 acre feet
Public Health & Safety Allocation	+736 acre feet

1 st Estimate 2014 Water Allocation:	2084 acre feet

On February 27, 2014, the Avenal City Council declared a Local Emergency due to reduction of the City's sole source of potable water, as well as the overall water shortage up and down the State. The declaration included implementing Tier 2 Water Conservation Measures with an expected 20% reduction of water use by each and every user, effective immediately. Letters have been mailed to all water users requesting compliance through water reduction/conservation measures.

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Warden Wofford, the on-going unreliability of Bureau water has been a great concern for many years; however, the 2014 year has presented challenges that far exceed any issue faced in prior years. We are, therefore, requesting Avenal State Prison's continued support and assistance in implementing water reduction/conservation measures in order to achieve the 20% water use reduction until further notice. The City expects to receive a second water estimate in April. Once information is received, your facility will be updated on any changes.

City Hall, City Departments and City facilities are subject to the same reduction requirements. The following are a few examples of steps taken by the City to decrease potable water use:

- ✓ Transition in process to irrigate City landscaping and parks: irrigation systems are undergoing retrofit; well water will be transported to locations by water truck which will connect to each system for irrigation.
- ✓ Continue restricted use of hydrant meters by contractors; they have (and will continue to be) directed to use well water from the Sports Complex.
- ✓ Code Enforcement/ Water Conservation Staff and their presence in the community has been increased to provide additional information to the community on the water shortage and need to conserve, issue warnings as needed and cite repeat violators.
- ✓ City Council and Staff will continue to review and develop appropriate and meaningful policies to assist in water reduction and conservation under this current climate.

The City values the long-term partnership with Avenal State Prison. Thank you for working with us during these challenging times.

If you need further information or would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me at 559-386-5766.

Sincerely,

CITY OF AVENAL



Melissa G. Whitten
City Manager

mgw/

cc: Mike Mayes, Associate Warden – Business Services
Dean Mehaffey, CDCR – Facilities Asset Management Branch
Rob Williams, Public Works Director – City of Avenal