

## **CHAPTER 4**

# **EXPANDED POTABLE WATER SERVICE AREA POLICY**

### **CHAPTER HISTORY**

Effective September 9, 2004

Amended August 9, 2012

The current Expanded Potable Water Service Area Policy for the Rancho California Water District is enclosed.

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**SECTION 1 EXPANDED POTABLE WATER SERVICE AREA POLICY****1.0 General Policy Statement**

The Board of Directors (Board) of the Rancho California Water District (RCWD/District) has established policies governing the provision of potable water service outside of RCWD's jurisdictional boundary. It shall be the general policy of the RCWD to consider for annexation only those properties which lie within the current Sphere of Influence Boundary as approved by the Riverside County Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) (see Exhibit A). For those potential water service areas contiguous to RCWD's jurisdictional boundary that request water service from RCWD, the Board will consider annexation into RCWD or an interagency water wheeling agreement provided that there is no financial impact or water supply reduction to the customers within RCWD's jurisdictional boundary.

**2.0 Definitions**

Board. "Board" means the Board of Directors of Rancho California Water District.

District. "District" means the Rancho California Water District and/or the staff thereof.

EMWD. "EMWD" means Eastern Municipal Water District.

LAFCO. "LAFCO" means Local Agency Formation Commission.

MCWD. "MCWD" means Murrieta County Water District.

MWD. "MWD" means Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Potable Water. "Potable Water" means that water furnished the customer which is pure, wholesome, and does not endanger the lives or health of human beings and which conforms to Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the United States Public Health Service Drinking Water Standards, Latest Edition.

RCWD. "RCWD" means the Rancho California Water District and/or the staff thereof.

Sphere of Influence. "Sphere of Influence" means a planning tool adopted and used by LAFCO to designate the future boundary and service area for a special district.

WMWD. "WMWD" means Western Municipal Water District.

### **3.0 Specific Policy Guidelines**

- 3.1 Any agreement to provide service outside of RCWD's jurisdictional boundary shall require LAFCO approval, per Government Code Section §56133.
- 3.2 For properties considering annexation into RCWD, the properties will not be allocated a local groundwater benefit, and will be subject to MWD's Tier 2 Imported Water Rates.
- 3.3 For properties requesting a wheeling agreement through RCWD's facilities, a water supply (or water supply alternative at the discretion of the Board) will be required to be provided in order for RCWD to wheel the water supply (no water supply capacity will be provided by RCWD).
- 3.4 Continue in-fill annexations into RCWD's existing sphere of influence boundary area (Murrieta Valley and Redhawk South areas).
- 3.5 As part of a future update to RCWD's Water Facilities Master Plan, reanalyze the water service requirements for the Rock Mountain area. Continue to work with WMWD for opportunities to annex this area into RCWD or to develop a wheeling agreement.
- 3.6 WMWD to continue to provide the water supply to its Rainbow Gap service area. As part of the future update to RCWD's Water Facilities Master Plan, reanalyze the joint RCWD/WMWD water facility requirements and purchase capacity in WMWD facilities, if needed, to provide water service to RCWD's service area.
- 3.7 Consider annexation of properties into RCWD, on a case-by-case basis, until a revised water service analysis is provided by WMWD, within the former MCWD service area only upon concurrence from WMWD that water service could not be reasonably provided by WMWD.
- 3.8 Consider annexation of properties within EMWD's service area or a wheeling agreement for only the Lake Skinner South properties. Continue to not support any requests for annexation or wheeling agreement for properties outside of RCWD's service boundary, regardless of EMWD's service area or sphere of influence boundary.

3.9 The priority list for considering annexation or wheeling agreement to RCWD is as follows; however, based on the limited water supply capacity identified in RCWD's 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, only Priority 1 and Priority 2 properties will be considered by RCWD's Board:

Priority 1: Annexation only for RCWD's existing sphere of influence areas (Murrieta Valley and Redhawk South).

Priority 2: Annexation or a water wheeling agreement for those properties currently within EMWD's or WMWD's service area boundary:

EMWD  
Lake Skinner South

WMWD  
Murrieta Division  
Rock Mountain

Priority 3: Annexation or a water wheeling agreement for those properties currently within EMWD's or WMWD's sphere of influence area boundary:

EMWD  
HWY 79 South  
Lake Skinner East  
Rancho Division East

WMWD  
None

Priority 4: Annexation for those properties outside of EMWD's or WMWD's sphere of influence area boundary:

La Cresta West