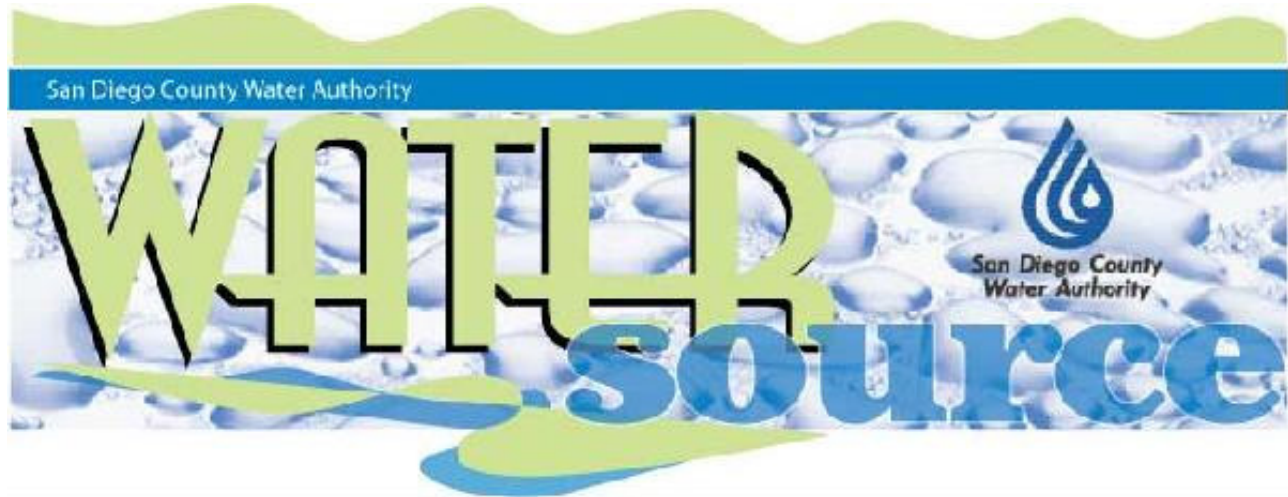


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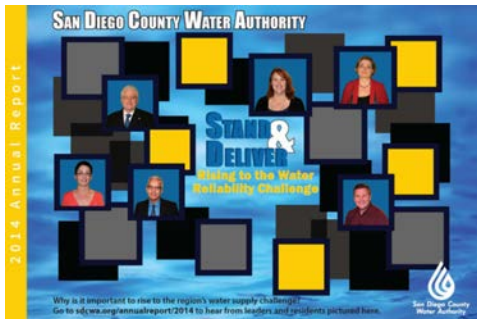


**May 21, 2015**

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**2014 Annual Report**



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**Drought, Desalination Factor into Water Authority's Proposed Rate Increases for 2016**

*Increases would be 6.6 percent for untreated water and 5.4 percent for treated water*

The San Diego County Water Authority on Thursday announced that it will recommend increasing rates charged to its member agencies by 6.6 percent for untreated water and 5.4 percent for treated water in calendar year 2016. Prudent financial management by the Water Authority has kept the proposed rates near the low end of projections made in 2011, and well below the double-digit increases during the last drought that were driven by steep price hikes from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Next year's rate proposal is based on higher costs for drought-proof water supplies from the Carlsbad Desalination Project, higher costs from MWD and state-mandated reductions in water use that are expected to lower the Water Authority's sales. To moderate rate increases, the Water Authority restructured about \$14.3 million in debt, and it's planning a draw of \$8 million from the agency's Rate Stabilization Fund.

The Water Authority's proposed rates and the recommended two-year budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 will be formally presented to the agency's Board of Directors on May 28. On June 25, the Board will hold a public hearing on the 2016 rates and consider their adoption along with the recommended budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017. Although the Water

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San Diego County Water Authority

Authority's budget spans two fiscal years, the agency sets rates annually to more effectively manage changing conditions.

### Water Authority rates & budget schedule

- **May 28:** Presentation to the Board of the proposed 2016 rates and charges, and release of the two-year budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017
- **June 9 & 11:** Special budget workshops
- **June 25:** Public hearing on rates; Board considers adoption of rates and budget

For more information, [click here to read the full news release](#). To read the Board report for this item, go to <http://www.sdcwa.org/monthly-board-meeting-48>, click on the Board packet and go to page 19.

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### Quick Links

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The San Diego County Water Authority works through its 24 member agencies to provide a safe and reliable water supply to support the region's \$206 billion economy and quality of life of 3.1 million residents.

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