

State Water Project  
Proposed Excess Entitlement Policies  
January 2003

Excess Entitlement - Definition

The District State Water Project “Excess” Entitlement is the portion of the District’s total entitlement that is not contracted to others for their deliverable or drought buffer uses.

Priority of Use

1. Prior to transferring the excess entitlement for any other use, contractors of state water entitlement with capacity in Phase II of the Coastal Aqueduct shall have the first right to utilize the excess entitlement for “drought buffer” (reliability) purposes under the terms of a drought buffer agreement.
2. No permanent transfer of the excess entitlement for use outside the District boundary shall be made prior to a final update of the District’s Master Water Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors.
3. No multi-year transfer shall be made with a term in excess of five years prior to a final update to the District’s Master Water Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors.
4. Preference shall be given to local agencies and water purveyors regardless of whether a transfer is on an annual, multi-year, a permanent basis.
5. Out-of-District transfers that provide revenues that recover current costs and some or all of the District’s past costs, maintain the District’s right to use the water in the future, or which are used for environmental mitigation shall be given preference over other out-of-District transfers.
6. The Public Works Director is authorized to determine the annual amount of the excess entitlement to transfer to the State Water Project “Turnback Pools” established under the existing terms of State Water Agreements. In making that determination, the Public Works Director shall first consider local needs and how the use of the Turnback Pool might impact other potential transfers.