

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

CALIFORNIA WATER COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03

RESOLUTION TO ADJUST MAXIMUM CONDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY  
DETERMINATION FOR CHINO BASIN PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2014, California voters approved Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 ("Proposition 1");

WHEREAS, Proposition 1 contained Chapter 8, "Statewide Water System Operational Improvement and Drought Preparedness," ("Chapter 8") which appropriates \$2.7 billion to the California Water Commission ("Commission") to invest in public benefits associated with water storage projects "that improve the operation of the state water system, are cost effective, and provide a net improvement in ecosystem and water quality conditions" (Water Code section 79750);

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2016, the Commission adopted regulations governing the quantification and management of public benefits associated with water storage projects that meet the criteria established for public investment (the Water Storage Investment Program ("WSIP"));

WHEREAS, the regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law on March 7, 2017, and appear in the California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 6000 *et seq.* ("regulations");

WHEREAS, Inland Empire Utilities Agency applied for funding for its water storage project, the Chino Basin Program, and, consistent with the regulations governing WSIP, received a Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determination (MCED), pursuant to section 6011 of the regulations of \$206,900,000;

WHEREAS, the MCEDs for all projects in the WSIP used 2015 dollars to value the public benefits of the projects;

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Commission found the Chino Basin Program feasible and it continues to be eligible for funding through the WSIP;

WHEREAS, at its January 20, 2021 meeting, the Commission adjusted each applicant's MCED by 2.5% to account for inflation and further adjusted the MCEDs of all projects by 1.5% at the Commission's meeting on March 16, 2022,

bringing the Chino Basin Program Project's MCED to \$215,265,405;

WHEREAS, the Los Vaqueros Expansion Project withdrew from the WSIP in November 2024;

WHEREAS, the Los Vaqueros Expansion Project's withdrawal made \$453,680,426 available for other projects' potential use if they complete the statutory requirements set forth in Water Code section 79750 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Commission considered options for committing available funding, and expressed an interest in using available funding to adjust MCEDs to account for inflation after receiving updates on the projects' status and viability at the August 20, 2025 Commission meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission directs staff to adjust the MCED for the Chino Basin Program Project by \$53,847,839, from \$215,265,405 to \$269,113,244; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chino Basin Program is eligible for additional early funding consistent with title 23, California Code of Regulations, §6010.

Signed:

Fern Steiner  
Fern Steiner, Chair  
California Water Commission

9/11/2025  
Date

Attest:

Laura Jensen  
Laura Jensen, Executive Officer  
California Water Commission

9/12/2025  
Date