Memorandum

Date: DEC 11 2008

To: Department Managers and Supervisors
Division of Planning and Local Assistance
Office of Water Use Efficiency and Transfers

From: Department of Water Resources

Subject: Reorganization Update

As you know, we have spent over a year carefully considering reorganizing the Division of Planning and Local Assistance (DPLA) and the Office of Water Use Efficiency and Transfers (OWUET). Our goal has been to design an organizational structure that can more effectively implement the integrated water management responsibilities assumed by DWR with passage of Propositions 1E and 84 in November 2006. While we have made good progress in defining an organization that meets our program needs, this reorganization involves gaining approvals from multiple agencies. Our expectation is that we will complete all the steps necessary to implement a formal reorganization in July 2009. In the interim, to begin to realize the benefits our reorganization will provide, I would like to start operating under our proposed new organizational structure. A chart describing this proposed organizational structure is attached.

The new Division of Integrated Regional Water Management (DIRWM) consists of the four Region Offices (formerly District Offices), Regional Planning and IRWM Financial Assistance. Until our formal reorganization is implemented, the Regional Office Chiefs will serve in a three-month rotation leading this new Division. The rotation will start with Paula Landis, followed by Glen Pearson. Paula will function as DIRWM lead in addition to her duties as South Central Region Office Chief. Kamyar Guivetchi will continue in his role as Division Chief, serving as the Chief of the new Division of Statewide Integrated Water Management (DSIWM).

To help develop and implement the Governor's aggressive water conservation goals, Rick Soehren will report directly to me as an Assistant Deputy Director and lead the formulation and development of water use efficiency policy. The functionality of OWUET will be incorporated into the new DSIWM under Kamyar's lead. All of these changes will be effective immediately. Additional new assignments, consistent with our proposed organizational structure, will be made in the near future. I look forward to your continued support and patience as we make this transition. Please give Paula, Kamyar, and Rick your full cooperation.

Mark W. Cowin
Deputy Director

Attachment