

HHIA - Utility Report for Meeting on 2018.06.18

Main San Gabriel Key Water Well Level updates:

Historic Low: 172.20 ft. (As of 2016.10.07)

Historic High: 295.30 ft. on 1983.07.20 (Since entry of judgment in 1973)

Current: (As of 2018.06.08), 180.20 ft. (61.36% vs High; 0.22% less than previous month of May).

Related link:

<http://www.watermaster.org/>

Local Groundwater Level: 19% of Capacity (same as May 2018)

Major Reservoir Condition in CA: 85% of Capacity (same as May 2018)

Local Rainfall: 38% of Season Normal (same as May 2018)

CA Snowpack Level: 17% of Normal to Date (vs. 25% in May 2018)

Related link:

<http://sgvmwd.org/>

CA State Water Boards Press Releases

Harmful Algal Bloom Season Beginning in California's Lakes, Rivers and Streams

State Water Board Reminds Public to Be Aware of HABs

May 24, 2018

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SACRAMENTO -- With the summer season nearing and recreational activities about to ramp up on the state's lakes, rivers and streams, the State Water Board is reminding the public to be aware of harmful algal blooms (HABs).

Algae and cyanobacteria, the organisms that cause HABs, have existed for billions of years as essential components of freshwater ecosystems. But when certain conditions favor their growth - warm temperatures, stagnant water flows, excessive nutrient inputs - they can multiply very rapidly creating "blooms." These blooms can produce toxins, and taste and odor compounds, that pose health risks to humans and animals. When blooms pose a risk, they are referred to as harmful algal blooms (HABs). While visiting your local lake or river, be aware that toxins can be present even though a bloom is not visible. Heed all advisory signs posted near water bodies. To check if a bloom was reported, contact the water manager or visit the HAB Reports Map.

Dogs and children are most likely to be affected by HABs because of their smaller body size and tendency of playing in the water for longer periods. Dogs are especially susceptible because they swallow more water while swimming and during other activities like retrieving a ball from the water, and are less deterred by unsightly, smelly water that may contain harmful toxins.

It is important to distinguish cyanobacteria (often referred to as "blue-green algae") from green algae and other non-toxic water plants that are not thought to pose potential hazards to health. HABs can be

a variety of colors such as green, white, red or brown and may look like thick paint floating on the water. Cyanobacteria blooms have a grainy, sawdust-like appearance of individual colonies.



Green algae



Aquatic plant



Cyanobacteria bloom

People can help prevent blooms in our waters by taking the following measures:

- Properly maintain septic systems
- Use phosphate-free dishwasher detergent
- Be conservative with use of water, fertilizers and pesticides on your lawn, garden or small farm
- Pick up pets' waste
- Plant or maintain native vegetation around the water's edge

The California Water Boards recommend that people practice healthy water habits while enjoying the outdoors this summer at your local lake, river or stream:

- Heed all instructions on posted advisories if present
- Avoid algae and scum in the water and on the shore
- Keep an eye on children and pets (dogs)
- If you think a HAB is present, do not let pets and other animals go into or drink the water, or eat scum/algae accumulations on the shore
- Don't drink the water or use it for cooking
- Wash yourself, your family and your pets with clean water after water play
- If you catch fish, throw away guts and clean fillets with tap water or bottled water before cooking
- Avoid eating shellfish if you think a HAB is present

To report blooms, please visit the [CA HABs Portal](#).

For more information, including what to look for, please visit: California Harmful Algal Blooms Portal at <http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/>

Related link:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/press_room/press_releases/2018.html

Rowland Water District

EXCELLENCE IN TRANSPARENCY TAKES CENTER STAGE AT ROWLAND WATER

District Recognized For Continued Dedication To Promoting Good Governance

June 4, 2018— Rowland Water District (RWD) is proud to announce it has garnered the 2018 Transparency Certificate of Excellence, courtesy of the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF). To receive the award, a special district must exemplify essential governance transparency requirements,

such as conducting ethics training for board members, conducting open and public meetings, and filing timely financial transactions and compensation reports with the State Controller.

“We are humbled that the SDLF has seen fit to recognize the District in this esteemed manner,” says Szu Pei Lu-Yang, Rowland Water Board President. “This award is a tangible acknowledgement of our ongoing efforts at transparency in our interaction with customers, and demonstrates Rowland Water’s commitment to engaging the public in critical water issues that directly impact them.”

Special districts like Rowland Water are independent public agencies established by the voters to deliver core local services such as water, wastewater treatment, fire protection, parks and recreation, healthcare, sanitation, and more. Rowland Water District currently delivers 14 million gallons of safe drinking water to nearly 55,000 people each day.

“We are continually committed to being accessible to our customers, and to help empower them with quality information, including ongoing consumer initiatives like ‘Fix-a-Leak Week,’ in order for them to make the best water-related decisions for their households,” adds Lu-Yang.

SDLF is an independent, non-profit organization which provides oversight to ensure good governance and best practices among California’s special districts through certification, accreditation, and other recognition programs. Rowland Water is pleased to be among the dozens of public agencies recognized every year by SDLF.

To learn more about Rowland Water District, visit the District’s website at www.rowlandwater.com

Related link:

<https://www.rowlandwater.com/rowland-water-district-keeping-an-eye-on-potential-water-tax-legislation-that-could-impact-customers/>

ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT KEEPING AN EYE ON POTENTIAL ‘WATER TAX’ LEGISLATION THAT COULD IMPACT CUSTOMERS

ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT KEEPING AN EYE ON POTENTIAL ‘WATER TAX’ LEGISLATION THAT COULD IMPACT CUSTOMERS.

State Senate Bill 623 Would Raise Money for Water System Upgrades, Private Wells Serving Disadvantaged Communities and Households

May 30, 2018 – Rowland Water District officials are monitoring the introduction of legislation that could impact customer rates or otherwise affect the state’s water industry. State Senate Bill 623, authored by Senator Bill Monning of Carmel, would establish a first-ever tax on drinking water to raise money for upgrades to small community water systems, and to private wells that serve disadvantaged communities and households. The bill is now included in the Brown Administration budget trailer bill for 2018.

“The money collected from this tax will be deposited into the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund,” says Tom Coleman, Rowland Water District General Manager. “Local water agencies would collect the tax and send it to Sacramento to be allocated by the State Water Resources Control Board. In collaboration with local health officials, The Board would develop a map of areas where drinking water does not meet state and federal standards, and it is these areas that would be eligible for funding,” he explains.

The bill would levy a tax of 95 cents per month on the bills of retail water customers and up to \$10 per month for businesses. It also calls for fertilizer and dairy fees to help more than 300 communities with water quality and contamination issues, many of them in California's Central Valley. That money could also be used for short-term fixes such as bottled water for communities in need. The amount of this tax could be increased each year and is expected to generate close to \$110 million per year.

A February 2018 statewide survey on behalf of the Association of California Water Agencies found that 73 percent of voters oppose the legislation, instead preferring to use existing funding sources to improve water quality for those communities needing assistance.

"We encourage our customers to reach out with any questions or concerns they may have about this new legislation and how it could potentially impact their water rates," adds Coleman. "Education is the key here, and it is important that our valued consumers be informed about this process."

To learn more about State Senate Bill 623, call Rowland Water District at (562) 697-1726 or visit the District's website at www.rowlandwater.com

Related link:

<https://www.rowlandwater.com/rowland-water-district-keeping-an-eye-on-potential-water-tax-legislation-that-could-impact-customers/>

Southern California Gas Co.

SoCalGas Announces Scholarships Totaling \$225,000 to 45 Students Pursuing Higher Education
June 10, 2018

LOS ANGELES, June 10, 2018 —Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) today announced 45 students from across its service territory as recipients of a \$5,000 college scholarship from the utility. SoCalGas' Scholarship Program is distributing scholarships totaling \$225,000 this year. Since its creation in 2001, the program has provided more than \$2.2 million in scholarship funding to more than 2,500 students. Recipients were evaluated on academic achievement, community involvement, and an essay on climate change. Photos of the awards luncheon for the scholars and their families are available here.

"SoCalGas' Scholarship Program helps young people continue their education and build a pipeline of diverse future engineers and other professionals who are prepared for the competitive workforce," said Gillian Wright, chief human resources and administrative officer for SoCalGas. "We believe that a well-educated workforce is essential for a vital and economically healthy Southern California and are thrilled to award scholarships to this group of exceptional students."

One of the scholarship winners, Richard Aguilar, a student at St. John Bosco High School in Bellflower, will attend the University of California, Riverside and study mathematics.

"I am a first-generation born U.S. citizen on my mother's side and the first in my family on both sides to be pursuing a college education," said Aguilar. "This scholarship means the potential to pursue my dreams and the possibility of not being crippled with debt after I receive my degree."

Alexis Schonborn, a student at Garey High School in Pomona, was also named as a scholarship recipient and will attend California State University, San Bernardino as a nursing major.

“Obtaining this scholarship means that I will be able to fulfill my dream of attending Cal State San Bernardino to get my bachelor’s degree and become a nurse who assists in saving lives,” said Schonborn. “Being a nurse would further my passion for helping others, treat patients’ health, and be a good role model for my three younger siblings.”

In addition to providing academic scholarships, SoCalGas supports technology-based learning in science, technology, engineering, and math at schools across the company’s service territory. Last year, the company provided nearly \$1.3 million in grants to hundreds of educational organizations in Southern California.

SoCalGas also supports clean air, energy, and water initiatives through its Environmental Champions program. This year, the company provided grants totaling more than \$500,000 to 42 nonprofit organizations to implement projects focused on clean air, energy, or water. Since its inception in 2015, the program has awarded over 120 grants totaling more than \$1.5 million.

SoCalGas is a leader in developing and investing in technologies that reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Since 1990, the company’s energy efficiency and rebate programs have reduced emissions equal to taking almost 700,000 cars off the road. SoCalGas is also working to increase the production and use of renewable natural gas, which turns methane emissions into a source of clean energy, as well as heavy-duty trucks fueled by natural gas. The latest advancements in this engine technology can lower greenhouse gas emissions from trucks by 80 percent and reduce air pollution by 90 percent.

Congratulation to Fang Liang from Troy Hi, who is among this scholarship recipients.

Related link:

<https://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137467>

SoCalGas Introduces Innovative New Solar Hydrogen Generation System at California Air Resources Board Symposium

This new system converts natural gas to hydrogen with no carbon emissions

May 17, 2018

LOS ANGELES, May 17, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) today introduced an innovative new solar-powered hydrogen generation system during the California Air Resources Board Technology Expo and Symposium at the University of California, Riverside. The project is a partnership between SoCalGas, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and the STARS Corporation. The generation system uses sunlight to convert natural gas and water into hydrogen and capture the carbon dioxide (CO₂) to prevent carbon emissions.

Hydrogen has many applications, including powering vehicles and homes, but unlike methane, it is not typically found on its own in nature so researchers have developed ways to produce it from other compounds. SoCalGas supports efforts to increase hydrogen production, particularly for use along "California's Hydrogen Highway," a series of hydrogen-fueling stations throughout the state. Currently there are 35 hydrogen fueling stations in the state, with another 29 stations in development. Increasing this fueling infrastructure could help speed the deployment of zero emission hydrogen fuel cell vehicles which play a significant role in reducing California's greenhouse gas and smog emissions, according to the California Air Resources Board.

The solar thermochemical advanced reactor system (STARS) produces hydrogen through a thermochemical process where the sun provides thermal energy to break down natural gas and water into hydrogen and carbon dioxide in a process called steam methane reforming. Results from extensive testing show STARS can be configured to produce hydrogen and other chemicals without any carbon emissions reaching the atmosphere. These chemicals "trap" and use the carbon that would otherwise be emitted. The carbon then can be used to make chemicals that become resins and plastic materials.

For example, a separate SoCalGas research and development project is studying a unique use for carbon captured during hydrogen production, so-called carbon nanotubes (CNTs). CNTs have tensile strength and stiffness many times that of carbon fiber and are typically used in high-tech manufacturing.

"We are always looking for innovative ways natural gas can be used to develop clean energy sources," said Yuri Freedman, senior director of business development for SoCalGas. "Hydrogen is well positioned to play a vital role in California's clean energy future through a broad range of applications, including the expanded use of fuel cells, long-term energy storage and other purposes."

"STARS Corporation is a new, spin-off corporation, created for the purpose of commercializing this nascent technology," said Robert Wegeng, a former technology developer at PNNL and the president of STARS Corporation. "We hope to have a commercial demonstration operating in one to two years."

This technology is undergoing field testing at San Diego State University's Brawley campus where it runs on solar and renewable electricity. Demonstrations have shown the set-up is extremely efficient, with an energy-to-chemical energy conversion efficiency above 70 percent, making it one of the world's most efficient solar processes. Currently the system produces about 25 kg of hydrogen per day if operated around the clock using a combination of solar energy and renewable gas or electricity. This is the equivalent of 25 gallons of gasoline or diesel fuel. Research suggests the system could produce 100 kg of hydrogen per day with a more advanced design.

The STARS generation system has been in development by PNNL and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for more than 10 years. SoCalGas is working with the DOE to make these systems commercially viable.

Related link:

<https://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137459>

Report by *Ted Chang*
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