

# Peter Gleick: California Reservoirs at the "Bottom Of The Barrel"

By Ezra David Romero

Credit John Chacon / California Department of Water Resources

Earlier this month an [op-ed ran in the LA Times](#) with a headline eluding that California will run out of water in a year. Valley Public Radio's Ezra David Romero reports while the record setting drought is bad, we're not there yet.

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1:04

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The California drought is serious.

State officials are applauding restrictions on watering lawns and legislators have proposed emergency legislation. But the idea that the state will go waterless in a year is far-fetched according to [Peter Gleick](#) with the water-focused think-tank the [Pacific Institute](#).

**GLEICK: "It's not that we're going to run out of water in a year. We're digging deep, but we're at the bottom of our reservoir barrel if you will."**

The think-take came out with a [report](#) this week saying the drought has caused a shift in energy sources for electricity, from hydroelectricity to natural gas.

The report claims the switch has cost California rate payers \$1.4 billion more for electricity than in average years. It also claims the increase has resulted in an 8 percent increase in carbon dioxide and other pollutants between 2011 and 2014.

