

Water reduction plan mostly unchanged before vote

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SACRAMENTO – State water regulators say they are not overhauling a contentious plan that orders each California community to reduce water use because of the drought.

State Water Resources Control Board officials say the latest revision, being released Tuesday evening, still demands cutting water use by as much as 36 percent compared with 2013.

The conservation targets are based on how much water residents used last summer. Some local water departments say they're unfair and unrealistic.

They had called on Gov. Jerry Brown to ease the targets for cities in hot areas and reward cities for previous conservation. But the new plan rejects those ideas.

Brown has ordered California homes and businesses to cut water use by 25 percent.

The board is scheduled to vote on the regulations next week.

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