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Southern California Water Committee Responds to Oroville Dam Evacuation Lift

Los Angeles, CA - After a mandatory evacuation, due to concern Oroville Dam's damaged emergency spillway might fail, the nearly 200,000 residents living downstream of the dam have been allowed to return home as the mandatory ban was lifted in favor of an evacuation warning and direction to stay vigilant. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) continues to reinforce the emergency spillway with material and regulate outflow as additional storms are expected to occur over the following days. As such, the level of the reservoir continues to decrease, and at current rates is projected to possess the capacity to absorb anticipated inflows due to the forecasted inclement weather.

"First and foremost, it's important to acknowledge the relief and gratitude in the fact that public health and human safety remained top priority during the situation at the Oroville Dam, with no injuries being reported. With that being said, it's evident from this example alone that the bill has come due for California in the area of water infrastructure.

From north to south, our state is sprawling and we can't forget our long history of interconnectedness when it comes to water supply. To achieve ultimate reliability and safety for generations to come, we must voice support to our legislative and regulatory leaders for projects such as California WaterFix that will provide the vital updates California's water infrastructure desperately needs."

**Charles Wilson
Executive Director
Southern California Water Committee**

Established in 1984, the Southern California Water Committee is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public education partnership dedicated to informing Southern Californians about our water needs and our state's water resources. Spanning Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Imperial, Riverside, Ventura and Kern counties, the SCWC's members include representatives from business, government, agriculture, water agencies, labor and the general public. Visit us at www.socalwater.org and find us on Facebook.

