No.MWRRA/2019/Micro-irrigation/443 Date: 04/06/2019

Subject: Implementation of Adoption of Micro irrigation methods to perennial crops such as sugarcane, Banana and Orchards in command area on u/s of reservoirs of irrigation projects as per provision in section 14(4) of the MWRRA Act, 2005

Please find enclosed herewith copy of Authority’s Resolution No.42 Dated May 20th 2019 in the above matter for the information and necessary action. Please submit the compliance of directions issued by the Authority.

By the Orders of the Authority

(Rasik Chauhan)
Secretary

Copy for information & necessary Action to:
1) The Principal Secretary (WRP & D), Water Resources Department, Mantralya, Mumbai – 400 032;

2) The Secretary (WRM & CAD), ), Water Resources Department, Mantralya, Mumbai – 400 032;

3) The Executive Director, Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation, Sinchan Seva Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440 001;

4) The Executive Director, Godavari Marathwada Irrigation Development Corporation, 1st Floor, Sinchan Bhavan, Jalna Road, Aurangabad – 431005;

5) The Executive Director, Tapi Irrigation Development Corporation, Sinchan Bhavan, Akashawani Chowk, Jalgaon – 425 001;

6) The Executive Director, Konkan Irrigation Development Corporation, Kopari Colony, Thane (East), Thane – 400 603;

7) The Executive Director, Maharashtra Krishna valley Development Corporation, Sichan Bhavan, Baner road, Pune – 411 011.
Resolution No. 42 Dated 20th May, 2019

Coram: Shri. K.P.Bakshi, Chairman
Shri. V.M.Kulkarni, Member (WRE)
Shri. Vinod J. Tiwari, Member (Law)
Dr. S.T.Sangle, Member (Economics)

WHEREAS as per provision in Section 12(1) of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority Act, 2005 ("Act" for short,) the authority shall work according to the frame work of the State Water Policy;

AND WHEREAS as per provision made in Para 10.4 of State Water Policy 2003, Optimal development and use of the State’s water resources for the benefit of the State’s people in the future will require the introduction of new technology for efficient and productive water use namely drip and sprinkler and management and the continuous development and dissemination of knowledge and information;

AND WHEREAS as per provision in Section 2(2) of MWRRA Act, 2005, words and expressions used and not defined in this Act but defined in various irrigation or water resources related Acts in the State have the meanings respectively assigned to them in those Acts;
AND WHEREAS as per provision in Section 2(3)(a) of the Maharashtra Irrigation Act, 1976 - "Canal" includes channels, pipes, tube wells, domestic water - supply works and reservoirs constructed, maintained or controlled by the Appropriate Authority for the supply or storage of water;

AND WHEREAS as per provision in Section 14(4) of the Act Water shall not be made available from the canal for perennial crops in such area and from such date as may be notified by the Authority, unless the cultivator adopts drip irrigation or sprinkler irrigation or such other water saving technology approved by the Authority. The quantity of water so saved, after satisfying the future increased demand of drinking water, shall be distributed equitably in the command area and adjoining area;

AND WHEREAS as per provision made in section 14(4) of the Act, this Authority has issued a notification on June 25, 2015 regarding making obligatory the adoption of micro - irrigation Methods to irrigate perennial crops in 8 selected irrigation projects (Tembhul IS, Mula, Bhima - Ujjani, Lower Manar, Hatnur Upper Pus, Jam and Aamboli) in the state on pilot basis up to June 2018;

AND WHEREAS, this Authority after review of the progress on selected pilot projects has revealed that pilots on canal systems could not succeed for want of daily assured water supply, required for the micro - irrigation;

AND WHEREAS, Lift Irrigation Schemes (Individual / Community / Cooperative / Water Users Association) on the reservoir of Irrigation Projects have assured water source as well as electric supply and thus it is possible to make mandatory adoption of micro irrigation for perennial crops
to these LIS. Through such a compulsion the objectives enshrined under section 14(4) of the Act will be fulfilled within a short period.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

Water from reservoirs of the Water Resource Project shall not be made available to lift Irrigation Schemes (Individual / Community / Cooperative / Water Users Association) drawing water directly from the reservoir unless the cultivator adopts drip irrigation or sprinkler irrigation, or such other water saving technology approved by the Authority, to irrigate perennial crops such as sugarcane, Banana, Orchards etc after October 31, 2020. In case of non compliance of this order, permission to lift the water from the reservoir shall be cancelled by the Canal Officer.

Mumbai
Date: 20/05/2019

(K. P. Bakshi)
Chairman