



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY OF NEWPORT
WATER USE RESTRICTIONS LIFTED**

The water restrictions recently imposed by the City of Newport have been lifted. The restrictions were enacted because of problems at the city's Water Treatment Plant.

The city's water treatment problems are due to plugging of the filters. Despite nearly continuous cleanings, the filters continue to plug for unknown reasons. City staff is working with the Pall Corporation, manufacturer of the filters utilized at the Water Treatment Plant, and engineers from HDR Engineering, which is the firm that designed the plant. A filter has been sent to the Pall Corporation in New York for a forensic analysis. This filter arrived in New York on July 6, and the complete analysis is expected to take several weeks.

Two mobile water production units arrived in Newport on July 5, 2020. Both those units have been connected, and it is anticipated they will begin operating later today. The Water Treatment Plant is currently meeting the city's water demand, but when the filter racks are being cleaned, water production will slow down. At this point, water production will be supplemented by these two mobile water plants.

The city has allowed its major commercial water users to resume operation. This includes the fish processing plants which have returned to normal production levels

The City of Newport thanks its residents and businesses for working together to resolve this very serious situation.

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