

**Appendix 6B2**  
**Model Drought Contingency Plan for Region F**

## **Model Drought Contingency Plan for [Irrigation District]**

**Date**

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## **Drought Contingency Plan for [Irrigation District]**

### **1. Objectives**

This drought contingency plan is intended for use by [irrigation district]. The plan includes all current TCEQ requirements for a drought contingency plan.

This drought contingency plan serves to:

- Conserve available water supplies during times of drought and emergency.
- Minimize adverse impacts of water supply shortages.
- Minimize the adverse impacts of emergency water supply conditions.

### **2. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Rules**

The TCEQ rules governing development of drought contingency plans for irrigation districts are contained in Title 30, Part 1, Chapter 288, Subchapter B, Rule 288.21 of the Texas Administrative Code.

### **3. Provisions to Inform the Public and Opportunity for Public Input**

[Irrigation district] will give customers the opportunity to provide public input into the preparation of the plan by one of the following methods:

- Holding a public meeting.
- Providing written notice of the proposed plan and the opportunity to comment on the plan by newspaper or posted notice.

### **4. Coordination with the Region F Water Planning Group**

This drought contingency plan will be sent to the Chair of the Region F Water Planning Group in order to ensure consistency with the Region F Water Plan.

### **5. Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages**

Official designees order the implementation of a drought response stage when one or more of the trigger conditions for that stage are met. Official designees may also order the termination of a drought response stage when the termination criteria are met or at their own discretion. The official designee for the [irrigation district] is:

Name  
Title  
Contact Information

If any mandatory provisions have been implemented or terminated, [irrigation district] is required to notify the Executive Director of the TCEQ within 5 business days.

## 6. Goals for Reduction in Water Use

TCEQ requires that each irrigation water user develop goals for water use reduction for each stage of the drought contingency plan. [Entity]'s goals are independently developed and given below.

## 7. Drought and Emergency Response Stages

### Stage 1, Mild

#### *Trigger Conditions for Stage 1, Mild*

- A wholesale water supplier that provides all or part of an irrigation user's supply has initiated Stage 1, Mild
- *[Select appropriate other triggers]*
  - When [irrigation district]'s available water supply is equal or less than [amount in ac-ft, percent of storage, etc.].
  - When total daily demand equals [number] million gallons for [number] consecutive days or [number] million gallons on a single day.
  - When the water level in [irrigation district]'s well(s) is equal or less than [number] feet above/below mean sea level.
  - When flows in the [name of river or stream segment] are equal to or less than [number] cubic feet per second.

#### *Goals for Use Reduction and Actions Available Under Stage 1, Mild*

[Entity]'s will reduce water use by [goal]. Irrigation water suppliers may order the implementation of any of the strategies listed below in order to reduce water use:

- Request voluntary reductions in water use.
- Review the problems that caused the initiation of Stage 1.

Stage 1 is intended to raise awareness of potential drought problems. Stage 1 will end when the circumstances that caused the initiation of Stage 1 no longer exist.

### Stage 2, Moderate

#### *Trigger Conditions for Stage 2, Moderate*

- A wholesale water supplier that provides all or part of an irrigation user's supply has initiated Stage 2, Moderate
- *[Select appropriate other triggers]*
  - When [irrigation district]'s available water supply is equal or less than [amount in ac-ft, percent of storage, etc.].
  - When total daily demand equals [number] million gallons for [number] consecutive days or [number] million gallons on a single day.

- When the water level in [irrigation district]'s well(s) is equal or less than [number] feet above/below mean sea level.
- When flows in the [name of river or stream segment] are equal to or less than [number] cubic feet per second.

*Goals for Use Reduction and Actions Available Under Stage 2, Moderate*

[Entity]'s will reduce water use by [goal]. Irrigation water suppliers may order the implementation of any of the strategies listed below in order to reduce water use:

- Request voluntary reductions in water use.
- Review the problems that caused the initiation of Stage 2.
- Intensify leak detection and repair efforts.
- Other.

Stage 2 will end when the circumstances that caused the initiation of Stage 2 no longer exist.

**Stage 3, Severe**

*Trigger Conditions for Stage 3, Severe*

- A wholesale water supplier that provides all or part of an irrigation user's supply has initiated Stage 3, Severe
- *[Select appropriate other triggers]*
  - When [irrigation district]'s available water supply is equal or less than [amount in ac-ft, percent of storage, etc.].
  - When total daily demand equals [number] million gallons for [number] consecutive days or [number] million gallons on a single day.
  - When the water level in [irrigation district]'s well(s) is equal or less than [number] feet above/below mean sea level.
  - When flows in the [name of river or stream segment] are equal to or less than [number] cubic feet per second.

*Goals for Use Reduction and Actions Available Under Stage 3, Severe*

[Entity]'s will reduce water use by [goal]. Irrigation water suppliers may order the implementation of any of the strategies listed below in order to reduce water use:

- Request voluntary reductions in water use.
- Review the problems that caused the initiation of Stage 3.
- Intensify leak detection and repair efforts.
- Implement mandatory watering days and/or times.
- Other.

Stage 3 will end when the circumstances that caused the initiation of Stage 3 no longer exist.

## **Stage 4, Emergency**

### *Trigger Conditions for Stage 4, Emergency*

- A wholesale water supplier that provides all or part of an irrigation user's supply has initiated Stage 4, Emergency
- *[Select appropriate other triggers]*
  - When [irrigation district]'s available water supply is equal or less than [amount in ac-ft, percent of storage, etc.].
  - When total daily demand equals [number] million gallons for [number] consecutive days or [number] million gallons on a single day.
  - When the water level in [irrigation district]'s well(s) is equal or less than [number] feet above/below mean sea level.
  - When flows in the [name of river or stream segment] are equal to or less than [number] cubic feet per second.

### *Goals for Use Reduction and Actions Available Under Stage 4, Emergency*

[Entity]'s will reduce water use by [goal]. Irrigation water suppliers may order the implementation of any of the strategies listed below in order to reduce water use:

- Review the problems that caused the initiation of Stage 4.
- Intensify leak detection and repair efforts.
- Implement mandatory watering days and/or times.
- Implement mandatory reductions in water deliveries.
- Other.

Stage 4 will end when the circumstances that caused the initiation of Stage 4 no longer exist.

## **8. Penalty for Violation of Water Use Restriction**

Mandatory water use restrictions are implemented in Stages [1, 2, 3, or 4]. These restrictions will be strictly enforced with the following penalties:

- Potential penalties include:
  - Written warning that they have violated the mandatory water use restriction.
  - Issue a citation. Minimum and maximum fines are established by ordinance or other order.
  - Discontinue water service to the user.

## **9. Review and Update of Drought Contingency Plan**

This drought contingency plan will be updated at least every 5 years as required by TCEQ regulations.