

RESOLUTION REVIEWING DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN
AND MAKING ANY DESIRABLE CHANGES THERETO


WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 132 (the "Government Entity") has reviewed its Drought Contingency Plan; and made any desirable changes thereto in compliance with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that:


1. The Board has reviewed its Drought Contingency Plan.
2. The Board adopts a revised to its Drought Contingency Plan, a copy of which is attached hereto.

DATED THIS 16th day of October, 2014.

HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY
DISTRICT NO. 132

By: 
Name: TIM STINE
Title: President

ATTEST:

By: 
Name: Jerrel E Holder
Title: Secretary

ORDER ADOPTING AMENDED AND RESTATED DROUGHT
CONTINGENCY PLAN; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND
ENFORCEMENT THEREOF; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS;
AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 132, (the "District"), has carefully considered the current water conditions in the District and area-wide and has determined that the adoption of this Drought Contingency Plan (the "Plan") by the District is necessary to ensure that an adequate supply of water is maintained; and

WHEREAS, the West Harris County Regional Water Authority (the "Authority") has in place a groundwater reduction plan pursuant to the Authority's Order Establishing Groundwater Reduction Plan and Related Rules, dated May 14, 2003, as amended, including all directives, determinations and requirements issued by the Authority (or by its engineer or operator, as provided for in the Authority's Amended Rate Order) pursuant to such order, as all of same may be amended from time to time (all of the foregoing being referred to herein collectively as the "GRP"); and

WHEREAS, the District has entered an agreement with the Authority, is a participant in the Authority's Groundwater Reduction Plan, and is subject to the Authority's Drought Contingency Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of the District also desires to provide in the Plan for the possibility of a natural disaster or equipment failure; and

WHEREAS, the Board of the District desires to evidence its approval of this plan and to adopt such Plan as the official policy of the District, NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF THE DISTRICT THAT;

Section 1. Approval of the Plan. The District hereby approves and adopts this Plan as set forth in this Order, and the provisions of such Plan shall be implemented immediately and enforced as a rule of the District.

Section 2. Education and Information. The District hereby institutes an educational program, to be implemented immediately, to promote the Plan by the general public which may include any of the following:

- A. Publications of articles in a newspaper or newsletter of general circulation in the District's service area, providing information regarding the Plan; and
- B. Direct distributions to all District residents and other users of water within the District, and all wholesale water customers of the District, if any, ("Users") explaining the Plan; and

C. Direct distributions to Users of educational and information material regarding the Plan; and

D. Additional educational activities consisting of (i) publishing an article or articles in a local newspaper or newsletter of general circulation in the District's service area, providing tips or information on water saving techniques, or (ii) conducting an informational school program in a school attended by students within the District's service area, or (iii) conducting an educational program for Users at a public place within or accessible to residents of the District, or (iv) conducting or engaging in such other informational or educational activity designed to further the Plan as in the discretion of the Board of Directors, may be consistent with the purposes and policies of this Plan, or (v) any combination of the foregoing.

Section 3. Retrofit Educational Program. The District may make information regarding the Plan available to Users to use when purchasing and installing various plumbing fixtures, lawn watering equipment, and other water-using appliances.

Section 4. Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups. The water service area of the District is located within the Region H Regional Water Planning Group of the Texas Water Development Board. The District will provide a copy of the Plan to the Region H Regional Water Planning Group.

Section 5. The Drought Contingency Plan.

A. Public Involvement. The District shall actively inform the public and wholesale water customers, if any, and affirmatively provide opportunity for input from the public and from wholesale water customers, if any, regarding the Plan. Such provision includes, but is not limited to, notifying the public and wholesale customers if any, of the District's public meeting regarding the proposed Plan, notice of which will be given pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

B. Trigger Conditions. For the purpose of this Plan, the District hereby adopts the trigger conditions (the "Trigger Conditions") set forth below, which are based on a study and/or statistical analysis of the vulnerability of water sources under drought of record conditions. The Trigger Conditions are for the purpose of responding to, but are not limited to, the following situations: (a) reduction in available water supply up to a repeat of the drought of record; (b) water production or distribution system limitations; (c) supply source contamination; or (d) water system outage due to the failure or damage of major water system components (e.g., pumps or wells).

1. Stage 1 – Mild Drought. "Stage 1 Drought Conditions" exist when:

a. Total daily demand on the District's water supply facilities causes the average run time of any well to be sixteen (16) hours or more per day for three consecutive days, as determined by the District Operator, or

b. The District has determined that it is necessary to trigger this condition to comply with the Authority requirements.

2. Stage 2 - Moderate Drought. “Stage 2 Drought Conditions” exist when:

a. Total daily demand on the District’s water supply facilities causes the average run time of any well to be eighteen (18) hours or more per day for three consecutive days, as determined by the District Operator, or

b. The District has determined that it is necessary to trigger this condition to comply with the Authority requirements.

3. Stage 3 - Serious Drought. “Stage 3 Drought Conditions” exist when:

a. Total daily demand on the District’s water supply facilities causes the average run time of any well to be twenty (20) hours or more per day for three consecutive days, as determined by the District Operator, or

b. The District has determined that it is necessary to trigger this condition to comply with the Authority requirements.

4. Stage 4 - Severe Drought. “Stage 4 Drought Conditions” exist when:

a. Total daily demand on the District’s water supply facilities causes the average run time of any well to be twenty-two (22) hours or more per day for three consecutive days, as determined by the District Operator, or

b. The District has determined that it is necessary to trigger this condition to comply with the Authority requirements

C. Notice. Once one of the above Trigger Conditions has occurred, Users will be notified that such Trigger Condition has occurred and of the Drought Response Measures (as defined below) to be taken. The process for notifying Users may include any of the following:

1. Posting on the District’s website;
2. Mailing, at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of the required Drought Response Measures, a written notice to each User;
3. Posting of signs at the entrances to the District;

4. Posting of notices at public places in the District; and
5. Dissemination of press releases to the local news media.

6. For wholesale water customers, if any, the District Operator shall contact wholesale customers by written notice, and/or by other means prior to commencement of the required Drought Response Measure.

Any notice issued shall contain (i) the date the Drought Response Measures will begin, (ii) the date the Drought Response Measures will terminate, if known, (iii) a list of Drought Response Measures to be implemented, and (iv) an explanation of penalties for violations of such Drought Response Measures.

D. Emergency Management Program. The District hereby establishes and adopts the following measures (“Drought Response Measures”) for the respective Trigger Conditions. The Drought Response Measures related to each Trigger Condition shall automatically become effective and shall be implemented by the District when such Trigger Condition occurs.

1. Stage 1 – Mild Drought. In the event of Stage 1 Drought Conditions, the District shall target a ten percent (10%) reduction in total water use and a reduced well run time of less than sixteen (16) hours per day, and the following Drought Response Measures shall be taken:

a. Users are requested to check for and repair all leaks, dripping faucets, and running toilets, and utilize water conservation measures such as displacement bags, low-flow shower heads and leak detection tablets.

b. Users are requested to limit irrigation to the hours between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day on no more than two (2) days per week in conformity with the following schedule:

(1) Sundays (i.e. 7:00 pm Sunday to 6:00 am Monday) and Thursdays (i.e. 7:00 pm Thursday to 6:00 am Friday) for single family residential customers with even-numbered street addresses;

(2) Saturday (i.e. 7:00 pm Saturday to 6:00 am Sunday) and Wednesdays (i.e. 7:00 pm Wednesday to 6:00 am Thursday) for single family residential customers with odd-numbered street addresses; and

(3) Tuesdays (i.e. 7:00 pm Tuesday to 6:00 am Wednesday) and Fridays (i.e. 7:00 pm Friday to 6:00 am Saturday) for all other users.

c. Users are advised that mandatory measures may be imposed if the water shortage period continues.

2. Stage 2 – Moderate Drought. In the event of Stage 2 Drought Conditions, the District shall target a twenty percent (20%) reduction in total water use and a reduced well run time of less than eighteen (18) hours per day, and the following Drought Response Measures shall be taken:

a. The Drought Response Measures established for Stage 1 Drought Conditions shall continue to be implemented, except:

b. Users are required to check for and repair detectible water leaks within 72 hours of discovery.

c. Users are required to limit outdoor irrigation to the hours between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day on no more than two (2) days per week, but possibly one day per week as determined by the District and/or Authority, in conformity with the following schedule:

(1) Sundays (i.e. 7:00 pm Sunday to 6:00 am Monday) and Thursdays (i.e. 7:00 pm Thursday to 6:00 am Friday) for single family residential customers with even-numbered street addresses;

(2) Saturday (i.e. 7:00 pm Saturday to 6:00 am Sunday) and Wednesdays (i.e. 7:00 pm Wednesday to 6:00 am Thursday) for single family residential customers with odd-numbered street addresses; and

(3) Tuesdays (i.e. 7:00 pm Tuesday to 6:00 am Wednesday) and Fridays (i.e. 7:00 pm Friday to 6:00 am Saturday) for all other users.

d. Users will be invoiced a surcharge equal to 200% of the applicable water rate for all water delivered in excess of a base quantity of 10,000 gallons per monthly billing cycle for each complete monthly billing cycle occurring during Stage 2 Drought Conditions.

3. Stage 3 - Serious Drought. In the event of Stage 3 Drought Conditions, the District shall target a thirty percent (30%) reduction in total water use and a reduced well run time of less than twenty (20) hours per day, and the following Drought Response Measures shall be taken:

a. The Drought Response Measures established for Stage 1 Drought Conditions and Stage 2 Drought Conditions shall continue to be implemented.

b. All outdoor water use, including, but not limited to, lawn and garden watering, car washing, and window washing, are required to be conducted with a hand-held hose and manual on-off nozzle.

c. Users will be invoiced a surcharge equal to 300% of the applicable water rate for all water delivered in excess of a base quantity of 10,000 gallons per monthly billing cycle for each complete monthly billing cycle occurring during Stage 3 Drought Conditions.

d. The District shall recommend that the following public water uses by any of its Users not essential for public health and safety be curtailed:

- (1) Street washing;
- (2) Fire hydrant flushing; and
- (3) Filling of swimming pools.

e. The District Operator will initiate weekly contact with wholesale water customers, if any, to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions and the possibility of pro rata curtailment of water supplies if drought conditions worsen.

4. Stage 4 - Severe Drought. In the event of Stage 4 Drought Conditions, the District shall target a thirty-five percent (35%) reduction in total water use and a reduced well run time of less than twenty-two (22) hours per day, and following Drought Response Measures shall be taken:

a. The Drought Response Measures established for Stage 1 Drought Conditions, Stage 2 Drought Conditions and Stage 3 Drought Conditions shall continue to be implemented.

b. All outdoor use of water, including but not limited to, lawn and garden watering, car washing, and window washing shall be prohibited.

c. Users will be invoiced a surcharge equal to 400% of the applicable water rate for all water delivered in excess of a base quantity of 10,000 gallons per monthly billing cycle for each complete monthly billing cycle occurring during Stage 4 Drought Conditions.

d. The Board of the District may prohibit water use by certain industrial or commercial Users which uses are not essential to the health and safety of the community so that remaining water is available for essential health and safety related uses.

e. The Board of the District may utilize alternative water sources and/or alternative delivery mechanisms with the prior approval of the executive director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

as appropriate (e.g., interconnection with another water system, temporary use of a non-municipal water supply, use of reclaimed water for non-potable purposes, etc.).

f. The District is authorized to ration to District residents and other Users within the District on a pro rata basis, and to initiate allocation of water supplies to its wholesale water customers, if any, on a pro rata basis, in accordance with Texas Water Code, Section §11.039.

E. Termination of Trigger Conditions Notification. When a Trigger Condition occurs, the District shall enforce the Drought Response Measures applicable to such Trigger Condition for a minimum of five (5) days after the last day the demand on the District's water supply facilitates reaches or exceeds the limits of such Trigger Condition. After such five (5) day period, the Drought Response Measures prescribed may, in the discretion of the Board, be continued for an additional five (5) day period. After the expiration of ten (10) days or the end of the current billing cycle, and assuming no other Trigger Conditions have occurred, the Drought Response Measures prescribed shall terminate and the District shall cease implementation and enforcement of such measures. The District will notify Users of the termination of the particular Drought Response Measures and may utilize the same manner of notification used to inform Users of the occurrence of the Trigger Condition and implementation of the Drought Response Measures.

Section 6. Emergency Contingency Plan. In the event of a fire, flood, hurricane, lightning strike, tornado, windstorm, or any other act of God, riot, terrorist act, or any other act of civil disobedience, in the event of water production or distribution system limitations, supply source contamination, system outages due to the failure or damage of major water system components (e.g., pumps), or any other similar occurrence which results in the inability of the District to provide potable water to Users (or the likelihood thereof), the Board, in its discretion, may, without prior notice, invoke all or any of the Drought Response Measures set forth in this Plan as "Emergency Response Measures". The Board may establish any of the penalties set forth in Section 8 for violations of the Emergency Response Measures.

Section 7. Implementation. Without limitation to specific actions stated in this Plan to be taken by the District Operator, the District Operator will administer and enforce this Plan, and will oversee and be responsible for the execution and implementation of all elements of this Plan (or, if the District employs its own peace officers pursuant to Texas Water Code §49.216, such peace officers will be responsible for enforcement of this Plan). The Operator shall keep adequate records for plan verification. The District Operator shall report to the Board of the District, at meetings of the Board, regarding actions taken and which need to be taken under this Plan. Without limiting the foregoing, the District Operator shall advise the President of the Board (or if the President is unavailable to receive notification, another member of the Board) as soon as reasonably practicable when a particular Trigger Condition has been reached under this Plan and when a particular drought condition no longer exists.

Section 8. Penalties. The following penalties shall apply to anyone violating the terms of this Plan or the Drought Response Measures or Emergency Response Measures adopted pursuant hereto:

A. First Violation. Any person or entity who violates this Plan shall receive written notification of such violation, which notice shall set forth (i) the date of the violation, (ii) the nature of the violation, (iii) the Drought Response Measures then in effect, and (iv) the Penalties applicable for any further violations of this Plan; provided, however, that if such person or entity has ever previously violated this Plan, the Penalties set forth in Section B below, may, in the discretion of the Board, be imposed.

B. Subsequent Violations.

1. Disconnection for Noncompliance. If any person or entity violates any provision of this Plan more than one time (which violation shall constitute an unauthorized use of District services and/or facilities), then in addition to any other remedies, penalties, sanctions and enforcement procedures provided for herein, the District shall, at their discretion, have the right to terminate water service to such person or entity (after notice and any other procedural requirements in the District's rate order are satisfied) for three (3) days. The customer whose service is terminated is subject to the charges noted in the rate order of the District after disconnecting and reconnecting the customer's service, as well as the charge for removing the meter, if water usage continues after service is stopped by the District. Should a customer desire to pay an additional penalty in lieu of being disconnected, the customer may pay \$250.00 in cash or money order, in addition to the other penalties assessed and the disconnection and reconnection fees.

2. Monetary Penalties for Noncompliance. If any person or entity violates any provision of this Plan more than one time (which violation shall constitute an unauthorized use of District services and/or facilities), then, in addition to disconnection as provided in Subsection (1) of this Section, the Board of the District, after providing required notice, may impose a penalty of up to \$5,000.00 for each violation of this Plan. Each day that a breach of any provision of this Plan continues shall be considered a separate violation. This penalty shall be in addition to any other legal rights and remedies of the District as may be allowed by law.

Section 9. Variances. The District may, in writing, grant a temporary variance to rationing or pro rata water allocation policies adopted pursuant to this Plan, or a temporary variance to the provisions in the Plan, if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the public health, welfare, or safety and if the customer submits a formal variance request to the District that provides the following information:

1. Name and address of the petitioner(s).

2. For District residents and other users of water within the District, a detailed statement as to how the specific provision of the Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with this Plan or rationing of water adopted by the District pursuant to this Plan.

3. For wholesale water customers, if any, a detailed statement with supporting data and information as to how the pro rata allocation of water under the policies and procedures established in the Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to others if petitioner complies with this Plan.

4. Description of the relief requested.

5. Period of time for which the variance is sought.

6. Alternative measures the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of this Plans and the compliance date.

7. Other pertinent information.

Variations granted by the District shall be subject to the following conditions unless waived or modified by the District or its designee:

1. Variations granted shall include a timetable for compliance.

2. Variations granted shall expire when the Plan is no longer in effect, unless the petitioner has failed to meet specified requirements.

No variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.

Section 10. Receiving Water from Wholesale Public Water Supplier. In case the District receives water from another water supplier, then the District shall consult with that water supplier in order to respond appropriately to the water supplier's drought contingency plan for reductions in water supply. Also in such case, if the other water supplier implements drought response stages pursuant to its drought contingency plan, the District will evaluate implementing its drought response stages and evaluate the need to discourage excessive use of water in an effort to reduce the use of water.

Section 11. Remedies Cumulative. All rights, remedies, sanctions, penalties and enforcement procedures provided for in this Order are cumulative. In addition, the District shall have and may exercise and enforce any and all rights and remedies provided by law or in equity.

Section 12. Notice to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The District Operator shall notify the executive director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality within five (5) business days of the implementation of any mandatory provisions of this Plan.

Section 13. Wholesale Customer Contracts. If the District enters into or renews any wholesale water contracts after adoption of the Plan, said contracts shall include a provision that in case of a shortage of water resulting from drought, the water to be distributed shall be divided in accordance with Texas Water Code, Section §11.039.