



Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Water Availability Division
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Drought Contingency Plan for a Wholesale Public Water Supplier

This form is provided as a model of a drought contingency plan for a wholesale public water supplier. If you need assistance in completing this form or in developing your plan, please contact the Conservation Staff of the Resource Protection Team in the Water Availability Division at (512) 239-4691.

Drought Contingency Plans must be formally adopted by the governing body of the water provider and documentation of adoption must be submitted with the plan. For example, adoption by a city council as an ordinance or by resolution of the entity's board of directors adopting the plan as administrative rules.

Name: City of Dawson

Address: 112 N. Main Street Dawson Texas 76639

Telephone Number: (254) 578-1515 Fax: ()

Water Right No.(s): 3

Regional Water Planning Group: Region C

Form Completed by: Chris Foley

Title: Water Superintendent

Person responsible for implementation: Mayor Stephen Sanders Phone: (254) 578-1515

Signature: *Stephen Sanders* Date: 06/17/2019

Section I: Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent

In order to conserve the available water supply and/or to protect the integrity of water supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection, and to protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions, the City of Dawson adopts the following Drought Contingency Plan.

Section II: Public Involvement

The plan will be adopted under the open meetings requirement of the TCEQ during the July 1, 2019 City Council Meeting. The public will be notified of the plan and preparations through public posting, news media and social media.

Section III: Wholesale Water Customer Education

The City of Dawson will periodically provide wholesale water customers with information about the Plan, including information about the conditions under which each stage of the Plan is to be initiated or terminated and the drought response measures to be implemented in each stage. This information will be provided by means of a copy of the plan to each wholesale customer.

Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The water service area of the City of Dawson is located within the Region C planning area and the City of Dawson has provided a copy of the Plan to the Region C Water Planning Group.

Section V: Authorization

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to implement the applicable provisions of this Plan upon determination that such implementation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare. The City Mayor or his/her designee shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan.

Section VI: Application

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all customers utilizing water provided by the City of Dawson. The terms “person” and “customer” as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities.

Section VII: Criteria for Initiation and Termination of Drought Response Stages

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a weekly basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan. Customer notification of the initiation or termination of drought response stages will be made by mail or telephone. The news media will also be informed.

The triggering criteria described below are based on:

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and demand conditions on periodic basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan. Customer notification of the initiation or termination of the drought responses will be made by postings in public locations and news media and social media.

Utilization of alternative water sources and/or alternative delivery mechanisms:

The City of Corsicana provides water to the City of Dawson. In addition to the Lake Navarro Mills water source managed by Trinity River Authority, the City of Corsicana has a raw water source, Richland Chambers Reservoir, operated by the Tarrant Regional Water District.

Stage 1 Triggers -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation - The City of Dawson will recognize that a mild water shortage condition exists when Navarro Mills Reservoir pro rata storage declines below elevation 421.5 feet above mean sea level (MSL) or when average daily water use equals or exceeds 85% of the City’s treatment capacity for **SEVEN consecutive days**. Based on a current total existing treatment capacity of 24.25 MGD, the 85% trigger will be equal to 20.6MGD.

Requirements for termination - Stage 1 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 15 consecutive days. The City of Dawson will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 1.

Stage 2 Triggers -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation - The City of Dawson will recognize that a moderate water shortage condition exists when Navarro Mills Reservoir declines below elevation 419.0 feet above MSL or when the daily water use equals or exceeds 95% of the City's treatment capacity for **SEVEN** consecutive days. Based on a current total existing treatment capacity of 24.25 MGD, the 95% trigger will be equal to 23.0 MGD.

Requirements for termination - Stage 2 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 15 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1, or the applicable drought response stage based on the triggering criteria, becomes operative. The City of Dawson will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 2.

Stage 3 Triggers -- SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation - The City of Dawson will recognize that a severe water shortage condition exists when the water surface elevation at Navarro Mills Reservoir declines below elevation 414.5 feet above MSL.

Requirements for termination - Stage 3 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 15 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2, or the applicable drought response stage based on the triggering criteria, becomes operative. The City of Dawson will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 3.

Stage 4 Triggers -- CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation - The City of Dawson will recognize that an emergency water shortage condition exists when an event of a catastrophic failure in the City's raw water sources, treatment, storage or distribution systems or if the potable water supply is not suitable for human consumption.

Requirements for termination - Stage 4 of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of 15 consecutive days. The City of Dawson will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 4.

Section VIII: Drought Response Stages

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section VII, shall determine that mild, moderate, severe, or critical water shortage conditions exist or that an emergency condition exists and shall implement the following actions:

Stage 1 Response -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a voluntary 5% percent reduction in system demand.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, will inform the public through news media, social media and water bill mail outs that a trigger condition has been reached and that they should look for a way to **VOLUNTARILY** reduce water consumption such as:

Use water in a manner that does not allow runoff or waste
Use bucket, not spray nozzle for washing and rinsing of vehicles.
Make sure dishwasher is full before running
Wash full loads of laundry
Take shorter showers
Turn water off when brushing teeth
Install toilet dam or other water saving device on commode
Use eater saving native plants and shrubs in landscape

Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

(a) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions and will request that wholesale water customers initiate voluntary measures to reduce water use (eg. Implement Stage 1 of the customer's drought contingency plan: and

(b) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

Stage 2 Response -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 10% percent reduction in system demand.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, will inform the public through news media, social media and water bill mail outs that a trigger condition has been reached and encourage customers to reduce water consumption such as:

Continue implementation of all relevant actions in preceding phase.

Prohibit car washing, window washing, and pavement washing except when bucket is used.

Initiate a mandatory lawn watering schedule during the hours of 8:00pm to 10:00pm including all public grounds.

The following public water uses, not essential for public health or safety, will be prohibited.

- (i) Street washing
- (ii) Water hydrant flushing
- (iii) Filling pools
- (iv) Athletic field watering
- (v) Watering grassed areas of public property
- (vi) Operation of ornamental fountains.

Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

(a) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will request wholesale water customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water use (*e.g. implement Stage 2 of the customer's drought contingency plan*).

(b) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will initiate weekly contact with wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions and the possibility of pro rata curtailment of water diversions and/or deliveries.

(c) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will further prepare for the implementation of pro rata curtailment of water diversions and/or deliveries by preparing a monthly water usage allocation baseline for each wholesale customer.

(d) The City Mayor (*designated official*), or his/her designee(s), will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

Stage 3 Response -- SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a 30 percent reduction in system demand.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, will inform the public through news media, social media and water bill mail outs that a trigger condition has been reached and encourage customers to reduce water consumption such as:

- (a.) Continue implementation of all relevant actions in the two preceding phases.
- (b.) All outdoor water use will be prohibited. Such use includes, but is not limited to the following: lawn watering, car washing (including car washes) and pavement washing.
- (c.) Advise the public weekly regarding the severity of the condition.
- (d.) Consider adoption of an emergency ordinance to implement water rationing or surcharges for excessive water use.
- (e.) Consider the feasibility for reuse of wastewater treatment plant effluent (approximately 3 MGD available)

Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

(a) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions and will request that wholesale water customers initiate additional mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water use (e.g.: implement Stage 3 or appropriate stage of the customer's drought contingency plan).

(b) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will initiate pro rata curtailment of water diversions and/or deliveries for each wholesale customer.

(c) The City Mayor, or his/her designee(s), will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

Stage 4 Response -- EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Whenever emergency water shortage conditions exist as defined in Section VII of the Plan, the City Mayor shall:

1. Assess the severity of the problem and identify the actions needed and time required to solve the problem.
2. Inform the utility director or other responsible official of each wholesale water customer by telephone or in person and suggest actions, as appropriate, to alleviate problems (*example: notification of the public to reduce water use until service is restored*).
3. If appropriate, notify city, county, and/or state emergency response officials for assistance.

4. Undertake necessary actions, including repairs and/or clean-up as needed.
5. Prepare a post-event assessment report on the incident and critique of emergency response procedures and actions.

Section IX: Pro Rata Curtailment

In the event that the triggering criteria specified in Section VII of the Plan for Stage 3 – Severe Water Shortage Conditions have been met, the City Mayor is hereby authorized to initiate allocation of water supplies on a pro rata basis in accordance with Texas Water Code, §11.039.

Section X: Contract Provisions

The City of Dawson will include a provision in every wholesale water contract entered into or renewed after adoption of the plan, including contract extensions, 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, §11.039.

Section XI: Enforcement

Mandatory water use restrictions may be imposed in Stage 3 droughts. These mandatory water use restrictions will be enforced by warnings and penalties as follows:

- On the first violation, the customer will be given a written warning that they have violated one or more of the mandatory water use restrictions;
- The City of Dawson will require customer to implement a more comprehensive public education and outreach program in a manner that increases the public's awareness about mandatory water use restrictions and the current drought status; and
- After receiving a second notice of violation, the customer will be required to immediately submit documentation to the City of Dawson of the steps it has taken to ensure compliance with this water conservation and drought contingency plan. In addition, the City of Dawson will require the customer to implement additional public education and outreach program in a manner that increases the public's awareness about mandatory water use restrictions in the current drought status.

Section XII: Variances

The City Mayor, or his/her designee, may, in writing, grant a temporary variance to the pro rata water allocation policies provided by this 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 one or more of the following conditions are met:

- (a) Compliance with this Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other condition for which the Plan is in effect.
- (b) Alternative methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

Persons requesting an exemption from the provisions of this Plan shall file a petition for variance with the City Mayor within 5 days after pro rata allocation has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the City of Dawson Council and shall include the following:

- (a) Name and address of the petitioner(s).
- (b) 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 the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with this Ordinance.
- (c) Description of the relief requested.

- (d) Period of time for which the variance is sought.
- (e) Alternative measures the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date.
- (f) Other pertinent information.

Variances granted by the City of Dawson Council shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the City of Dawson Council or its designee:

- (a) Variances granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
- (b) Variances 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 XIII: Severability

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City of Dawson that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Plan are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Plan shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Plan, since the same would not have been enacted by the City of Dawson without the incorporation into this Plan of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.