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1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this Drought Contingency and Emergency Water Management Plan (subsequently referred to as the Plan) is as follows:

- To conserve the available water supply in times of drought and emergency
- To maintain supplies for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection
- To protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety
- To minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortages
- To minimize the adverse impacts of emergency water supply conditions.

2. TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY RULES

TCEQ rule Title 30, Part 1, Chapter 288, Subchapter A, Rule 288.1 (4) defines a drought contingency plan as “a strategy or combination of strategies for temporary supply and demand management responses to temporary and potentially recurring water supply shortages and other water supply emergencies.”

TCEQ rules governing development of and minimum requirements for drought contingency plans for municipal water suppliers and wholesale water suppliers are contained in Texas Administrative Code Title 30, Part 1, Chapter 288, Subchapter B, Rule 288.20 and Rule 288.22, respectively.

3. WATER SYSTEM PROFILE

The City purchases water from the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD). The supply sources are:

- West Fork of Trinity River: Lake Worth, Eagle Mountain Lake, and Lake Bridgeport; (A pipeline connecting Eagle Mountain Lake to the East Texas supply is under construction.)
- East Texas: Cedar Creek Reservoir, located approximately 75 miles southeast of Fort Worth; and Richland Chambers Reservoir, located approximately 75 miles southeast of Fort Worth; and
- Clear Fork of the Trinity River via Lake Benbrook. (A pipeline connects Lake Benbrook to the East Texas Supply.)

System capacity with regards to the defined triggers in Section 4.4 is the total reliable pumping capacity is found in Appendix A. Therefore, the system capacity baseline for triggers is the reliable delivery capacity of 460 million gallons per day (MGD). See Appendix A for more details of the yields of each of the treatment plants. This trigger number will be evaluated each year to take into consideration improvements that may have been added to the system.

Fort Worth has about 217, 000 retail service connections and 29 wholesale water customers. Wholesale customers are Benbrook Water & Sewer Authority, Bethesda Water Supply Corp., Burleson, Crowley, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, Dalworthington Gardens, Edgecliff Village, Everman, Forest Hill, Grand Prairie, Haltom City, Haslet, Hurst, Keller, Lake Worth, Northlake, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills, River Oaks, Roanoke, Saginaw, Sansom Park, Southlake, Trinity River Authority - Mosier Valley, Trophy Club Municipal Utility District, Westlake, Westover Hills, Westworth Village and White Settlement. Some of these customers have emergency contracts only and do not take from the Fort Worth system on a regular basis.

In accordance with Section 2.3 of the wholesale water contract, wholesale customers are required to institute and apply the same rationing, conservation measures or restrictions to the use of water by their customers for so long as any part of their total water supply is being furnished by Fort Worth.

Fort Worth maintains about 3,200 miles of distribution pipelines.

The water supply triggers defined in Section 4.4 were provided to Fort Worth by its water supplier, Tarrant Regional Water District. TRWD selected its triggers after hiring an outside consultant to evaluate where the triggers levels should be for the drought plan to achieve meaningful water savings.

4. DROUGHT CONTINGENCY/EMERGENCY WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

4.1 Public Involvement

The public had several opportunities to provide input into the plan.

- A public meeting soliciting comments was held on Dec. 10, 2007. The meeting was advertised on the city Web site, on City Page in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, through news releases to the news media and neighborhood associations, and in handouts at public events.
- The Fort Worth Water Department's Water Conservation Advisory Committee discussed the draft plan's provisions and provided feedback during its June 21, 2007 meeting and was provided a copy for review and comments prior to the public meeting on Dec. 10, 2007.
- The draft plan was posted on the City of Fort Worth Web site (www.fortworthgov.org/water) for four months prior to City Council adoption.
- Copies were available to anyone upon request.

4.2 Public Education

Fort Worth will inform and educate the public about the Drought Contingency/Emergency Water Management Plan by the following means:

- Preparing fact sheets describing the plan and making these available online and at various city sites, and at events where the water department may have a booth.
- Posting a copy of the Plan on the city's Web site.
- Notifying local organizations, schools, and civic groups that staff are available to make presentations on the plan.

At any time that the Drought Contingency/Emergency Water Management Plan is activated or the stage changes, customers will notify local media of the issues, the current response stage, and the specific actions required of the public. The information will also be publicized on the city's Web site. Bill inserts will also be used as appropriate.

4.3 Initiation & Termination of Drought & Emergency Response Stages

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all persons, customers, and property utilizing potable water provided by the City of Fort Worth. The terms "person" and "customer" as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities. The Plan does not apply to locations using treated wastewater effluent, private wells or possessing their own water rights in the Trinity River.

The Plan may be applied to the entire city or geographic portions of the city as necessary. If the Plan is applied only to a limited sector, the boundaries will be defined in terms of roadways, creeks and other easily distinguishable features, such as city limits.

Initiation of a Drought/ Emergency Water Management Stage

The City Manager or his/her official designee may order the implementation of a drought response or water emergency stage when one or more of the trigger conditions for that stage is met. The following actions will occur when a stage is initiated.

- The public will be notified through local media and the City of Fort Worth Web site, as described in Section 4.2.
- Fort Worth's wholesale customers and Tarrant Regional Water District will be notified by telephone and with a follow-up letter, e-mail, or fax that provides details of the reasons for initiation of the drought or water emergency stage.
- The Fort Worth Water Department will notify the Executive Director of the TCEQ within 5 business days when mandatory provisions of the Plan are activated.

Stages imposed by TRWD action must be initiated by the City of Fort Worth.

