

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN



May 2019

Colorado River Municipal Water District DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

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Drought Contingency Plan for a Wholesale Public Water Supplier

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Colorado River Municipal Water District
PO Box 869 Big Spring Texas 79720
CCN P1129
PWS 0000001

May 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 Colorado River Municipal Water District (CRMWD) adopts the following Drought Contingency Plan (the Plan).

Section II: Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public and wholesale municipal water customers to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by CRWMD by means of the following:

- Posting the draft plan on the District's web site at www.crmwd.org and having a copy of the draft plan at the District's office for the public to view.
- Providing the draft plan to member cities and customers for review and comment.
- Providing the draft plan to anyone requesting a copy.

Section III: Wholesale Water Customer Education

CRMWD 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 monthly phone call.

Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

CRWMD has provided a copy of the Plan to the Region F Regional Planning Group.

Section V: Authorization

The Board of Directors, or its 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 Board of Directors 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 CRMWD. The terms “person” and “customer” as used in the Plan include member cities, customer cities, industrial users, rural users, and all other water user groups (WUGs).

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

The General Manager, or his designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a monthly basis; the Board of Directors, or its designee, 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 Board of Directors may decide not to order the implementation of a drought contingency stage or water system emergency even though one or more of the trigger criteria for the stage are met. Factors which could influence such a decision include, but are not limited to, the time of the year, weather conditions, water quality concerns, the anticipation of replenished water supplies, the anticipation that additional facilities will become available to meet needs, or the ability to meet needs using groundwater.

The Board of Directors may decide not to order the termination of a drought contingency stage or water system emergency even though the conditions for termination are met. Factors which could influence such a decision include, but are not limited to, the time of the year, weather conditions, or the anticipation of potential changed conditions that warrant the continuation of the drought contingency stage or water system emergency.

The triggering criteria described below are based on:

CRMWD uses the following sources of supply: Lake J.B. Thomas, E.V. Spence Reservoir, O.H. Ivie Reservoir, North Ward County Well Field and the Big Spring Raw Water Production Facility. (There are other sources, but they currently make up less than 1% of our water production.) O.H. Ivie Reservoir serves the following wholesale users: CRMWD, City of Midland, City of San Angelo, City of Abilene, and Millersview-Doole Water Supply Corporation. The other supply sources serve our member cities and several customer contracts. Our drought triggers have been separated into two categories: O.H. Ivie Reservoir (Ivie) and the remaining CRMWD System (System).

Based on the past five years of average water use, evaporation, and release from Ivie, a minimum capacity of 76,092 ac-ft (1507.14 ft water level) is required to supply Ivie’s WUGs for one year. This assumes there is no inflow.

Based on the past five years of average water use by the District’s members and customers (omitting Ivie-specific contracts), a minimum of 38,999 ac-ft is required to supply the District water for one year. The Ward County Well Field System has a maximum daily pumping capacity of 73 million gallons. However, the current pipeline capacity is 45 million gallons per day. Therefore, 50,406 ac-ft of groundwater is currently available each year to meet System needs.

In 2013, CRMWD completed engineering studies to plan for a pipeline capacity expansion of the Ward County Well Field System from 45 million gallons per day to 65 million gallons per day. It is estimated that this project will take 24 months to complete and it will be considered a viable response to a Stage 3 drought.

Additionally, the following criteria can apply to Ivie or the System:

- The Board of Directors, or its designee, finds that the conditions warrant the declaration of a specific stage.
- Water demand for all or part of the delivery system approaches delivery capacity.
- Supply source becomes contaminated.
- Water supply system is unable to deliver water due to failure or damage of major water system components.

Stage 1 Triggers -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation – CRWMD will recognize that a mild water shortage condition exists when Ivie capacity is less than 138,028 ac-ft or the System capacity is less than 77,998 ac-ft.

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 30 consecutive days.

Stage 2 Triggers -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation – CRWMD will recognize that a moderate water shortage condition exists when Ivie capacity is less than 107,060 ac-ft or the System capacity is less than 58,499 ac-ft.

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 30 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 2, Stage 1 becomes operative.

Stage 3 Triggers -- SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation – CRWMD will recognize that a severe water shortage condition exists when Ivie capacity is less than 76,092 ac-ft or the System capacity is less than 38,999 ac-ft.

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 30 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative.

The following table summarizes the triggers for Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3 droughts:

CRMWD Drought Contingency Triggers			
	Stage 1 (Mild)	Stage 2 (Moderate)	Stage 3 (Severe)
Ivie	<138,028 ac-ft capacity	<107,060 ac-ft capacity	<76,092 ac-ft capacity
System	<77,998 ac-ft capacity	<58,499 ac-ft capacity	<38,999 ac-ft capacity

Stage 4 Triggers -- CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation - CRMWD will recognize that an emergency water shortage condition exists when a pipeline break, equipment failure, or source contamination severely limits our distribution capacity. In most cases, CRMWD is prepared to handle such situations without significant disruption of water deliveries. Because of the system’s flexibility, raw water supplies can be typically be rerouted to the customer through alternative delivery schemes.

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.

Section VIII: Drought Response Stages

The Board of Directors, or its designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section VII, may determine that mild, moderate, or severe water shortage conditions exist or that an emergency condition exists and may implement the following actions:

1. Contact wholesale water customers monthly to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions.
2. Request wholesale water customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water use.
3. Discuss the possibility of pro rata curtailment of water diversions and/or deliveries.
4. 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 customers.

Stage 1 Response -- MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a two percent reduction in total water use that would have otherwise occurred in the absence of these measures. The Board of Directors, or its designee, can order the implementation of any of the following actions, as deemed necessary:

Ivie

- Initiate studies to evaluate alternative actions if conditions worsen.
- Request any WUG solely dependent on Ivie water to implement Stage 1 of their drought contingency plan.

System

- Initiate studies to evaluate alternative actions if conditions worsen.
- Begin 'pump back' operation as needed.
- Request all WUGs to implement Stage 1 of their drought contingency plan.

Stage 2 Response -- MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a five percent reduction in total water use that would have otherwise occurred in the absence of these measures. CRMWD will notify TCEQ within 5 business days of any mandatory measures that are implemented. The Board of Directors, or its designee, can order the implementation of any of the following actions, as deemed necessary:

Ivie

- Continue or initiate any actions available under Stage 1.
- Initiate studies to evaluate alternative actions if conditions worsen.
- Request any WUG solely dependent on Ivie water to implement Stage 2 of their drought contingency plan.

System

- Continue or initiate any actions available under Stage 1.
- Initiate studies to evaluate alternative actions if conditions worsen.
- Request all WUGs to implement Stage 2 of their drought contingency plan.

Stage 3 Response -- SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Target: Achieve a ten percent reduction in total water use that would have otherwise occurred in the absence of these measures. The Board of Directors, or its designee, can order the implementation

of any of the following actions, as deemed necessary:

Ivie

- Continue or initiate any actions available under Stages 1 or 2.
- Initiate studies to evaluate alternative actions if conditions worsen.
- Request any WUG solely dependent on Ivie water to implement Stage 3 of their drought contingency plan.

System

- Continue or initiate any actions available under Stages 1 or 2.
- Initiate Ward County Well Field System pipeline expansion project.
- Initiate additional studies to evaluate alternative actions if conditions worsen.
- Request all WUGs to implement Stage 3 of their drought contingency plan.
- Implement viable alternative water supplies.

Stage 4 Response -- EMERGENCY Water Shortage Conditions

Whenever emergency water shortage conditions exist as defined in Section VII of the Plan, the Board of Directors 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.
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 Water Allocation and Contract Provisions

In the event that the triggering criteria specified in Section VII of the Plan for Stage 3 – Severe Water Shortage Conditions have been met, water supplies will be allocated on a pro rata basis in accordance with Texas Water Code, §11.039, unless the code conflicts with the District’s existing contracts. In case of conflict, the contracts shall govern. CRMWD 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, and in accordance with the provisions in the District’s water supply contracts.

Section X: Enforcement

The Board of Directors, or its designee, declares a drought an emergency situation. The Board of Directors is authorized to implement and enforce this plan is authorized to ration water in an emergency situation.

Section XI: Variances

The Board of Directors, or its 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 General Manager within 5 days after pro rata allocation has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the Board of Directors 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 XII: Severability

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Board of Directors 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 Board of Directors without the incorporation into this Plan of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.

Appendix A
Letter to Region F Regional Water Planning Group



Colorado River Municipal Water District

May 17, 2019

John Grant, Region F Water Planning Group Chair
Colorado River Municipal Water District
PO Box 869
Big Spring TX 79720

Dear Mr. Grant:

Enclosed please find copies of the Colorado River Municipal Water District's Water Conservation Plan and Drought Contingency Plan. I am submitting a copy of these plans to the Region F Regional Water Planning Group in accordance with the Texas Water Development Board and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rules. The Board of Directors approved these plans on February 20, 2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Krueger". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kevin Krueger
Colorado River Municipal Water District

CC: Simone Kiel, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Appendix B
Resolution of the Board of Directors

RESOLUTION NO. 19-02

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
APPROVING THE UPDATED DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN**

WHEREAS, the TCEQ requires water right holders to develop, update and revise their Drought Contingency Plan; and

WHEREAS, current TCEQ rules require the updated plan be submitted in May of 2019; and

WHEREAS, CRMWD has updated and revised its Drought Contingency Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Municipal Water District does hereby approve the updated version of the Drought Contingency Plan required by the TCEQ and it becomes effective this 20th day of February, 2019.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 20th day of February, 2019.



Mickey Jones, President

ATTEST:



Clif Talbot, Secretary-Treasurer