



**Drought Contingency Plan
For the
Brooksmith Special Utility
District**

October 2018

**Texas Commission on
Environmental Quality**

DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR

Brookesmith Special Utility District

PO Box 27 Brownwood, Texas 76804

10435 (CCN#)

025004 (PWS #s)

10-09-2018 (Date)

Section 1 Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent

In cases of extreme drought, periods of abnormally high usage, system contamination, or extended reduction in ability to supply water due to equipment failure, temporary restrictions may be instituted to limit nonessential water usage. The purpose of the Drought Contingency Plan (Plan) is to encourage customer conservation in order to maintain supply, storage, or pressure or to comply with the requirements of a court, government agency or other authority.

Please note: Water restriction is not a legitimate alternative if a water system does not meet the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) capacity requirements under normal conditions **or** if the utility fails to take all immediate and necessary steps to replace or repair malfunctioning equipment.

Section 2 Public Involvement

Opportunity for the public to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by Brookesmith SUD by means of providing public notice of public meeting to accept input on the Plan. Brookesmith SUD holds monthly meetings with an open forum where any and all comments or suggestions can be heard. Meeting agenda are posted regularly at BSUD Office and on the BSUD website at www.brookesmithwater.com.

Section 3 Public Education

Brookesmith SUD will periodically provide the public 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.

Drought plan information will be provided by: press releases or utility bill inserts or on website @ www.brookesmithwater.com

Section 4 Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The service area of the Brookesmith SUD is located within Region F of the Regional Water Planning Group, which is located in the Edwards Plateau. Brookesmith SUD has mailed a copy of this Plan to the RWPG Region F.

Section 5 Notice Requirements

The utility will make a public announcement to its customers via the website or a note on the customer's water bill **prior to implementation or termination of each stage of the water restriction program**. The notice will be given to each customer 72 hours prior to the start of water restriction. If notice is hand delivered, the utility will not enforce the provisions of the plan for 24 hours after notice is provided. The notice to customers will contain the following information:

1. the date restrictions will begin;
2. the circumstances that triggered the restrictions;
3. the stages of response and explanation of the restrictions to be implemented; and
4. an explanation of the consequences for violations.

The utility will notify the TCEQ by telephone at (512) 239-4691, or electronic mail at watermon@tceq.state.tx.us prior to implementing Stage III and must notify in writing the Public Drinking Water Section at MC - 155, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 within five (5) working days of implementation including a copy of the utility's restriction notice. The utility must file a status report of its restriction program with the TCEQ at the initiation and termination of mandatory water use restrictions (i.e., Stages III and IV).

Section 6 Violations

1. First violation - The customer will be notified by written notice of their specific violation.
2. Subsequent violations:
 - a. After written notice, the utility may install a flow restricting device in the line to limit the amount of water which will pass through the meter in a 24-hour period. The utility may charge the customer for the actual cost of installing and removing the flow restricting device, not to exceed \$250.00.
 - b. After written notice, the utility may discontinue service at the meter for a period of seven (7) days, or until the end of the calendar month, whichever is LESS. The normal reconnect fee of the utility will apply for restoration of service.

Section 7 Exemptions or Variances

The utility may grant any customer an exemption or variance from the drought contingency plan for good cause **upon written request**. A customer who is refused an exemption or variance may appeal such action of the utility in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The utility will treat all customers equally concerning exemptions and variances, and shall not discriminate in granting exemptions and variances. No exemption or variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.

Section 8 Response Stages

Unless there is an immediate and extreme reduction in water production, or other absolute necessity to declare an emergency or severe condition, the utility will initially declare Stage I restrictions. If, after a reasonable period of time, demand is not reduced enough to alleviate outages, reduce the risk of outages, or comply with restrictions required by a court, government agency or other authority, Stage II may be implemented with Stage III to follow if necessary.

A. STAGE I - CUSTOMER AWARENESS

1. Stage I will begin:

On or around the first of June, the utility will make a public announcement available to its customers in the form of a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The CCR will be available on the BSUD website at www.brookesmithwater.com. No notice to TCEQ required.

2. Stage I will end:

Stage I will end without notice at the end of the summer months and customers will be allowed to resume their regular water usage, unless the Utility has moved into Stage II. No notice to TCEQ required.

3. Utility Measures:

This announcement will be designed to increase customer awareness of water conservation and encourage the most efficient use of water. A copy of the current public announcement on water conservation awareness shall be kept on file at our website and CCR available for inspection by the TCEQ. (CCR or other notice printed on Water Bill)

4. Voluntary Water Use Restrictions:

Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the use of water for nonessential purposes and to practice water conservation.

B. STAGE II - VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION:

Target: Achieve a 6 percent reduction in daily water demand.

1. Stage II will begin:

The water utility will implement Stage II when any one of the selected triggers is reached:

- a. Supply-Based Triggers: Wholesale supplier's drought Stage II
- b. Demand- or Capacity-Based Triggers: Total daily demand equals or exceeds 3.4 mgd for 3 consecutive days
- c. Production or distribution limitations

2. Stage II will end:

Upon initiation and termination of Stage II, the utility will make a public announcement to its customers via the website or a note on the customer's water bill. **No notice to TCEQ required.**

Requirements for Termination:

Stage II of the Plan may end when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of three (3) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage II, Stage I becomes operative.

3. Utility Measures:

Visually inspect lines and repair leaks on a daily basis. Monthly review of customer use records and follow-up on any that have unusually high usage.

4. Voluntary Water Use Restrictions:

- a. Restricted Hours: Outside watering is allowed daily, but only during periods specifically described in the customer notice; between 8 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. for example;
- b. Restricted Days/Hours: Water customers are requested to voluntarily limit the irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems. Customers are requested to limit outdoor water use to Mondays for water customers with a street address ending with the numbers 1, 2, or 3, Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending with the numbers 4, 5, or 6, and Fridays for water customers with a street address ending with the numbers 7, 8, 9, or 0. Irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at any time if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet-filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system; or
- c. Other uses that waste water such as water running down the gutter, street, or alley are restricted.
- d. Tiered pricing via graduated surcharges may be implemented, specific rates and consumption levels will be published by the BSUD Office.

C. STAGE III - MANDATORY WATER USE RESTRICTIONS:

Target: Achieve a 10 percent reduction in total daily water demand.

1. Stage III will begin:

The water utility will implement Stage III when any one of the selected triggers is reached:

- a. Supply-Based Triggers: Wholesale supplier's drought Stage III
- b. Demand- or Capacity-Based Triggers: Total daily demand equals or exceeds 3.7 mgd for 3 consecutive days or 4 mgd on a single day.
- c. Production or distribution limitations

2. Stage III will end:

Upon initiation and termination of Stage III, the utility will make a public announcement to its customers via the website or a note on the customer's water bill. **Notice to TCEQ required.**

Requirements for Termination:

Stage III of the Plan may end when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of three (3) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage III, Stage II becomes operative.

3. Utility Measures:

Visually inspect lines and repair leaks on a regular basis. Flushing is prohibited except for dead end mains and or it is needed to maintain water quality.

4. Mandatory Water Use Restrictions:

The following water use restrictions shall apply to all customers.

- a. Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems **shall be limited to Mondays for water customers with a street address ending with the numbers 1, 2, or 3, Wednesdays for water customers with a street address ending with the numbers 4, 5, or 6, and Fridays for water customers with a street address ending with the numbers 7, 8, 9, or 0.** Irrigation of landscaped areas is further limited to the hours of 6 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight on designated watering days. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted at any time if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet-filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system.
- b. Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the immediate premises of a commercial car wash or commercial

service station. Further, such washing may be exempted from these regulations if the health, safety, and welfare of the public are contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.

- c. Use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi type pool is prohibited except on designated watering days between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.
- d. Operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes is prohibited except where necessary to support aquatic life or where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.
- e. Use of water from hydrants or flush valves shall be limited to maintaining public health, safety, and welfare.
- f. Use of water for the irrigation of golf courses, parks, and green belt area is prohibited except by hand-held hose and only on designated watering days between the hours 6 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 8:00 p.m. and 12:00 midnight.
- g. The following uses of water are defined as nonessential and are prohibited:
 - 1) wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
 - 2) use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
 - 3) use of water for dust control;
 - 4) flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street;
 - 5) failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s); and
 - 6) any waste of water.
- h. Tiered pricing via graduated surcharges will be implemented for retail customers. Specific rates and consumption levels will be published by the BSUD Office.
- i. BSUD will allocate water supplies on a pro rata basis for Wholesale Customers.

D. STAGE IV - CRITICAL WATER USE RESTRICTIONS:

Target: Achieve a 25 percent reduction in daily water demand.

1. Stage IV will begin:

The water utility will implement Stage IV when any one of the selected triggers is reached:

- a. Supply-Based Triggers: Wholesale supplier's drought Stage IV or supply contamination
- b. Demand- or Capacity-Based Triggers: Total daily demand equals or exceeds 4 mgd for 3 consecutive days.
- c. Production or distribution limitations: When imminent or actual failure of a major component of the system which would cause an immediate health or safety hazard.
- d. System outage

2. Stage IV will end:

Upon initiation and termination of Stage IV, the utility will make a public announcement to its customers via the website or a note on the customer's water bill. **Notice to TCEQ required.**

3. Requirements for Termination:

Stage IV of the Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of three (3) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage IV, Stage III becomes operative.

4. Operational Measures:

The utility shall visually inspect lines and repair leaks on a daily basis. Flushing is prohibited except for dead end mains and only between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. Emergency interconnects or alternative supply arrangements shall be initiated. All meters shall be read as often as necessary to insure compliance with this program for the benefit of all the customers.

5. Mandatory Water Use Restrictions: (all outdoor use of water is prohibited)

- a. Irrigation of landscaped areas is absolutely prohibited.
Use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle is absolutely prohibited.
- b. Fines of \$50 will be applied to the customer's account for each violation of water restrictions.
- c. Tiered pricing via graduated surcharges will be implemented. Specific rates and consumption levels will be published by the BSUD Office.
- d. BSUD will allocate water supplies on a pro rata basis for Wholesale Customers.

E. SYSTEM OUTAGE or SUPPLY CONTAMINATION

Notify TCEQ Regional Office immediately.

Section 9 Wholesale Customers

In the event that the triggering criteria specified in Section 11.C.1 of the Plan for Stage 3 – Severe Water Shortage Conditions have been met, the General Manager, or his/her designee(s), is hereby authorized to initiate allocation of water supplies on a pro rata basis in accordance with Texas Water Code Section 11.039. The District 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.

**RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF A
DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BROOKESMITH
SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT ADOPTING A DROUGHT CONTINGENCY
PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the amount of water available to the Brown County WID #1 and its water utility customers are limited and subject to depletion during periods of extended drought;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that natural limitations due to drought conditions and other acts of God cannot guarantee an uninterrupted water supply for all purposes;

WHEREAS, Section 11.1272 of the Texas Water Code and applicable rules of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality require all public water supply systems in Texas to prepare a drought contingency plan; and

WHEREAS, as authorized under law, and in the best interests of the customers of the Brookesmith Special Utility District, the Board deems it expedient and necessary to establish certain rules and policies for the orderly and efficient management of limited water supplies during drought and other water supply emergencies;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BROOKESMITH SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

SECTION 1. That the Drought Contingency Plan attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and made part hereof for all purposes be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the official policy of the Brookesmith Special Utility District.

SECTION 2. That Steve Adams, General Manager is hereby directed to implement, administer, and enforce the Drought Contingency Plan.

SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

DULY PASSED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BROOKESMITH SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT, ON THIS 9 day of October, 2018.

Lewis Lehman
President, Board of Directors

ATTESTED TO:

James Towery
Secretary, Board of Directors