

**USER DROUGHT
CONTINGENCY
PLAN**

AQUA TEXAS, INC

**Applies to all Public Water Systems Owned and
Operated by Aqua Texas, Inc.**

*Developed to Meet Requirements
Outlined in 30 TAC § 288.20 and § 288.22*

Adopted May 1, 2024

DocuSigned by:

Craig Blanchette

Craig Blanchette, President

AQUA TEXAS, INC.

USER DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN (UDCP) All Public Water System Owned and Operated by Aqua Texas, Inc.

Introduction

Aqua Texas, Inc. (Aqua Texas) has developed this User Drought Contingency Plan (UDCP) to enable it to manage its water systems and water resources during drought conditions, periods of abnormally high usage, system contamination, and extended reduction in ability to supply water due to equipment failure or other emergencies in a conscientious, fair, and appropriate manner. It is not designed to punish, stigmatize, or criticize anyone about their usage of water. Its sole intent is to maintain an adequate supply of water during the various stages of drought conditions or other water supply emergencies, which may occur from time to time and to enable Aqua Texas to comply with the requirements of a court, government agency, groundwater district, subsidence district, wholesale provider, or other authority.

Aqua Texas believes that significant reductions in water usage can be achieved through voluntary efforts by customers. Implementation of voluntary water conservation measures and conscientious water use practices are encouraged at all times; however, additional water use restrictions are required and will be mandatory in cases of extreme drought, periods of abnormally high usage, system contamination, or extended reduction in ability to supply water due to equipment failure.

SECTION 1 Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent

Aqua Texas, in its continuing effort to maintain an adequate supply of high-quality water, has prepared this User Drought Contingency Plan (UDCP or plan). In order to maintain supply, storage, and pressure or to comply with regulatory requirements, temporary restrictions may be necessary to limit non-essential water usage. This UDCP has been guided by TCEQ Requirements & Rules.

SECTION 2 Public Education

Aqua Texas will periodically provide 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 water use restrictions to be implemented in each stage. Drought plan information will be provided by:

- utility bill inserts;
- other direct mail notices will be provided, if necessary, to communicate information.
- Details and additional information will be posted on the company website under “Service Alerts” and “Disruption Map”.
- Supplemental educational material and water smart guidelines will be posted to the company’s designated water conservation page year-round.

SECTION 3 Notice Requirements

Notice will be provided to each customer by Reverse 911 Alert, mail, or hand delivery prior to implementation or termination of each stage of the water restriction program. Notice will be mailed to each customer at least 72 hours prior to the start of new or modified water use restrictions. If notice is hand delivered, Aqua Texas will not enforce the provisions of the plan for 24 hours after notice is provided. Excessive use limit notifications will allow for a grace period of one full billing cycle before provisions are enforced, regardless of method of communication, unless other requirements from a regulating entity or operational scenario exist. The notice to customers will contain the following information:

1. the date restrictions will begin,
2. the circumstances that triggered the implementation or termination of restriction STAGE,
3. the stages of response and explanation of the restrictions to be implemented, and,
4. an explanation of the consequences for violations.

The notice when it is necessary to move to Stage III or Stage IV will inform customers that violating the restrictions on sprinklers, automatic irrigations systems or use of other unauthorized irrigation may result in installation of a flow restrictor without a prior separate written notice.

Notification to the TCEQ by telephone at (512) 239-4691, or electronic mail at PDWS@tceq.texas.gov 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. A status report of the restriction program is required to be filed with the TCEQ at the initiation and termination of mandatory water use restrictions (i.e., Stages III and IV). Drought stage status will be communicated as requested to any local regulating authority managing the withdrawal of water, ground and surface.

SECTION 4 Violations of Mandatory Restrictions: Stage I, Stage II or Stage III

1. First violation:

Stage I or Stage II - The customer will be notified by written notice, hanging tag or letter, of their specific violation of required restrictions, reductions, or for excessive usage. The customer will be provided a copy of the User Drought Contingency Plan upon request.

Stage III or IV - Aqua Texas may install a flow restricting device as described below without a prior written notice for violation of restrictions on sprinklers, automatic irrigation systems or use of hoses, and for violation of any excessive use limits.

2. Subsequent violations:

- a. After the first written notice, if provided, Aqua Texas may install a flow-restricting device in the line to limit the amount of water that will pass through the meter in a 24-hour period. The flow restrictor may be left in the line for up to 60 days or until the wholesale provider or district requirements are ended. Aqua Texas may charge the customer for the actual cost of installing and removing the flow-restricting device, not to exceed \$50.00 for installation and \$50.00 for removal. The customer will be provided a copy of the User Drought Contingency Plan.
- b. If the customer violates the required reductions/restrictions after installation of a flow restrictor, after written notice, Aqua Texas may discontinue service at the meter for up to 7 days, or until the end of the calendar month, whichever is less. The customer will be charged a \$50 reconnect fee for restoration of service. Further violations will result in disconnection and additional reconnect fees.

3. Customer reports of violations:

With all reports from customers regarding a violation, the Conservation Coordinator will work with Operations or field staff to properly investigate the potential violation. All violations will be treated as potential until staff can verify a violation has occurred. True violations are subject to the enforcement structure listed above.

SECTION 5 Exemptions or Variances

Aqua Texas may grant any customer an exemption or variance from the UDCP for good cause **upon written request**. A customer who is refused an exemption or variance by Aqua Texas may appeal the denial in writing to the TCEQ. Aqua Texas will treat all customers equally concerning exemptions and variances and will not discriminate in granting exemptions and variances. No exemption or variance will be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.

SECTION 6 Response Stages

Unless there is an immediate and extreme reduction in an aquifer level; water availability or production; critical system capacity; or other absolute necessity to declare an emergency or severe condition, Aqua Texas will progress sequentially from Stage 1 through more restrictive stages. If, after a reasonable period of time, demand is not reduced enough to alleviate the conditions that initiated restrictions or to comply with restrictions required by a court, district, government agency, wholesale provider or other authority, some outdoor water use provisions in a particular Stage may be modified or further restricted or more restrictive Stages implemented as necessary to achieve the necessary reductions. In addition to restricted watering times, maximum monthly or weekly customer usage targets may be implemented and enforced in the same manner as the restrictions listed below. Notice of any modified restrictions or of a more stringent stage will be provided to customers in accordance with Section 3. **In order to comply with the requirements of a groundwater conservation district, subsidence district, wholesale provider, or other authority, Aqua Texas may skip a less restrictive stage and immediately implement a more restrictive stage or additional requirements. Designated watering times within each stage are subject to change based on regulation or necessity.**

VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION AWARENESS (VOLUNTARY RESTRICTIONS) – See Section 9 below

STAGE I – MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS – MODERATE STAGE - See Chart on Page 6

STAGE II – MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS – ALARM STAGE - See Chart on Page 6

STAGE III – MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS - CRITICAL STAGE – See Chart on Page 6

STAGE IV – MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS - SEVERE STAGE – See Chart on Page 6

SECTION 7 Drought, Demand & Critical System Capacity Stage Triggers

Water System Supply Contamination or Outage: In the event of system supply contamination or system outage, Aqua Texas may immediately implement the response measures of **Stage IV**. Notification to TCEQ shall be made immediately by calling (512) 239-4691, or electronic mail at *PDWS@tceq.texas.gov*. The appropriate regional office shall also be notified.

If any single demand-based trigger condition is met for a given restriction stage, the most restrictive stage triggered will be evaluated for implementation.

Demand Based Triggers:

<u>Trigger</u>	<u>Stage I Mandatory</u>	<u>Stage II Mandatory</u>	<u>Stage III Mandatory</u>	<u>Stage IV Mandatory</u>
Percent of water treatment capacity reached for 3 or more days in a week	55 %	65 %	80 %	90 %
Total daily demand as % of pumping capacity for 3 or more days in a week	35 %	45 %	70 %	85 %
Storage capacity	Storage Tank Level drops within 8 ft. of low-level lock out 3 or more days in a week.	Storage does not refill prior to 6 pm or tank drops within 5 ft. of low-level lock out 3 or more days in a week.	Low level lock out is reached more than once in a week.	Low level lock out is reached more than twice in a week.
Well Pump Runs ___ hours per day more than 3 days per week	8 hrs.	10 hrs.	12 hrs.	16 hrs.

Supply or water demand management measures including, but not limited to, pro rata curtailment of water deliveries to or diversions by wholesale water customers as provided in with Texas Water Code §11.039 may be implemented by the Director of Operations as authorized in Section 12 of this plan.

Supply Based Triggers - For those systems where Aqua Texas pumps water from a ground water district or purchases water from wholesalers, the district or wholesale supplier will formally notify Aqua Texas of one or more precipitating events triggering a stage of the district or wholesaler's drought contingency plan. Upon enactment of a stage in the district, authority or wholesaler's drought contingency plan, Aqua Texas will correspondingly implement the same or equivalent stage in its service area. Aqua Texas can modify its plan to match the watering schedules, daily watering hours or other specific restrictions of a wholesaler, district or other authority if asked to do so. Aqua Texas will notify customers of any changes in days, hours or other provisions prior to enforcing provisions of the plan. When Aqua Texas must self-regulate to comply with ground water permit limitations, water restrictions may be enacted to ensure compliance with permit limits. Appendix C contains and addendum to implement conservation measures within this plan specific to permit management where a curtailment chart is provided or necessary.

Specific triggers for systems utilizing water managed by LCRA as a source are included in Appendix B of this plan. These triggers shall supersede any other criteria listed within this plan when the criterion within Appendix B initiates a more restrictive water conservation stage.

SECTION 8 Non-Drought Related Conservation Awareness

Aqua Texas will voluntarily perform the following actions during late Spring and Summer as an integral part of the UDCP when there is no declared drought or other water supply emergencies:

- Aqua Texas will operate its system under normal conditions.
- Aqua Texas will ensure that each operator has received a copy of the UDCP.
- Aqua Texas will encourage customers to follow water smart practices at all times.
- Aqua Texas will urge customers to water lawns on the conservation awareness (voluntary) schedule, avoid unnecessary and excessive watering and to keep evaporative losses to a minimum.
- Aqua Texas will seek to identify and repair leaks in a timely fashion. Customers will be encouraged to notify Aqua Texas of any known or observed leaks.
- All educational material and community engagement will be managed or approved by the Conservation Coordinator.

SECTION 9 Water Conservation Awareness Period – Annual Voluntary Restrictions

Goal – 5 % Reduction in usage

Aqua Texas will encourage customers to follow the voluntarily conservation awareness practices below all year outside a mandatory water restriction period or declared drought. **For systems utilizing water managed by LCRA as a source, the landscape irrigation restrictions in this section are required to be observed at all times. Aqua will adjust requirements of this plan to match any updates from LCRA that are outside the guidelines of Appendix B.** Customers will be notified in writing every January 1 that Voluntary Restrictions are in place, encouraging water conservation practices indoors and outdoors.

Voluntary Practices to Reduce Water Consumption

Guidelines:

- Follow a suggested twice weekly schedule for lawn watering⁰ for hose end sprinklers, automatic irrigation systems, and drip irrigation systems watering between the following times:
Midnight to 10:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. to Midnight on the designated watering day.
- Water gardens, trees, shrubs, flowers/flowerbeds, or other landscaped areas with handheld hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can any day between 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 a.m. Avoid unattended hoses.
- Soaker Hoses – Anywhere except lawns 8 p.m. – 10:00 a.m. any day
- Car washing with bucket or hand-held hose with automatic shut-off.

Water Smart Tips:

- Draw less water for bath or reduce shower time.
- Do not let water run while shaving, dish washing, brushing teeth, etc.
- Keep pools covered if not used on a daily basis.
- Use water displacement device in toilet tank.
- Install aerators on faucets.
- Utilize water reuse where possible.
- Utilize slow-release watering bags for trees and shrubs
- Consider Xeriscaping or landscaping using native/ drought tolerant plants
- Replacement or retrofits with ultra-low flow fixtures is encouraged.
- Do not use hose to wash off driveways, sidewalks, or streets. Use a broom or blower.
- Use Commercial Car Washes that Recycle Water.

SECTION 10 MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS

<u>Stage I – Mandatory Restrictions</u>	<u>Stage II – Mandatory Restrictions</u>	<u>Stage III– Mandatory Restrictions Critical Stage</u>	<u>Stage IV– Mandatory Restrictions Severe Stage</u>
Goal - 10 % Reduction	Goal - 20 % Reduction	Goal - 30 % Reduction	Goal - ≥40 % Reduction
If the triggers identified in the UDCP are met or critical system capacities are being threatened, Aqua Texas will activate Stage I . Comply with TWICE WEEKLY lawn watering schedule: DESIGNATED DAYS & HOURS ONLY	Whenever production or critical system capacity triggers are reached, Aqua Texas will activate Stage II measures of its UDCP. Comply with TWICE WEEKLY lawn watering schedule: DESIGNATED DAYS & HOURS ONLY	Whenever system failures are a concern or the possibility of outages exists, <i>Aqua Texas</i> will activate the Stage III measures of its UDCP. Comply with ONCE WEEKLY lawn watering schedule: DESIGNATED DAYS & HOURS ONLY	Whenever system failures are imminent or there are outages, <i>Aqua Texas</i> will activate the Stage IV measures of its UDCP. LAWN WATERING PROHIBITED
<p><u>Actions required of Customers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued water conservation practices and voluntary reductions in water use in general. Mandatory compliance with “Required Reductions” listed below. <p><u>Actions initiated by Aqua Texas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flushing is limited to dead end mains and then only to maintain water quality. Check for and promptly fix leaks. <p><u>Required Customer Restrictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatic Irrigation Systems WATERING SCHEDULES Midnight to 10 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. to Midnight Hose End Sprinkler– <u>Same as above</u> Handheld Hose, faucet filled bucket or watering can - Watering landscape areas allowed <u>ANY DAY at designated hours</u>. No unattended hoses. Midnight to 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to Midnight Soaker Hoses – Landscaped areas, <u>ANY DAY</u> from: Midnight to 10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. to Midnight Car washing - bucket or hand-held hose with automatic shut-off; 1 time every other week or use a commercial car wash. No washing of driveways, sidewalks, or streets. No new filling or refilling of pools but topping off of existing pools allowed. 	<p><u>Actions required of Customers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued water conservation practices and voluntary reductions in water use in general. Mandatory compliance with “Required Reductions” listed below. <p><u>Actions initiated by Aqua Texas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flushing is limited to dead end mains and then only to maintain water quality. Check for and fix leaks promptly. <p><u>Required Customer Restrictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatic Irrigation System WATERING SCHEDULES Midnight to 4:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. to Midnight Hose End Sprinkler – Midnight to 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to Midnight Handheld Hose, faucet filled bucket or watering can - Watering landscape areas allowed <u>ANY DAY at designated hours</u>. <u>No unattended hoses</u>. 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Soaker Hoses – Landscaped areas, <u>no lawns, ANY DAY</u> from: Midnight to 10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. to Midnight No washing of cars, driveways, sidewalks, or streets. No new filling or refilling of pools but topping off of existing pools allowed on designated days. 	<p><u>Actions required of Customers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued water conservation practices and voluntary reductions in water use in general. Mandatory compliance with “Required Reductions” listed below. <p><u>Actions initiated by Aqua Texas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flushing is limited to dead end mains and then only to maintain water quality. Check for and fix leaks promptly. <p><u>Required Customer Restrictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatic Irrigation System WATERING SCHEDULES Midnight to 4:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. to Midnight Hose End Sprinkler – Midnight to 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to Midnight Handheld , faucet filled bucket or watering can - Landscaped areas, pot plants & Lawns – ONLY DESIGNATED DAYS <u>No unattended hoses</u>. 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Soaker Hoses – FOUNDATIONS ONLY DESIGNATED DAYS 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. No washing of cars, drives, streets, sidewalks. No new filling or refilling but topping off of existing pools allowed on designated days. <p><u>Customer Consumption</u></p>	<p><u>Actions required of Customers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued water conservation practices and voluntary reductions in water use in general. Mandatory compliance with “Required Reductions” listed below. <p><u>Actions initiated by Aqua Texas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flushing is limited to dead end mains and then only to maintain water quality. Check for and fix leaks promptly. <p><u>Required Customer Restrictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatic Irrigation System Prohibited at all times! Hose End Sprinklers– Prohibited at all times! Handheld Hose – Prohibited at all times! Watering Can - Landscaped areas & pot plants – ONLY DESIGNATED DAY 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Soaker Hoses – FOUNDATIONS ONLY DESIGNATED DAY 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. No washing of cars, drives, streets, sidewalks. No new filling, refilling, or topping off of pools. No non-essential use, i.e., decorative fountains. Newly planted trees or shrubs ANY DAY: soaker bag or watering can.

<u>Stage I – Mandatory Restrictions</u>	<u>Stage II – Mandatory Restrictions</u>	<u>Stage III– Mandatory Restrictions Critical Stage</u>	<u>Stage IV– Mandatory Restrictions Severe Stage</u>
<u>Customer Consumption Limit:</u> Aqua Texas can establish a monthly customer consumption limit if necessary, to ensure meeting required reduction.	<u>Customer Consumption Limit:</u> Aqua Texas can establish a monthly customer consumption limit if necessary, to ensure meeting required reduction.	<u>Limit:</u> Aqua Texas can establish a monthly customer consumption limit if necessary, to ensure meeting required reduction.	<u>Customer Consumption Limit:</u> Aqua Texas can establish a monthly customer consumption limit if necessary, to ensure meeting required reduction.
<u>Penalties or Consequences</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warnings for excessive consumption. Installation of flow restrictors <u>for 2nd violation</u> of Stage I Restrictions. Service cutoff & reconnection fee <u>for 3rd violation</u> of Stage I Restrictions 	<u>Penalties or Consequences</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warnings for excessive consumption. Installation of flow restrictors <u>for 2nd violation</u> of Stage II Restrictions. Service cutoff & reconnection fee <u>for 3rd violation</u> of Stage II Restrictions 	<u>Penalties or Consequences</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of flow restrictors <u>for 1st violation</u> of Stage III Restrictions. Service cutoff & reconnection fee <u>for 2nd violation</u> of Stage III Restrictions 	<u>Penalties or Consequences</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of flow restrictors <u>for 1st violation</u> of Stage IV Restrictions. Service cutoff & reconnection fee <u>for 2nd violation</u> of Stage IV Restrictions.

TWICE WEEKLY WATERING SCHEDULE

(Applicable During Conservation Awareness or Stages I or II)

House No. Ends In 2 or 9	House No. Ends In 1 or 5	House No. Ends In 6 or 7	House No. Ends In 0 or 3	House No. Ends In 4 or 8
Monday Thursday	Tuesday Friday	Wednesday Saturday	Thursday Sunday	Friday Monday

ONCE WEEKLY WATERING SCHEDULE

(Applicable During Stage III– Mandatory Restrictions)

House No. Ends In 2 or 9	House No. Ends In 1 or 5	House No. Ends In 6 or 7	House No. Ends In 0 or 3	House No. Ends In 4 or 8
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

The above watering schedules may be modified from time to time based on the affected area and the numbering of addresses. This is done to more evenly distribute the number of connections permitted to water on a given day providing better control of peaking demands. This is most commonly necessary in small water systems. Other variations may be used including but not limited to named areas, street names, utilization of a different digit within the house number, etc.

SECTION 11 Criteria for Termination of Restrictions

The termination, lifting, or partial lifting of a restriction level or specific requirements within the restriction level like an excessive use limit, will be evaluated on a case by case basis. Any reduction in restriction level or requirements will occur only when in the opinion of the Conservation Coordinator, Director of Operations, the Operations Area Manager or their designee, determines conditions warrant such a change. Termination of stage(s) or other requirements can occur if the following criteria is met:

- There was a significant change in conditions that created the issue.
- Current conditions must be lower or less severe than the initial trigger
- Improved conditions are sustained for 30 consecutive days, except in cases conservation is in place for specific mechanical issues

Appendix D contains a decision-making tree for termination of stages. The above criteria must be must for termination regardless of declaration from a Groundwater District or other authority. Customers will be informed of any such change as soon as possible in a manner consistent with Section 2 of this plan.

SECTION 12 Wholesale Contract Provisions

New wholesale contracts shall include standard language requiring the customer adhere to the Aqua Texas's mandatory drought reduction goals. Aqua Texas will include a provision in every wholesale water contract entered into or renewed after adoption of the plan, in case of shortage of water resulting from drought, the water to be distribution shall be divided in accordance with Texas Water Code §11.039.

In the event that pro rata curtailment is deemed necessary, the Director of Operations or his designee is hereby authorized to initiate allocations of water supplies in accordance with Texas Water Code §11.039. All pro rata curtailments shall be communicated to and/or planned with guidance from the Conservation Coordinator.

Enforcement actions for non-compliance with either pro rata water reductions by wholesale customers will vary according to the specifics of each wholesale customer's contract.

SECTION 13 Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPG)

Aqua Texas, Inc. has provided a copy of this Plan to all RPGs in which it owns and operates public water systems. A copy of the transmittal letter to the planning group is provided in Appendix A.

SECTION 14 TCEQ Notification

Aqua Texas shall notify the executive director or designated department(s)/ personnel of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality within five (5) business days of the implementation of any mandatory provisions of the Drought Contingency Plan.

SECTION 15 Reporting to Groundwater Conservation District or other Authority

During a declared drought, if a water withdrawal district or other authority were to request system specific reporting, all reports (monthly and quarterly) must be submitted by the 5th day of the month following the end of the reporting period.

SECTION 16 Public Participation

Aqua Texas has met with homeowners' associations and groups at several water systems in the past susceptible to drought to discuss specific drought restrictions and the plan in general. Aqua Texas will continue to partner with its communities to further the opportunity for customer input. Aqua Texas shall make the plan available to any customer upon request and share its content in education materials prepared as part of but not limited to the educational activities outlined in Section 2 of this plan.

SECTION 17 Plan Review and Updates

This Plan was developed to meet the requirements in 30 TAC § 288.20 and § 288.22 to submit a Drought Contingency Plan and provide the community and water customers with essential drought contingency response information, regulations, and services. The Plan will be reviewed at minimum every five (5) years and updated as needed based on major developments in Aqua Texas's water service areas. The next scheduled plan review and update will occur in 2029.

Appendix A

RPG Notification Cover Letter

Sent to Regions: B, C, D, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N & P



April 30, 2024

Regional Water Planning Group Chair:

The enclosed Drought Contingency Plan, which updates the previously adopted 2020 Drought Contingency Plan, was developed by the Aqua Texas to fulfill Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requirements for retail and wholesale water providers as outlined in Texas Administrative Code Title 30, Chapter 288. It is being forwarded to TCEQ.

If you have any questions on the enclosed plan, please contact me at 512-990-4400 x56101.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scot W. Foltz". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Scot W. Foltz
Aqua Texas
Environmental Compliance Manager

Appendix B

LCRA Drought Level Triggers Addendum

To be used for any system utilizing water from a source under the authority of LCRA.

Initiation and Termination of Response Stages

Aqua Texas Area shall monitor water supply and demand conditions on a regular basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation and termination of each stage of this Plan in accordance with LCRA's Water Management Plan. Water supply conditions will be determined by the source of supply, system capacity, and weather conditions. Water demand will be measured by the peak daily demands on the system.

Public notification of the initiation or termination of drought response stages shall be by a variety of ways, examples include direct mail, e-mail and automated telephone calls, signs posted at entry points to the service area or a combination of these methods.

The following triggering criteria shall apply to Aqua Texas system(s) and customer service area utilizing water under the authority of LCRA:

7. DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES

This DCP sets forth the procedures by which LCRA will implement drought response stages for firm water uses. LCRA will encourage its firm water customers to implement long-term water conservation measures year-round to meet the goals included in their water conservation plans. LCRA will, as needed, share information with the public on water supply conditions, water use and conservation. LCRA's Water Contract Rules, including its Drought Contingency Plan Rules and Pro Rata Curtailment Rules may include additional requirements and details applicable to the following stages.

7.1 Drought Contingency Plan Stage 1

If the total combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis drops below 1.1 million acre-feet, and interruptible stored water supplied to the Lakeside, Gulf Coast and Pierce Ranch agricultural operations is curtailed, LCRA will request its firm water customers implement mandatory drought response measures in their individual drought contingency plans with a target demand reduction goal of 10 percent. If the combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis subsequently increases to 1.2 million acre-feet, the stage will be exited.

7.2 Drought Contingency Plan Stage 2

LCRA will enter Stage 2 if interruptible stored water supplied to the Lakeside, Gulf Coast and Pierce Ranch agricultural operations is curtailed, and:

a) the total combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis drops below 900,000 acre-feet; or

b) on March 1 or July 1, the combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis is below 1.1 million acre-feet and the cumulative prior three months of inflows total to those lakes is less than the 25th percentile of historic inflows for the three-month periods.

In this stage, LCRA firm water customers must implement additional mandatory drought response measures in their individual drought contingency plans with a target demand reduction goal of 20 percent. In this stage, firm customers' water use reduction measures must include a no more than once-per-week watering schedule for ornamental landscaping.

If the combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis subsequently increases above 1.1 million acre-feet, the stage will be exited and replaced by Stage 1.

7.3 Drought Contingency Plan Stage 3

If the total combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis drops below 750,000 acre-feet and interruptible stored water supplied to the Lakeside, Gulf Coast and Pierce Ranch agricultural operations is curtailed, LCRA firm water customers must implement additional mandatory drought response measures in their individual drought contingency plans with a target demand reduction goal of 25 percent. In this stage, LCRA firm customers' water use reduction measures for ornamental landscaping must include a) a prohibition on the operation of automatic or manual sprinkler irrigation systems; or b) a maximum of no more than 6 hours per week for operating automatic or manual sprinkler irrigation systems. If the combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis subsequently increases to 825,000 acre-feet, the stage will be exited and replaced by Stage 2.

7.4 Drought Contingency Plan Stage 4

If the total combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis drops below 600,000 acre-feet, and the LCRA Board of Directors declares a Drought Worse than the Drought of Record consistent with the LCRA Water Management Plan (WMP), LCRA will curtail and distribute the available supply of firm water among its firm water customers and firm environmental flow commitments on a pro rata basis according to the amount of firm water to which they are legally entitled consistent with the Pro Rata Plan for Firm Water Demands approved by TCEQ. All uses of interruptible stored water will be cut off prior to and during any mandatory pro rata curtailment of firm water supplies. The initial curtailment of firm water supplies under pro rata will be 20 percent with a target demand reduction goal of 30 percent. In this stage, LCRA will require that firm customers implement mandatory water use reduction measures for ornamental landscaping that must include a prohibition on irrigation of ornamental turfgrass using automatic or manual irrigation systems, including drip irrigation and hose-end sprinklers. Upon entering Stage 4, the LCRA Board also shall determine the conditions under which additional mandatory actions shall be triggered, consistent with Appendix C of LCRA's Water Contract Rules, which include specific procedures and requirements related to a pro rata curtailment of firm water supplies. During Stage 4, LCRA will further encourage firm water customers to use alternative water supplies, if available.

The LCRA Board also may set additional criteria for ending or easing pro rata curtailment, such as combined storage increasing to a given level. If such criteria are subsequently met, the Board may increase or decrease the pro rata curtailment percentage. A declaration of a Drought Worse than Drought of Record will be canceled if combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis increases to 1.4 million acre-feet. In that event, mandatory pro rata curtailment would be lifted, and the stage would be exited.

Appendix C

Permit Management Addendum Incorporating Curtailment Charts

SECTION I Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District

Aqua Texas will in good faith make a consistent effort to manage production of groundwater within the boundaries of health and safety requirements to the curtailment targets issued by the Conservation District.

According to BSEACD **Rule 3-3.7(C)**, Aqua Texas will establish the structure below for excessive use in the water systems managed by this District. This outline is established as a minimum compliance requirement and Aqua can update system specific excessive use limits as needed. Termination of excessive use limits will be subject to criteria outlined in Section 11 of this plan. All additional guidance on excessive use limits and other permit management strategies will be taken into consideration as Aqua Texas implements this plan.

3-3.7. PROSCRIBED WATER USE DURING DECLARED DROUGHTS.

C. Domestic use that meets the following criteria is presumed to be excessive use that harms the groundwater reservoir and aquifer resources and is therefore proscribed use.

- 1. Water use in occupied houses in excess of 30,000 gallons per connection per month, or 4,000 gallons per capita per month, whichever is greater, during a Stage II Alarm Drought, and in excess of 20,000 gallons per connection per month, or 3,000 gallons per capita per month, whichever is greater, during a Stage III Critical or Stage IV Exceptional Drought, indicating excessive use for purposes other than protection of human health and welfare.*
- 2. Water use for newly constructed, never occupied housing in excess of 6,000 gallons per house/lot per month during a Stage II Alarm Drought, and any substantive use for such purposes during a Stage III Critical or Stage IV Exceptional Drought, which would indicate excessive use for purposes other than protection of human health and welfare.*
- 3. During a Stage II Alarm Drought, water use for common areas within a service area in excess of an amount proportional to the total volume represented by the number of service connections multiplied by 6,000 gallons (the allocation specified in C(2) of this Section). This proportion shall be calculated based on the ratio of common area relative to non-common area. All such water use during Stage II Critical and Stage IV Exceptional Drought is proscribed.*

SECTION II Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

Aqua Texas will in good faith make a consistent effort to manage the production of groundwater within the boundaries of health and safety requirements to the curtailment targets issued by the Conservation District. All permits inside and outside the Jacobs Well Groundwater Management Zone (JWGMZ) will be managed with the intent of preservation of groundwater resources and features. Guidance from the District on excessive use limits and other permit management strategies will be taken into consideration as Aqua Texas implements this plan in systems under the District's jurisdiction.

SECTION III Internal Development of Curtailment Charts

Where a withdrawal permit exists and the regulating District or other authority has not issued a mandatory curtailment chart, Aqua Texas may implement its own based on necessity for a system or group of systems. Curtailment charts can be adjusted as needed to accommodate specific permit or system needs. Charts will be imposed by decision of the Conservation Coordinator, Director of Operations, Area manager or their designee.

Appendix D

Flow Chart for Termination of Stages and/ or Stage specific requirements
*Operational Criteria Defined in Section 11

