

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 Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation adopts the following Drought Contingency Plan.

SECTION II
Public Involvement

The Board of Directors meets on a regular basis once a month. Meeting Agenda is posted in accordance with State law, listing items for discussion and items to be acted upon by the Board. Meetings are open to the public and the public is given an opportunity to speak and voice their views and opinions. The discussions at the meetings are normally very informal in order to encourage public participation.

SECTION III
Wholesale Water Customer Education

The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will periodically provide wholesale water customers with information about the Plan, including information about the conditions under which each state 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 providing a customer with a copy of the Plan including information about the Plan and invoices for water sales.

SECTION IV
Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups

The water service area of the Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation is located within the Brazos G Regional Water Authority and Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation has provided a copy of the Plan to Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group.

SECTION V
Authorization

The General Manager 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 General Manager 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 Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation. The terms “person” and “customer” as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, and all other legal entities. This does not apply to livestock.

Definitions For the purposes of this Plan, the following definitions shall apply:

Aesthetic water use: water use for ornamental or decorative purposes such as fountains, reflecting pools, and water gardens.

Commercial and institutional water use: water use which is integral to the operations of commercial and non-profit establishments and governmental entities such as retail establishments, hotels and motels, restaurants, and office buildings.

Conservation: those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.

Customer: any person, company, or organization using water supplied by Rockett Special Utility District.

Domestic water use: water use for personal needs or for household or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or for cleaning a residence, business, industry, or institution.

Even number address: street addresses, box numbers, or rural postal route numbers ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 and locations without addresses.

Industrial water use: the use of water in processes designed to convert materials of lower value into forms having greater usability and value.

Non-essential water use: water uses that are not essential nor required for the protection of public, health, safety, and welfare, including:

irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, athletic fields, and golf Landscape irrigation use: water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including residential and commercial lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, and rights-of-way and medians.

- (a) courses, except otherwise provided under this Plan;
- (b) use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle;
- (c) use of water to wash down any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
- (d) use of water to wash down buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
- (e) flushing gutters or permitting water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street;
- (f) use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or Jacuzzi-type pools;
- (g) use of water in a fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life;
- (h) failure to repair a controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s); and
- (i) use of water from hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than fire fighting.

SECTION VII
Criteria for Initiation and Termination
Of Drought Response Stages

The General Manager or his/her designee, shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a monthly 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 stage will be made by mail or telephone. The news media will also be informed.

STAGE 1 Triggers – MILD Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation:

The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will recognize that a mild water shortage condition exists when:

- a. Average daily water consumption reaches 90% of production capacity.
- b. Consumption (90%) has existed for a period of three days.
- c. Weather conditions are to be considered in drought classification determination. Predicted long, cold or dry periods are to be considered in impact analysis.
- d. When water reserves are less than 120 days' supply.

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 days. The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 1 in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage 1 of the Plan.

STAGE 2 Triggers – MODERATE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation:

The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will recognize that a moderate water shortage condition exists when:

- a. Average daily water consumption reaches 100% of rated production capacity for a three-day period.
- b. Weather conditions indicate mild drought will exist five days or more.
- c. One ground storage tank is taken out of service during mild drought period.
- d. Storage capacity (water level) is not being maintained during period of 100% rated production period.
- e. Existence of any one listed condition for a duration of 36 hours.

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. The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 2 in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage 1 of the Plan.

STAGE 3 Triggers – SEVERE Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation:

The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will recognize that a severe water shortage condition exists when:

- a. Average daily water consumption reaches 110% of production capacity.
- b. Average daily water consumption will not enable storage levels to be maintained.
- c. System demand exceeds available high service pump capacity.

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 30 consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage 3, Stage 2 becomes operative. The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 3 in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage 3 of the Plan.

STAGE 4 Triggers – CRITICAL Water Shortage Conditions

Requirements for initiation:

The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will recognize that an emergency water shortage condition exists when:

- a. Water system is contaminated either accidentally or intentionally.
- b. Water system fails from acts of God, (tornados, hurricanes) or man.
- c. Major water line breaks, or pump or system failures occur, which cause unprecedented loss of capability to provide water service.

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 30 consecutive days. The Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation will notify its wholesale customers and the media of the termination of Stage 4.

**SECTION VIII
Drought Response Stages**

The General Manager, or his/her designee shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions and, in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section VI, shall determine that mild, moderate, or severe water shortage conditions exist and shall implement the following actions:

STAGE 1 Response – MILD Water Shortage Conditions

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

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

Advise customers early of factual conditions and update customers about worsening situations to make public awareness as a part of each customers water contingency plan.

Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

- a. The General Manager, or his/her designee 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.
- b. The General Manager, or his/her designee 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 50 percent reduction in daily water demand.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

Advise customers to severely decrease their water use pursuant to their plan. Where there is no plan the Water Supply will suggest to those customers to restrict water totally from outdoor sprinkling, watering lawns, shrubs, driveways and washing automobiles.

Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand:

- a. The General Manager, or his/her designee, 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.
- b. The General Manager, or his/her designee, will request wholesale customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce non-essential water use.
- c. The General Manager, or his/her designee will initiate preparations 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 according to the procedures specified in Section VI of the Plan.
- d. The General Manager, or his/her designee will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand current water supply and/or 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 75 percent reduction in daily water demand.

Best Management Practices for Supply Management:

Ration water to customers in proportionate allocations to the amounts of their respective contracts with the water supply corporation.

- a. The General Manager, or his/her designee 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. Implement Stage 2 of the customer's drought contingency plan.
- b. The General Manager, or his/her designee will initiate pro rata curtailment of water diversions and/or deliveries for each wholesale customer according to the procedures specified in Section VI of the Plan.
- c. The General Manager, or his/her designee will provide a weekly report to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or 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 General Manager 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

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

SECTION X Enforcement

During any period when pro rata allocation of available water supplies is in effect, wholesale customers shall pay the following surcharges on excess water diversions and/or deliveries.

1.25 times the normal water charge per acre-foot for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocation up through 5 percent above the monthly allocations.

1.50 times the normal water charge per acre-foot for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocations from the 5 percent through 10 percent above the monthly allocation.

1.75 times the normal water charge per acre-foot for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocation from 10 percent through 15 percent above the monthly allocation.

2.00 times the normal water charge per acre-foot for water diversions and/or deliveries more than 15 percent above the monthly allocation.

The above surcharges shall be cumulative.

SECTION XI Variances

The General Manager or his/her designee, may, in writing, grant a temporary variance to the pro rata water allocation policies provided by the 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 the Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other conditions 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 for Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation, 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 compliance date.
- f. Other pertinent information.

Variations granted by the board of Directors for Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the Board of Directors or its designee.

- a. Variations granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
- b. Variations 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 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 for Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Plan are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraphs, and sections of this Plan, since the same would not have been enacted by the Board of Directors for Brandon-Irene Water Supply Corporation without the incorporation into this Plan of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.

March 3, 2025

Approved