

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	16057	Agenda Number	12.
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Meeting Date:	8/2/2012	Department:	Austin Water Utility
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Subject

Approve a resolution repealing Resolution No. 20090423-002 and adopting the new Drought Contingency Plan for Retail & Wholesale Public Water Suppliers. Related to Items # 10 and 11.

Amount and Source of Funding

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	April 23, 2009- Adopted 2009 Drought Contingency Plan (Resolution No. 20090423-002); April 28, 2005- Adopted 2005 Drought Contingency Plan (Resolution No. 20050428-011); August 26, 1999- Adopted 1999 Drought Contingency Plan (Resolution No. 990826-66)
For More Information:	Drema Gross, 974-2787; Denise Avery, 972-0104
Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission and reviewed by the Resource Management Commission.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) specifies the triggers used to initiate implementation of specific water use reduction measures contained in the Water Conservation Code (§ 6-4 Austin City Code). These triggers are demand based (how much water is consumed), supply based (how much water is available) and emergency based (man-made or natural disaster). This revised DCP, which updates the previously adopted 2009 DCP, fulfills TCEQ requirements under 30 TAC § 288.20 and § 288.22, and addresses new requirements set forth by the LCRA under its recently revised Drought Contingency Plan. LCRA requires its raw water customers to file a Drought Contingency Plan consistent with LCRA's triggers and water use reduction targets. This revision also incorporates revisions to the Water Conservation Code (6-4 of City Code), which addresses the specific water conservation measures for each conservation stage.

Changes from the 2009 Drought Contingency Plan

- Updates the thresholds for Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3 supply-based triggers based on lake volumes to align them with the corresponding triggers in the LCRA's Revised 2009 Water Utilities Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan. LCRA's revised DCP establishes a supply trigger at 1.4 million acre feet (MAF) in the combined lakes. Additional triggers include combined lake storage less than 900,000 acre feet, and combined lake storage of 600,000 acre feet or a drought worse than the drought of record.
- Updates the Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3 drought responses to align conservation goals with the reduction targets required in LCRA's Revised 2009 Water Utilities Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan. While the City's Water Conservation Code (§ 6-4 Austin City Code), including the implementation of conservation stages, currently allows the City to attain the reduction rates required by the LCRA revised plan, this updated DCP specifically identifies the triggers and target reductions that each drought stage will achieve. The identified reduction targets include a 5% reduction during Stage 1, a 10%-20% reduction during Stage 2, and a minimum 20% reduction during Stage 3.
- Clarifies the applicability of the DCP to Austin Water's wholesale customers.
- Updates projected water pumpage to reflect the Council goal of reaching 140 gallons per capita per day by 2020.
- Replaces the Water Conservation Code (§ 6-4 Austin City Code) in Appendix A with an amended version.