

APPENDIX 11
(SOUTH CAROLINA DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN)
TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The focus of this plan is on State and Federal consequence management of the drought.
- B. For the purposes of this plan “Drought” means a period of diminished precipitation which results in negative impacts upon the hydrology, agriculture, biota, energy, and economy of the State.
- C. Drought conditions are determined by using established means of measuring precipitation, stream flow, soil moisture and well levels. These combined measurements form indices from which the degrees of drought are categorized.
- D. A drought is a slowly developing disaster, often taking years to have an impact on the State.
- E. A drought event can have a major impact on the State economy, and will affect everything from agriculture to industry to individuals.

II. PURPOSE

- A. Establishes policies and procedures for the State and Counties when responding to a drought situation.
- B. Identifies follow-on State-level to assist with and provide relief from severe or extreme drought conditions that have reached a level of disaster beyond the scope of the South Carolina Drought Response Committee.
- C. Provides statewide planning and response strategies that allow State and County Emergency Management officials to effectively and efficiently plan and coordinate the application of local, State, and Federal resources in response to a severe or extreme drought event to prevent loss of life, minimize damage, lessen the economic impact, and protect the environment.

III. ASSUMPTIONS

- A. Not all areas of the State will be affected the same way at the same time during a drought. Therefore, there could be different types of drought response operations occurring simultaneously in the State.
- B. State actions in response to “Severe” or “Extreme” drought conditions may be identical as individual communities may be in both conditions in varying degrees.

- C. The State Drought Response Plan will in some instances be in effect at the same time other measures are being implemented by the SC Drought Response Committee and local water systems.
- D. Most response measures will require a Declaration of a State of Emergency by the Governor and may include Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) support.
- E. Legislative action may be required to approve coordination and negotiations with surrounding States to coordinate response measures.
- F. A severe or extreme drought condition could trigger implementation of the State Catastrophic Incident Response Plan (see Appendix 9 of the South Carolina Emergency Operating Procedures (SCEOP)).
- G. In extreme circumstances, people could be evacuated to water locations instead of water being delivered to them.
- H. The State Emergency Response Team (SERT) activation for a drought response could be a long-term activation lasting for months or even longer.

IV. SITUATION

- A. Droughts are naturally recurring events in South Carolina. The length and severity has varied greatly over the last 25 years. The worst recorded drought, from 1999 to 2002, was one of the longest and most severe in more than 100 years.
- B. The South Carolina Drought Response Act of 2000 describes four levels of drought conditions:
 - 1. Incipient drought - There is a threat of a drought as demonstrated by drought indices.
 - 2. Moderate drought - There is an increasing threat of a drought as demonstrated by drought indices.
 - 3. Severe drought - A drought that has increased to severe levels as demonstrated by drought indices. This phase must be verified utilizing data, forecasts, and outlooks from various agencies. A drought of this severity normally requires an official declaration by the Department of Natural Resources, and water withdrawals and use restrictions.
 - 4. Extreme drought - A drought that has increased to extreme levels as demonstrated by drought indices.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. The South Carolina Drought Response Committee

1. The South Carolina Drought Response Committee is composed of representatives from the Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR), SC Department of Environmental Control (DHEC), SC Forestry Commission, SC Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Emergency Management (SCEMD) and other weather and hydrology experts.
2. The Drought Response Committee is responsible for monitoring the drought conditions in the State, setting the drought level within the State, making recommendations to assist with managing the drought, and supporting the implementation of this plan.
3. The Drought Response Committee shall evaluate drought conditions within Drought Management Areas to determine if a need exists for action beyond the scope of local government. The committee shall consider:
 - Effectiveness of local drought ordinances and plans in protecting and insuring adequate water supplies.
 - Regional impacts of water use on water sources and water users.
 - Short term and extended climatologically forecasts.
 - Other relevant information.
4. The Drought Response Committee will consult with representatives of municipalities, counties, commissions of public works, public and private water suppliers, public service districts, power generation facilities, industries, special purpose districts, emergency management agencies, and any other water users in the affected Drought Management Area while evaluating drought conditions and in preparing recommended actions.
5. The Committee is also responsible for developing regulations to support water conservation and mitigation measures for the Drought Management Areas.

B. Committee Recommendations

1. Upon determination that action in addition to local measures is necessary to ensure adequate supplies of water in Drought Management Areas, the Drought Response Committee shall prepare recommendations to reduce or alleviate drought impacts and submit the recommendations to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources for implementation.

2. If the recommendations involve the curtailment of water use, the committee shall determine which categories of non-essential water use must be curtailed in accordance with State Regulation 121-11.10.

C. Plan Activation

1. Upon confirmation of an Extreme Drought Alert Phase, the Drought Response Committee may recommend the Governor issue a public statement that an extreme drought situation exists, and appropriate water-use and withdrawal restrictions be imposed.
2. Should the drought situation continue to deteriorate to the point that the safety, health, or welfare of people or infrastructure within a Drought Management Area is seriously threatened or impacted, the Drought Response Committee will immediately notify the Governor per the Drought Response Act of 2000, and provide a priority list of recommended actions to alleviate the effects of drought conditions in the affected drought management areas.
3. The Drought Response Committee will also notify SCEMD that drought conditions have progressed to a level that may require the activation of this plan.
4. SCEMD will, upon notification from the Drought Response Committee, conduct a review and based upon the findings activate this plan, if appropriate.
5. Activation of this plan will be based upon pre-identified events that may affect a community's ability to provide for the safety of its citizens due to low or lack of water. These events include:
 - Communities have initiated water restrictions or rationing.
 - Community water supplies are continuing to be depleted to the level of exhaustion.
 - Local utility companies have begun shutting down power generation plants.
 - The requirement of firefighting resources beyond the capabilities of the SC State Forestry Commission and implementing the Fire Fighter Mobilization plans or the Southeastern Forest Fire Compact.
 - The Drought Response Committee recommends plan activation.
6. The activation of this plan will trigger activation of the State Emergency Response Center (SEOC) and State Emergency Response Team (SERT). The SEOC will initially activate at OPGON 3, with a limited activation

staffed by SCEMD personnel, key SERT agencies and Emergency Support Functions (ESF) as required.

- a. Upon activation, the SERT will develop a Drought Emergency Executive Order for the Governor’s signature (See Attachment A).
- b. The SERT in coordination with the Drought Response Committee will work with local Emergency Management Directors and local water suppliers to develop appropriate response and recovery measures.
- c. The measures could include but are not limited to:
 - Activation of Points of Distribution (POD) within a community to assist with the distribution of donated or purchased water.
 - Coordination with DHEC, FEMA, and the USACE to assist with drilling of new water wells.
 - Providing temporary sheltering for citizens without access to water.
 - Activating State Evacuee Assistance Centers to provide relief assistance to communities and individuals affected by the drought (See Annex A to Appendix 6 (SC Recovery Plan) to the SCEOP).

D. Actions available to the State to assist communities under this plan may apply under either severe or extreme drought conditions.

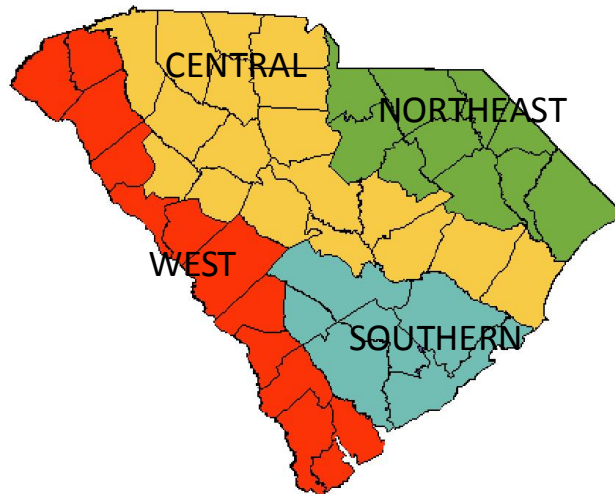
E. Water Management Areas.

- 1. For the purpose of implementing this plan, the State will use four Water Management Areas. These areas are West, Central, Northeast, and Southern.

WATER MANAGEMENT AREA	COUNTIES		
West	Oconee Pickens Anderson Abbeville Greenwood	McCormick Edgefield Aiken Barnwell Allendale	Hampton Jasper Beaufort

WATER MANAGEMENT AREA	COUNTIES		
Central	Greenville Spartanburg Cherokee York Chester Union	Laurens Newberry Fairfield Saluda Lexington Richland	Calhoun Sumter Clarendon Williamsburg Georgetown
Northeast	Lancaster Kershaw Chesterfield Lee	Darlington Marlboro Florence Dillon	Marion Horry
Southern	Orangeburg Bamberg	Colleton Dorchester	Charleston Berkeley

South Carolina Water Management Areas



2. All response will be based upon water levels or flow in river basins within the four management areas. This will allow equal implementation of response measures across local and city jurisdictions.

F. Actions by Phase

1. Preparedness

- a. When the Drought Response Committee categorizes more than 50% of the counties in the State in a “Severe” or “Extreme” drought condition, ESF-15 (Public Information) in conjunction with DNR PIO will initiate a statewide Public Information media campaign to minimize the fear and potential misunderstanding

citizens would be experiencing and to develop and improve the public understanding of a drought and its impact.

b. Drought Response Committee

- (1) The Drought Response Committee will monitor the drought conditions and advise SCEMD of any changes.
- (2) The Committee will provide updates on the number of communities implementing conservation measures (voluntary and involuntary).
- (3) The Committee will incorporate current State and Federal research programs into plans for drought response and mitigation.
- (4) SCEMD will work with the Drought Response Committee to develop a statewide drought mitigation plan.

c. State Agencies.

- (1) When directed by the Governor, each State agency will develop a list of actions to conserve internal water usage by 10%. Examples include stop watering of landscape and not washing agency cars.
- (2) All State agencies will develop and refine drought response measures that they can implement. This would include, for example, developing and recommending changes to current drought legislation, relief support, and tracking impacts.

2. Response

a. Governor

- (1) The Governor may declare a State of Emergency or a Drought Emergency by Executive Order.
- (2) The Governor may also issue emergency regulations to require the curtailment of water withdrawals or to allocate water on an equitable basis.
- (3) The Governor may seek a Federal Disaster Declaration in order to receive Federal resources.

- b. ESF 15 (Public Information)
 - (1) ESF-15 (Public Information) will issue weekly press releases providing updates on the drought status and actions being taken.
 - (2) ESF-15 (Public Information) will also provide information on relief programs available from both the State and Federal level.
 - c. SCEMD
 - (1) SCEMD, along with the Drought Response Committee, will advise the Governor regarding the necessity of authorizing the SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to grant temporary overweight/overwidth exemptions to carriers transporting essential emergency relief supplies into and through South Carolina in order to support disaster response and recovery.
 - (2) For impacted communities, SCEMD will activate, as necessary, State Evacuee Assistance Centers in order to provide access to State assistance programs in dealing with a drought emergency.
 - d. The SERT will develop response plans based upon the situation. Some of the remediation could include hauling water, drilling new wells, providing temporary hook ups to other water systems, and coordinating rationing operations.
3. Recovery
- a. Continue drought response activities and monitoring of the drought indicators.
 - b. Assist with implementation of State and Federal relief programs.
 - c. The State will seek Federal disaster declarations for both Individual and Public Assistance funding.
4. Mitigation
- a. Develop programs and projects to improve water storage and collection capability within the State.
 - b. Continue to develop interoperability between different water systems and river basins.

- c. Develop and implement long term conservation measures to reduce water usage as the population continues to grow.
- d. Coordinate with surrounding States to develop a Regional Drought Mitigation Plan.
- e. Develop and implement permanent solutions to alleviate water shortage issues.
- f. Encourage the development of drought mitigation plans for industry and municipal public works departments.
- g. Establish a statewide water table monitoring network to assess hydrologic changes and monitor drought conditions as recommended by the State Water Plan.

VI. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. General

- 1. Upon notification of activation of this plan, all State agencies involved in drought response will provide representatives to staff the SEOC.
- 2. Agencies represented on the Drought Response Committee will provide members to the SCEMD Drought Response Working Group.

B. South Carolina Emergency Management Division

- 1. Coordinate and direct restoration and recovery operations when local government resources are exhausted.
- 2. Establish a working group to develop response, recovery, and mitigation plans in response to severe or extreme drought conditions within the State.
- 3. Develop and initiate a statewide public information campaign when more than 50% of the Counties in the State are in a severe drought.
- 4. In coordination with Drought Response Committee, issue weekly press releases providing updates on the drought status and actions being taken.
- 5. Activate and monitor State Evacuee Assistance Centers, as necessary, to provide impacted populations access to State Assistance Programs in dealing with a drought emergency.
- 6. Review and update this plan annually.

- C. SC Department of Natural Resources State Climatology Office
 - 1. Provide the Drought Response Committee notification of the onset of each Drought Alert Phase in Drought Management Areas.
 - 2. Continue to evaluate information from various sources and provide updates on the State drought assessment.
 - 3. In coordination with the DHEC, develop a state-wide water table monitoring system to assess well water levels.
 - 4. Provide long-range, climate-scale predictions for the State.
 - 5. Continue to work with the Drought Response Committee to manage conservation and mitigation programs at the local level across the State.
 - 6. Assist in drafting the Governor's Executive Order.
- D. SC Forestry Commission
 - 1. Provide SCEMD a daily update once the 100 wildfires/day threshold has been reached, and the Fire Fighter Mobilization plan or the Southeastern Forest Fire Compact has been activated.
 - 2. Upon activation of this plan, be prepared to deploy one or more Incident Management Teams to support drought response activities.
- E. SC Department of Commerce
 - 1. Compile economic loss data from impacted areas of the State by either sector or region.
 - 2. Where possible, compile the loss of sales tax revenues, increase in unemployment, and decreases in tourism levels or lodging receipts to aid in Federal Disaster Declaration determinations.
 - 3. Identify major commercial and industrial problem areas.
- F. SC Department of Health and Environmental Control
 - 1. Work with the Drought Response Committee to ease or waive well drilling permit restrictions, as necessary, to support mitigation plans.
 - 2. Assist SCDNR in their development of a statewide water table monitoring system.
 - 3. Maintain records including locations of public water supply facilities.

- G. Clemson University Cooperative Extension Agency and SC Department of Agriculture
 - 1. Compile agricultural loss data from impacted areas of the State by either sector or region.
 - 2. Develop and maintain plans to assist in:
 - a. Feeding & watering or evacuating large farm animals
 - b. Poultry water usage for drinking and evaporative cooling
 - c. Dairy industry water needs for sanitation
 - d. Swine industry drinking water and waste management
- H. SC Office of Regulatory Staff
 - 1. Monitor the nuclear power producing facilities power production and report any loss of capability due to lack of water for cooling and evaporation.
 - 2. Assist in gathering economic loss information from the energy producing sector in the State.
- I. South Carolina National Guard
 - 1. Develop plans to support water hauling operations to include providing security.
 - 2. Upon activation of the SERT, provide an equipment list of water transport equipment and water purification equipment available within the state.
 - 3. Develop plans to assist in the evacuation of citizens from drought stricken areas to temporary shelter locations within the State.

VII. FEDERAL

A. Federal Emergency Management Agency

FEMA drought response capability is limited to actions under the authority of a Stafford Act Presidential Disaster Declaration.

B. US Army Corps of Engineers

- 1. Upon a request from the Governor, the USACE may provide the following programs to assist with drought relief:

- a. The Emergency Well Construction and Water Transport program
 - (1) Provides for the construction of wells and/or the transport of water to farmers, ranchers, and political subdivisions that are drought distressed.
 - (2) The USACE will transport the water at no cost; however, the cost of the water is the responsibility of the requesting organization.
 - (3) The USACE will also contract drilling of new wells, but the requesting jurisdiction must pay for the services.
 - b. Other programs available include selling of USACE's reservoirs of surplus water and planning assistance in the development of a state drought contingency plan. The planning assistance is a 50-50 cost share program.
2. The USACE cannot provide water for livestock, irrigation, or commercial/industrial processing.
 3. Additional USACE assistance is outlined in Attachment B
- C. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
1. Drought monitoring
 - a. The following organizations collaborate to produce the U.S. Drought Monitor which provides national and state drought status reports:
 - Joint Agricultural Weather Facility (U.S. Department of Agriculture)
 - Climate Prediction Center (NOAA)
 - local National Weather Service Offices and River Forecast Centers (NOAA)
 - National Drought Mitigation Center (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
 - U.S. Geological Survey (U.S. Department of Interior)
 - National Water and Climate Center (USDA/Natural Resource Conservation Service)
 - Climate Diagnostics Center (NOAA)
 - Regional Climate Centers and State Climatologists

- b. NOAA produces Short-and Long-Term Drought Indicator Blends to forecast nationwide drought conditions.
 - c. NOAA produces the U.S. Drought Hazards Assessment which identifies the current drought conditions throughout the country
 - d. In collaboration with NOAA and USDA, the National Drought Mitigation Center produces the Drought Impact Reporter which collects and documents the affects drought on states and communities.
2. Climate modeling/climate predictions
- a. Precipitation predictions from 6 days to 12 months.
 - b. Temperature predictions from 6 days to 12 months.
- D. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Upon declaration of an agriculture disaster by the Secretary of Agriculture, both agencies can provide drought assistance in the form of disaster relief loans for farmers and small business owners (See Attachment B).

VIII. ATTACHMENTS

- A Draft Governor Executive Order
- B Programs Available to Support Drought Response
- C Sample Press Releases

ATTACHMENT A TO DROUGHT RESONSE PLAN
DRAFT GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. (01)

WHEREAS, the Drought Response Committee has determined that the following Counties of the State of South Carolina are presently in an extreme drought condition and vulnerable to the effects of such a drought to the extent that the loss of life and property are imminent. The affected Counties are _____.

WHEREAS, I have been advised that the drought is not expected to abate in the immediate future and represents a threat to the safety, security, welfare and property of citizens and transients living in South Carolina.

THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Governor, pursuant to the Constitution and Statutes of the State of South Carolina, I hereby declare that a State of Emergency exists in South Carolina. I direct that the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan be placed into effect.

I further direct that all prudent preparations be taken at the individual, local, and State levels to protect against the possible effects of the drought.

I further direct the South Carolina National Guard be placed on a standby status and, at the discretion of the Adjutant General in consultation with the Governor's Office and in coordination with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, specified units of the National Guard be placed on State Active Duty to assist civil authorities and to take all reasonable precautions as is necessary for the preservation of life and property.

Further Proclamations and Orders deemed necessary to ensure the fullest possible protection of life and property during this State of Emergency shall be issued verbally by me, and thereafter published for dissemination within the succeeding twenty-four hour period.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of South Carolina at Columbia, South
Carolina this _____ day of
_____.

Governor

ATTEST:

Secretary of State

ATTACHMENT B TO DROUGHT RESONSE PLAN
PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT A DROUGHT RESPONSE

- I. The United States Department Agriculture (USDA)
- A. The Food and Consumer Service provides for the release of donated food stocks to relief organizations that prepare congregate meal service in situations of distress, with or without a Presidential Disaster Declaration. Also, the USDA Secretary may authorize the Disaster Food Stamp Program during emergencies which disrupts commercial channels of food distribution, with or without a Presidential Disaster Declaration.
- B. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides emergency loans to help cover production and physical losses in counties declared as drought disaster areas by the President or Secretary of Agriculture. Established farmers and ranchers that have suffered actual physical loss or at least 30% production loss due to drought are eligible for loans. For drought situations, an actual physical loss may never occur, but a production loss is much more likely. Emergency loans may be used to replace essential property, pay for production costs, pay essential living expenses, reorganize farming operations, and refinance debts. Loan limit is up to 80% of actual loss with maximum indebtedness of \$500,000.
1. FSA provides cost-shared payments to orchardists, maple sugar producers, greenhouse operators, and vineyard growers who incurred losses due to damaging weather.
 2. Emergency Conservation Program provides cost-shared grants for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought for livestock and existing irrigation systems for orchards and vineyards.
 3. Haying & Grazing Emergency programs provide direct payments to qualifying farmers under the Acreage Conservation Reserve and Conserving Uses Programs to help livestock producers in counties approved by the FSA Deputy Administrator. When the growth and yield of hay and pasture have suffered 40% or greater loss due to widespread natural disasters to include droughts, direct payments may be authorized.
 4. The Soil and Water Loan program provides loans to develop wells improve water supplies, to build dikes, terraces, and waterways, to construct/repair ponds, tanks, ditches, and irrigation canals for owners of family-sized farms unable to obtain credit from other sources.
 5. The Farm Ownership Loan program provides loans to assist farmers to develop, construct, improve, or repair farm homes, farm and service buildings, to drill wells, and otherwise improve farm water supplies, and to make other necessary improvements. Applicants (family-sized farms) must not be able to obtain credit from other sources.

- C. The Commodity Credit Corporation (USDA-CCC) Emergency Feed Cost-Sharing Program provides cost-shared at an established rate for livestock feed normally produced on the farm. Producers must have suffered a substantial loss of feed and must have insufficient feed to maintain and preserve their eligible livestock.
 - 1. Emergency Feed Programs provide for the sale of CCC owned grain at reduced rates to livestock producers whose feed, normally grown on the farm, has suffered a substantial loss and who have insufficient feed to maintain and preserve their eligible livestock.
 - 2. Crash Feed Grain Donation Programs provide grains for commingled, stranded, and unidentified as to owner livestock, or livestock owned by one who is temporarily unable to arrange for feed or pasture.
 - 3. Livestock Preservation Donation Programs provide for grains for eligible owners who have sustained major damages to the point that they no longer have the means (cash or credit) to pay for livestock feed.
 - 4. In coordination with the Department of Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the USDA, the Indian Acute Distress Donation Program, provides feed grains to Indian tribes for feeding livestock due to severe drought, flood, hurricane, blizzard, or other disaster that has caused chronic, acute distress for the needy livestock owners and members of an Indian tribe.
- D. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service may be issued a Direct Federal Assistance (DFA) mission assignment and/or a Technical Assistance mission assignment for disaster Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams (VMAT).
- E. The Rural Utilities Services (USDA-RUS) has the Water Assistance Grant Program which provides grants to local communities with a population of 15,000 or less and Indian tribes identified in a Presidential Disaster Declaration to help rural residents obtain adequate quantities of water that meet the standards of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Projects compete nationally for available funding under the provisions of the ECWAG Program.
- F. Water & Waste Disposal Loans & Grants provide assistance to develop, replace, or repair water and waste disposal systems in rural areas and towns having a population of 10,000 or less and who are unable to obtain credit from other sources. Grant funds are used to reduce costs to a reasonable level for rural users. Grants cannot exceed 75% of eligible grant costs.

II. Department of Commerce (DOC)

- A. The Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan program provides small-interest loans to businesses and small agricultural cooperatives suffering uninsured economic injury due to a disaster, including

drought. Loan maximum limit is \$1,500,000 and either a Presidential, SBA or USDA disaster declaration must be made.

- B. The Economic Development Administration provides 75-25% cost-sharing grants to the State and local governments, certain Private Non-Profit (PNP) organizations, and Indian tribes to assist development and implementation strategies that address adjustment problems resulting from sudden and severe economic dislocation.

III. United States Corps of Engineers (USACE)

- A. Under its own authority, USACE may provide emergency water assistance, usually temporary, to meet minimum public health and welfare requirements. Assistance is supplemental to State and local efforts. Long term solutions to water supply problems are the responsibility of the State and local governments. USACE may construct wells or transport water to farmers, ranchers, and political subdivisions within areas determined to be drought distressed. A request for this assistance should come through the Governor.
- B. The State and local authorities must make a declaration of a drought emergency. Certain specific water conservation/restrictions must be implemented and enforced. Available State and local resources are fully utilized, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works must evaluate and designate a “drought distressed area.” Water may be transported; however, irrigation, recreation, or commercial/industrial processing is not authorized. Cost of the water, handling, and storage is the responsibility of the applicants.
- C. The applicant will pay any cost associated with the construction of wells by USACE, and USACE may construct wells only when commercial or other sources cannot construct it within a reasonable time. Applicants must secure funding for the financing of the construction of wells through commercial or other resources and entered into an agreement with USACE to pay all costs associated thereto, or entered into an agreement with USACE to pay all costs with interest over a period not exceed 30 years.
- D. USACE may be issued a technical assistance mission assignment to provide the required technical expertise to the State and local governments and Indian tribes to effectively assess and make appropriate recommendations for making potable water systems operational. This mission assignment is 100% federally funded.
- E. USACE may be issued a mission assignment for Direct Federal Assistance (DFA) to provide the required resources to repair and make operational public wastewater disposal systems in order to preserve public health and safety. DFA mission assignments are cost-shared with the State at not less than 75% federal share.
- F. USACE may be issued a DFA emergency power mission assignment to provide the required emergency power (generators) for key facilities which are not able to

operate because of prolonged power outages caused by low river water levels. DFA mission assignments are cost-shared with the State at not less than 75% federal share.

- G. USACE may be issued a technical assistance mission assignment to provide the required technical expertise to the State and local governments and Indian tribes for repairing and/or operating an acceptable wastewater treatment facility caused by droughts. These mission assignments are 100% federally funded.
- H. USACE may be issued a technical assistance mission assignment to provide the State, local governments, and Indian tribes the necessary technical advice and development of plans for constructing, repairing deeper wells or repairing existing potable water systems damaged due to soil pressure collapsing dry water lines.

IV. Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA)

- A. With a Presidential Disaster Declaration, under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Section 403, Essential Assistance, Direct Federal Assistance (DFA) may be authorized to provide assistance in order to:
 - 1. Save lives and preserves property.
 - 2. Provide for the public health and safety, including provision of food, water, medicine, and other essential needs, including movement of supplies or persons.
- B. Public Assistance (PA) assistance may be authorized to reimburse the State and local applicants and Indian tribes for water resources they have contracted for and acquired for mass care purposes.
- C. These missions would be cost-shared at not less than 75% Federal share.

V. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- A. EPA may be issued a technical assistance mission assignment to conduct environmental assessments of potable water situation, and provide guidance to the State, local governments, and Indian tribes for meeting safe water drinking standards.
- B. Technical assistance provided through the EPA is at no cost to the State.

VI. Health and Human Services/Public Health Service (HHS/PHS)

- A. HHS/PHS may be issued a technical assistance mission assignment to assess the public health situation at risk and make appropriate recommendations to the State, local governments, and Indian tribes to preserve public health and safety

standards. Technical assistance provided through the HHS/PHS is at no cost to the State.

- B. HHS/PHS may be issued a DFA mission assignment to provide the necessary public health and medical assistance and commodities needed such as Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMATs) or medical supplies if the State and local governments cannot provide them. Assistance provided during Presidential Disaster Declarations is subject to 75% federal cost sharing. Costs for assistance provided without of a Presidential Disaster Declaration are absorbed by the State.

VII. Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). May be provided to those applicants who lost their jobs due to the drought not to exceed 26 weeks of assistance after a disaster is declared.

VIII. Fire Suppression Grants.

- A. May be provided from the President's Disaster Relief Fund for use in a designed fire complex at the request of a Governor and concurrence from the USFS Principal Advisor to FEMA which threatens life and property and constitutes a threat of a major disaster.
- B. This is a reimbursement grant for the State's wildfire fighting costs. The State must first meet annual floor cost (5% of the State's average annual expenditures for firefighting) on a single declared fire. Then FEMA will pay 70% of costs for that declared fire and all subsequent declared wildfires.
- C. After the State's costs exceed annual average, FEMA will pay 70% of all costs for declared fire with no deduction for floor costs. After the State's costs exceed twice the annual average, then FEMA will reimburse 100% of the State's eligible costs.

IX. American Red Cross (ARC)

- A. Under its own authorities, ARC may provide the following:
 - 1. Technical consultation and guidance to State and local governments when planning for water distribution to residents.
 - 2. Establishing and staffing designated water distribution sites.
 - 3. Coordinating voluntary agency activities designed to support local community response efforts.
 - 4. Providing voluntary personnel to assist local government response actions, including providing limited potable water quantities.
- B. ARC does not provide assistance to commercial, industrial or agricultural corporations with drought or water-shortage caused losses.

ATTACHMENT C TO DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASES

For Immediate Release

South Carolina Emergency Management Division
2779 Fish Hatchery Road, West Columbia, SC 29172

SCEMD, GOVERNOR CALL ON CITIZENS TO CUT WATER CONSUMPTION

COLUMBIA – The South Carolina Emergency Management Division, in concert with Governor _____, is calling on citizens across South Carolina to cut water consumption.

The Governor also is asking each of the state’s public water systems to report to the State the amount of water used daily. The consumption totals will be made available to the public to help communities and the public monitor the success of water-saving measures.

“I am calling on South Carolinians to cut our water use,” the Governor said. “Whenever you use water, cut the amount by half, whether it is taking a shower or washing the dishes.”

The Governor also expressed appreciation for cooperation from all of the State’s public water systems, local officials and citizens.

South Carolina is suffering from a (severe/exceptional) drought, and water resources are critically low. “Water consumption must be reduced now and for the foreseeable future if we are to avoid a water supply emergency,” the Governor said.

Here are some tips for water conservation that can be used now to start saving right away:

1. Stop watering lawns and shrubbery at homes and businesses; do not wash home exteriors, driveways or sidewalks; do not wash cars; and restaurants should ONLY serve water when patrons ask.
2. Check plumbing for leaks. If found, repair them. In a typical home, leaks amount to about 15 percent of all household indoor water use.
3. Use indoor water wisely. Turn off water while shampooing, shaving and brushing your teeth to reduce the time water is running.
4. Take time to locate your main water shut-off valve and the water meter in your yard. Knowing where the main shut-off is can potentially prevent the loss of thousands of gallons of water.
5. Use dry cleanup methods, such as brooms and vacuum cleaners, to reduce both indoor and outdoor water use.
6. Take advantage of free water. Catch rainwater from your gutters and use it to water your flowers and vegetables. Collect water from the bath/shower while waiting for it to heat up; use for watering plants.
7. Use appliances wisely. Run washing machines and dishwashers only with full loads to maximize efficiency.
8. Avoid using sink disposals for food scraps.

For more ideas and water conservation information, click on the SCEMD web site at WWW.SCEMD.ORG.