

# **WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN 2015**

**East Niles Community Services District  
Bakersfield, California**

## **SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Law**

This Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) for the East Niles Community Services District (District) outlines a program for responding to water supply limitations. The intent of the water conservation measures and progressive restrictions on water use and method of use identified in this WSCP is to provide certainty to water users and enable the District to control water use, provide water supplies, and plan and implement water management measures in a fair and orderly manner for the benefit of the public.

This WSCP describes measures to be implemented during times of declared water shortages, or declared water shortage emergencies by either the District, State or Federal government. It establishes three stages of drought response actions to be implemented in times of shortage, with increasing restrictions on water use in response to decreasing available supplies.

### **1.2 The District**

The East Niles Community Services District (District) is located on the east side of Bakersfield, California. The District boundary includes certain incorporated areas of the City of Bakersfield and certain areas within the unincorporated area of the County of Kern.

ENCSD depends upon two sources of water, which are surface water from Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) Improvement District No. 4 (ID4) and groundwater. KCWA has prepared a reliability analysis for the water that they wholesale to ENCSD. ENCSD has used the numbers prepared by KCWA in determining the frequency and magnitude of surface water supply deficiencies that the District may face.

ENCSD benefits from having multiple water sources from which to draw from during shortages. The District works to build capacity in their system such that they can maximize their existing resources without importing new sources. Although many portions of California experienced shortages during the most recent drought, the ENCSD was able to meet customer demands by voluntary reduction of customer usage without forced rationing.

### **1.3 Surface Water Reliability**

The District has a contract with ID4 to provide 11,000 acre feet of treated water annually. This contract is part of the approximately 77,000 acre feet ID4 (through KCWA) has under contract with the California Department of Water Resources. The ID4 water treatment facility has a capacity of 53,000 acre feet annually and is supplied by both the Kern River and California Aqueduct. In periods where both the aqueduct and river are insufficient to meet full demand, supply is supplemented by recovery of previously banked groundwater.

Therefore, the District has determined that their surface water supply is 100% in all single and multiple dry-year scenarios. In the event that an unanticipated surface water supply deficiency does occur the District could rely on groundwater pumping to make up the difference.

### **1.4 Groundwater Reliability**

Groundwater within the District is pumped as required to supplement the surface water supply. The District is within the boundaries of both ID4 and the Arvin-Edison Water Storage District, both of which bank and/or recharge groundwater. Recent state legislation (AB 1739, SB 1168, and SB 1319) creates new requirements for groundwater sustainability. It is unknown what impacts the legislation will have on the District's operations. The District has a combined well capacity of 9,300 acre-feet per year (AFY).

## **SECTION 2 MINIMUM WATER SUPPLY AVAILABLE**

*This section conforms to the requirements of Water Code section §10632.a (2).*

**2.1 Water Availability**

The District water supply is composed of both treated surface water from KCWA and groundwater wells. Presently the District has the amounts of water available or under contract as described in Table 1.

**Table 1 Water Availability**

Source	Annual Supply (AFY)
Surface Water	11,000
Groundwater	9,300
Total	20,300

Both sources of water can be supplied throughout the District. KCWA delivers water at the high elevation side of the District, where it is pressurized by gravity. The groundwater wells are located at the low elevation side of the District and water is pressurized by booster pump stations. In the event that one source of water is unavailable, the other source can be used exclusively. The District also has 11.36 million gallons (34.9 acre feet) of treated water storage capacity in aboveground tanks.

**2.2 Estimate of Water Supply**

Table 2 contains an estimate of the water supply available during the next three years based on the driest three-year historic sequence. The District has not experienced a reduction in water supplies such that it could not meet demands. Current water usage in the District is about 9,000 acre-feet per year. Supplies available to the District are more than twice its demands.

**Table 2 Predicted Water Supply Available**

Year	Available Supply (acre-feet)
2015	20,300
2016	20,300
2017	20,300

**SECTION 3 INTERRUPTION OF WATER SUPPLY**

*This section conforms to the requirements of Water Code section §10632.a (3).*

A catastrophic event may result in a complete loss of District water supplies for a temporary period lasting from a day to a week or more. Examples of catastrophic events include earthquake, widespread power outage, contamination, long-term drought, or loss of imported supplies. Through information included in billing inserts, the District encourages its customers to be prepared for emergencies and potential interruption of District water supplies by storage of in-home water supplies. In the event of a catastrophic emergency affecting the District’s water supply system, the District will cooperate with the Kern County Emergency Operations Center in recovery operations to restore water supplies to pre-emergency conditions as quickly as possible. District employees will be contacted and activated as per the District’s emergency response policy. Table 3 contains a summary of actions for possible catastrophes.

**Table 3 Summary of Actions for Interruption of Water Supply**

<b>Possible Catastrophe</b>	<b>Summary Of Proposed Actions</b>
Earthquake	1) Assess system for damage 2) Repair damage by District personnel or contractor
Regional Power Failure	1) Rely upon engines and generators to maintain 30 psi positive pressure in water system. 2) Rely upon available storage for supply

## **SECTION 4 STAGES OF ACTION**

*This section conforms to the requirements of Water Code section §10632.a (1).*

The District has developed a three-stage rationing plan to invoke during declared water shortages. The rationing plan includes voluntary and mandatory rationing, depending on the causes, severity, and anticipated duration of the water supply shortage.

As the water purveyor, the District must endeavor to provide the minimum health and safety water needs of the community at all times. The water shortage response is designed to provide a minimum of 50% of normal water demands during a severe or extended water shortage. The rationing program triggering levels shown in Table 3 were established to ensure that this goal is met.

**Table 3 Stages of Action**

<b>Stage No.</b>	<b>Water Supply Conditions</b>	<b>Conservation Target</b>
I (Voluntary)	Supply is 85% of normal demands or greater.	Up to 15%
II (Mandatory)	Supply is 70-84% of normal demands.	Up to 30%
III (Mandatory)	Supply is 50-69% of normal demands.	Up to 50%

## **SECTION 5 REDUCTION MEASURES AND PROHIBITIONS**

*This section conforms to the requirements of Water Code section §10632.a (4) thru (7).*

### **5.1 Stage I Reduction Measures**

When the District's Board of Directors declares a Stage I Water Shortage, the following voluntary water conservation practices shall be implemented:

- a. Public outreach for voluntary reduction in water use by 15%.
- b. Education for water conservation methods.

### **5.2 Stage II Reduction Measures**

When the District's Board of Directors declares a Stage II Water Shortage, the following mandatory water conservation practices regarding the use of potable water must be implemented, in addition to those in Stage I:

- a. No washing down paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, or patios, except when it is necessary to alleviate safety or sanitation hazards.
- b. No watering unpaved drive approaches, driveways, and sidewalks except when it is necessary to

alleviate safety or sanitation hazards.

- c. No application of water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes undue or excessive runoff onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures.
- d. Only use a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle or bucket to water landscaped areas, including trees and shrubs located on residential and commercial properties that are not irrigated by a landscape irrigation system.
- e. Irrigate nursery and commercial grower's products before 9 a.m. and after 6 p.m. only. Watering is permitted at any time with a hand-held hose equipped with a positive shut-off nozzle, a bucket, or when a drip/micro-irrigation system/equipment is used. Irrigation of nursery propagation beds is permitted at any time. Watering of livestock is permitted at any time.
- f. Use only re-circulated water to operate ornamental fountains or decorative water features.
- g. Only wash vehicles using a bucket and a hand-held hose with positive shut-off nozzle, mobile high pressure/low volume wash system, or at a commercial site that re-circulates (reclaims) water on-site. Avoid washing during hot conditions (over 95 degrees) when additional water is required due to evaporation.
- h. Serve and refill water in restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, bars, or other public places where food or drink are served and/or purchased only upon request.
- i. Operators of hotels and motels shall provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily. The hotel or motel must prominently display notice of the option in each guestroom using clear and easily understood language.
- j. The District shall provide prompt notice to a customer whenever the District obtains information that indicates that a leak may exist within the end-user's exclusive control. The customer must repair all water leaks within forty-eight (48) hours of notification by the District unless other arrangements are made with the General Manager.
- k. Use recycled or non-potable water for construction purposes when available.

### **5.3 Stage III Reduction Measures**

When the District's Board of Directors declares a Stage III Water Shortage, the following mandatory water conservation practices shall be implemented with regard to potable water supplies, in addition to Stage I and Stage II Reduction Measures.

- a. Water landscaped areas, including trees and shrubs located on residential and commercial properties, and not irrigated by a landscape irrigation system, on the same schedule set forth in Item (c) below, by using a bucket, hand-held hose with a positive shut-off nozzle, or low-volume non-spray irrigation.
- b. No application of water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.
- c. Watering of outdoor residential and commercial landscapes will be limited to certain days of the week as follows:

Residences and commercial properties with even-numbered addresses will be able to water on

Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Residences and commercial properties with odd-numbered addresses will be able to water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Watering of outdoor landscapes will not be allowed on Monday.

- d. Watering of outdoor landscapes will be permitted to only between the hours of 6:00 pm and 9:00 am.
- e. Commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, such as campuses, golf courses, and cemeteries, shall implement water efficiency measures to reduce potable water usage as may be required by the State of California, the State Water Resources Control Board, or other appropriate state agency.
- f. The District shall provide prompt notice to a customer whenever the District obtains information that indicates that a leak may exist within the end-user's exclusive control. The customer must repair all leaks within forty-eight (48) hours of notification by the District unless other arrangements are made with the General Manager.

#### **5.4 Extraordinary Circumstances**

In the event of extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Board of Directors, the District may prohibit any or all of the following activities regarding the use of potable water supplies:

- a. Washing down roadways except when it is necessary to alleviate safety or sanitation hazards.
- b. Filling or re-filling ornamental lakes or ponds, except to the extent needed to sustain aquatic life, provided that such animals are of significant value and have been actively managed within the water feature prior to declaration of a Stage III Water Shortage.
- c. Washing vehicles except at commercial carwashes that re-circulate water, or by high pressure/low volume wash systems.
- d. Filling or re-filling swimming pools except when it is necessary to alleviate safety or sanitation concerns.
- e. Any usage or application restrictions as specified by the Board of Directors, and/or as lawfully required by the Federal or State government(s), or their agencies.

#### **5.5 New Service Connections**

Upon extraordinary circumstances and upon findings of the Board of Directors that a moratorium on new water service should be adopted, no new potable water services shall be provided, no new temporary meters or permanent meters shall be provided, and no statements of immediate ability to serve or provide potable water service (such as, will serve letters, certificates, or letters of availability) shall be issued, except under the following circumstances:

- a. A valid, unexpired building permit has been issued for the project; or
- b. The project is necessary to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare; or
- c. The applicant provides substantial evidence of an enforceable commitment that water demands for the project will be offset prior to the provision of a new water meter(s) to the satisfaction of District; or

- d. The project is designed so that through the use of water saving devices, zero landscaping or other such measures, that the project water demand would be at least fifty percent (50%) of normal.

This provision shall not be construed to preclude the resetting or turn-on of meters to provide continuation of water service or to restore service that has been interrupted for a period of one year or less.

## **5.6 Penalties**

The Board of Directors may establish a schedule of penalties for violations of this policy in an adopted Ordinance.

## **5.7 Impacts of Implementation**

It is not expected that rates would need to be increased as a result of short term water shortages and the intermittent implementation of this plan. The District's current rate schedule consists of two parts: a monthly service charge, which covers the District's fixed costs, and a use charge (per 100 CF) which covers the cost of producing and delivering water to customers. Therefore, reductions in revenue due to reductions in use should be accompanied by a reduction in expenses incurred by the District.

# **SECTION 6 DETERMINATION OF ACTUAL USE REDUCTION**

*This section conforms to the requirements of Water Code section §10632.a (9).*

During a Stage I or Stage II water shortage, monthly production figures are reported to the Senior Water Operator. The Senior Water Operator compares the monthly production to the target monthly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Monthly reports are forwarded to the General Manager, and monthly reports are provided to the Board of Directors. If reduction goals are not met, the General Manager will notify the Board of Directors so that corrective action can be taken.

During a Stage III water shortage, the procedure listed above will be followed, with the addition of a weekly production report to the General Manager. During emergency shortages, production figures are reported to both the Senior Water Operator and the General Manager regularly. During extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Board of Directors, reports will also be provided to the Board of Directors.

# **SECTION 7      DRAFT WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY RESOLUTION**

*This section conforms to the requirements of Water Code section §10632.a (8).*

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**EAST NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT – BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA  
WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN**

**APPENDIX II “NO WASTE” RESOLUTION**

**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
PROHIBITING THE WASTE OF WATER DURING PERIODS OF EXTREME  
WATER SHORTAGE**

WHEREAS, section 10632 (a) (3), of the California Water Code requires that domestic water purveyors provide mandatory provisions to reduce water use during periods of extreme water shortage; and

WHEREAS, it is prudent to take these steps to ensure that all of the consumers on the District Water System have an equitable share of the water available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the following restrictions are effective during a Water Shortage Emergency, as declared by the Board of Directors of the District.

- a. Use of potable water to wash sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, open ground or other hard surfaced areas except where necessary for public health or safety is prohibited;
- b. Allowing potable water to escape from breaks within the customer’s plumbing system for more than twenty-four (24) hours after the customer is notified or discovers the break is prohibited;
- c. Washing cars, boats, trailers, aircraft, or other vehicles by hose without a shut-off nozzle and bucket except to wash such vehicles at commercial or fleet vehicle washing facilities using water recycling equipment is prohibited;
- d. No restaurant, hotel, café, cafeteria or other public place where food is sold, served or offered for sale shall serve drinking water to any customer unless expressly requested;
- e. Use of potable water to clean, fill or maintain decorative fountains, lakes or ponds unless such water is reclaimed is prohibited;
- f. Use of portable water for construction, compaction, dust control, street or parking lot sweeping, building washdown where non-potable water or recycled water is sufficiently available is prohibited; and
- g. Use of potable water for sewer system maintenance or fire protection training without the prior approval of the District Manager is prohibited.