

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Buddy Garcia, *Commissioner*
Carlos Rubinstein, *Commissioner*
Mark R. Vickery, P.G., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

June 21, 2011

Re: Water Availability

Dear Public Water System:

As you are aware, Texas is experiencing widespread drought conditions which may worsen. TCEQ has been closely monitoring the evolving situation, and we are concerned about known and potential water shortages in areas where drought conditions are significant. If you have not implemented your drought contingency plans, we are strongly encouraging systems to consider implementing their plans now given that conditions may worsen. This will help extend the availability of a necessary precious resource.

Please remember that preparing a drought contingency plan for your water system is required. Additionally, you are required to notify the TCEQ when you implement mandatory provisions of your drought contingency plan (30 TAC 288.20[b]). We have made reporting quick and easy for you by creating an online form. Please remember to submit updates as conditions change. Information collected will be used to focus State resources and assistance.

A link to the online form is available on the agency's drought page <<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/drought>>. Additionally, information concerning the drought, and the weekly United States Drought Monitor map which shows current drought conditions, may be found there as well. If you do not have reliable Internet access and need help completing the form, or if you have questions, you can call our Small Business and Local Government Assistance hotline at 1.800.447.2827.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zak Covar".

Zak Covar
Deputy Executive Director

Enclosure

Drought Resources Available

The TCEQ has free resources to help your water system prepare for the possibility of a continued drought and educate citizens about the need for water conservation.

Visit <www.tceq.texas.gov/response/drought> for a list of resources and materials.

Resources available now include:

- **Mirror Cling:** remind visitors to “turn off the faucet” in restrooms.
- **Bill Stuffer:** offer customers tips to save water and money.
- **Web Banner Ad:** highlight water conservation tips and link to more resources.
- **Bumper Sticker:** place on fleet vehicles to remind citizens to conserve water.
- **Public Service Announcement Scripts:** play on radio stations or post on websites.

Check back frequently; new resources are posted as they become available!