

RESOLUTION NO. 5052

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOLEDAD APPROVING THE CITY OF SOLEDAD'S DRAFT WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN UPDATE FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE STATE WATER BOARD FOR COMMENTS AND IMPLEMENTING STATE WATER BOARD REQUIRED MANDATORY IRRIGATION RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, the City of Soledad's Urban Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Contingency Plan) needs to be updated at least once every five years; and

WHEREAS, the City's draft updated plan is presented in Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the City received a letter from the State Water Resources Control Board dated December 8, 2014, stating that the City needs to "implement all requirements and actions of the stage of its water shortage contingency plan that imposes mandatory restrictions to outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water."; and

WHEREAS, the City will place an ad in the local newspaper advising all residents of this restriction. In addition, the City will hand deliver a door hanger advising each resident of this restriction; and

WHEREAS, Council approval to submit the attached Draft Urban Water Shortage Contingency Plan Update to the State Water Board will ensure the City of Soledad is in position to comply with the regulatory requirements of the State Water Board, the orders and directives of the Governor's office, and the State Water Code; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends that Council approve the attached Urban Water Shortage Contingency Plan for submittal to the State Water Board; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Soledad, that: the "Draft Water Shortage Contingency Plan Update", a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and by reference incorporated herein, is hereby approved for submittal to the State Water Board.


PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Soledad at a regular meeting duly held on the 7th of January, 2015 by the following vote:

AYES, and in favor thereof, Councilmembers: Christopher K. Bourke, Richard J. Perez, Patricia D. Stephens, Mayor Pro Tem Alejandro Chavez and Mayor Fred J. Ledesma

NOES, Councilmembers: None.

ABSTAIN, Councilmembers: None.

ABSENT, Councilmembers: None.



FRED J. LEDESMA, Mayor

ATTEST:



ADELA P. GONZALEZ, City Clerk

CITY OF SOLEDAD

Water Shortage Contingency Plan 2014

Prepared By
Water Quality Division Staff
9/9/2014



City of Soledad

Water Shortage Contingency Plan

1.0 Introduction and Background

This Water shortage Contingency Plan is developed in compliance with California Water Code Section 10632. Requirements of subsections (a)-(i) are identified below and are accompanied by the required elements and information.

The City of Soledad obtains its water supply from the Central Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin (SVGB), specifically, the forebay sub-area as its sole potable water source. The CSVGB is not adjudicated and provides water for growers, municipalities and other municipal and industrial uses in the Salinas Valley. The City continues to work with Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) in developing plans to coordinate and encourage preservation of the CSVGB aquifers by all municipal and agricultural users.

Infiltration in the Salinas River channel is the principal source of groundwater recharge for the SVGB. The recharge area is generally believed to end at a point between Chualar and the City of Salinas. Both natural runoff and conservation releases from Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs contribute to the flow in the Salinas River. Infiltration from smaller tributaries that drain the highland areas also provides recharge to the groundwater basin. The down –valley movement of this subsurface water is essential to the containment of saltwater intrusion into the Pressure sub-area. Higher elevations tend to have little potential for groundwater recharge due to both shallow or non-existent soils and steep slopes.

Groundwater consumption in the Salinas Valley has increased over time as the amount of croplands under irrigation has continued to increase annually. Continued residential, commercial and industrial development has also increased groundwater consumption. Agriculture continues to dominate, representing at least 90% of the area's water consumption. In some parts of the basin (although not the sub-area that the City is located in), agricultural and urban consumers are now using more water than is recharged annually, resulting in a groundwater overdraft.

The MCWRA reports that in all its years of groundwater measurement (since the 1950's), there has never been an instance of overdraft in the Forebay Subarea. Because Soledad falls just downstream of the confluence of the Salinas River and Arroyo Seco River, its groundwater levels are particularly high and no overdraft is expected in the near future. In fact, due to the above, no safe yield number has ever been calculated for the Forebay Subarea.

In 1991 the final year of a three-year drought the groundwater table dropped between 90 and 100 feet in the areas near the coast, drawdown in the Forebay Subarea was generally limited to

15 to 20 feet. Since there is very little rainfall in the summer months, the groundwater table is generally ten feet lower during the summer than during the winter. Regardless, Soledad's water supply has not proven vulnerable to seasonal changes.

To help combat this overdraft in other areas of the SVGB the city is developing a water recycle project for irrigation of city owned parks and landscape areas. One other coordinated effort includes the Water Awareness Committee of Monterey County (WAC). Through the WAC, representatives from several agencies throughout Monterey County work together coordinating conservation and other water awareness efforts include educational programs, information booths for special events and public understanding of Monterey County water challenges and opportunities.

California Water Code Section 10632© Actions to be undertaken by the urban water supplier to prepare for, and implement during, a catastrophic interruption of water supplies, including but not limited to, a regional power outage, an earthquake or other disaster.

The City of Soledad developed and adopted an Emergency Response Plan for emergency and disaster occurrences with guidelines and agreements for cooperative efforts with other State and local agencies, as required by the California Department of Public Health. This Plan contains actions the City would initiate in the event of a catastrophic reduction in its water supply.

2.0 Stages of Action

California Water Code Section 10632(a) Stages of action to be undertaken by the urban water supplier in response to water supply shortages, including up to a 50 percent reduction in water supply and an outline of specific water supply conditions which are applicable to each stage.

The City of Soledad developed a five-stage Water Conservation Plan that includes two voluntary and three mandatory stages. Table 1 generally describes the various stages. Specific water supply conditions applicable to each stage, referred to as “triggering mechanisms” herein, are discussed in the next section.

Table1: Water Conservation Stages and reduction

<u>Stage</u>	<u>Demand Reduction Goal</u>	<u>Type Program</u>
Stage 1	10% reduction	Voluntary
Stage 2	15% reduction	Voluntary
Stage 3	25% reduction	Mandatory
Stage 4	35% reduction	Mandatory
Stage 5	50%+ reduction	mandatory

Priorities for use of available water, based on California Water Code Chapter 3 are:

1. Health and Safety – interior residential and fire fighting
2. Commercial, Industrial, and Governmental – maintain jobs & economic base
3. Existing landscaping – especially trees and shrubs
4. New demand – projects without permits when shortage declared

California Water Code Section 10632(b) An estimate of the minimum water supply available during each of the next three water years based on the driest three-year historic sequence for the agency’s water supply.

This requirement is oriented toward water supply systems that are primarily supplied via surface waters and therefore can be directly affected by short-term fluctuations in hydrology i.e., drought conditions. The City of Soledad’s total current water supply is produced through groundwater pumping from the large SVGB. City of Soledad supply availability from this basin has not historically varied due to short-term hydrological conditions. The minimum water supply available within the driest three-year sequence is expected to match demands as discussed in the Urban Water Management Plan.

3.0 Stages of Action

The SVGB is currently the most important source of water for the City of Soledad. In 2013, the City groundwater withdrawals of 2,416 acre feet accounted for less than one percent (1%) of

the estimated basin-wide annual extractions of roughly 550,000 + acre-feet. Given this relatively small percentage, the City of Soledad's conservation and contingency management activities can play only a small part within the SVGB. The foremost concern in developing appropriate triggers is achieving the maximum practical protection of an adequate long-term water supply of acceptable quality for City of Soledad customers. To that end, triggering mechanisms should be tied to factors that, directly or indirectly, have the greatest potential effect on the quality and quantity of available ground water.

The two general types of threats could cause the City of Soledad to experience water shortages:

1. Unanticipated catastrophic system failure due to earthquake, terrorist attack or sudden contamination of the water supply, or
2. Chronic system shortage due to lack of maintenance on the water supply wells such that those wells would have to be removed from service. Or the Nitrate Maximum Contaminate Level being exceeded.

In case of a catastrophic failure, the City of Soledad would assess the nature and extent of the failure, and the City Manager would identify the appropriate Conservation Stage in accordance with the City's Emergency Response Plan, including enacting emergency ordinances as may be required by the City Council of Soledad.

The chronic system threat to the City's present water supplies is Nitrate Contamination, which has occurred along the Salinas Valley in response to historic agriculture activities of fertilization of fields. Contamination in the upper aquifer from volatile organic compounds (VOCs) has also affected the City of Soledad wells and could pose additional problems. Although nitrate contamination has not yet affected City of Soledad deep zones of the SVGB (which is the source of supply for Soledad's Wells #6, #7, #9, #10 and #11), it is possible that continued extractions in the deeper aquifers could ultimately lead to contamination of these water supplies by nitrates. Soledad monitors the level of nitrate levels and plans to construct and develop alternative or treatment of water sources that would need to be protected from high nitrate levels. Consequently, the City of Soledad has structured this Water Shortage Contingency Plan with the primary goal of reducing water supply demands to allow time for alternative water supply measures, including treatment or drilling of alternate wells in areas unaffected by contamination or falling water level. A specific triggering mechanism for various levels of conservation is tied to concentrations of nitrates or water levels in the City of Soledad wells.

TRIGGERING MECHANISMS FOR CONSERVATION STAGES

These Triggering mechanisms shall be interpreted as guidelines and are summarized in Table 2. The City manager and/or City Council may impose any of the following conservation stages based upon facts and circumstances which may not have been otherwise anticipated in this plan.

Table 2 Conservation Level Triggering Mechanisms

Conservation Stage And Shortage Level	Triggering Mechanism
Stage One 0 – 10% Voluntary	1) System malfunction resulting in up to 10% shortage 2) Increase in Nitrates which do not threaten to exceed drinking water quality standard 3) Increase in VOC concentrations which do not threaten to exceed standards 4) Static levels in wells reach 220-235 ft below surface
Stage Two >10 – 25% Voluntary	1) System malfunction resulting in greater than 10% shortage 2) Increase in Nitrates which may threaten to exceed drinking water quality standard 3) Increase in VOC concentrations which do not threaten to exceed standards 4) Static levels in wells reach 235-250 ft below surface
Stage Three >25 – 35% Mandatory	1) System malfunction resulting in greater than 25% shortage 2) Increase in Nitrates which are expected to exceed drinking water quality standard 3) Increase in VOC concentrations which do not threaten to exceed standards with blending or when remaining capacity is reduced by up to 25% 4) Static levels in wells reach 250-265 ft below surface
Stage Four >35 – 50% Mandatory	1) System malfunction resulting in greater than 35% shortage 2) Increase in Nitrates which are expected to exceed drinking water quality standard 3) Increase in VOC concentrations which do not threaten to exceed standards with blending or when remaining capacity is reduced by up to 35% 4) Static levels in wells reach 265-280 ft below surface
Stage Five >50% Mandatory	1) System malfunction resulting in greater than 50% shortage 2) Increase in Nitrates which are expected to exceed drinking water quality standard 3) Increase in VOC concentrations which do not threaten to exceed standards with blending or when remaining capacity is reduced by up to 50% 4) Static levels in wells reach 280-300 ft below surface

Stage 1: Up to 10% - Voluntary

Stage 1 conservation measures may be called for as a result of malfunction of all or portions of the water system that reduces supplies by up to 10% on a daily, peak seasonal or annual basis. It also may be called due to prolonged drought conditions and a need to focus public attention on water conservation.

Further triggering could also be based on:

- 1) Detection of a statistically significant increase in Nitrate concentrations but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the CDPH "Upper Level primary drinking water standard currently set 45 mg/L at the wells(s) in question, or
- 2) Detection of a statistically significant increase in VOC concentrations but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the primary drinking water maximum contaminant level (MCL) for each VOC at the well(s) in question and/or blending of this supply with other well supplies cannot maintain a distribution system concentration(s) below these standards.

Stage 2: >10% to 25% - Voluntary

Stage 2 conservation measures may be called for as a result of malfunction of all or portions of the water system that reduces supplies by greater than 10% on a daily, peak seasonal or annual basis. It also may be called due to prolonged drought conditions and a need to focus public attention on water conservation.

Further triggering could also be based on:

- 1) Detection of a statistically significant increase in Nitrate concentrations but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the CDPH "Upper Level primary drinking water standard currently set 45 mg/L at the wells(s) in question, or
- 2) Detection of a statistically significant increase in VOC concentrations but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the primary drinking water maximum contaminant level (MCL) for each VOC at the well(s) in question and/or blending of this supply with other well supplies cannot maintain a distribution system concentration(s) below these standards.

Stage 3: >25% to 35% - Mandatory

Stage 3 conservation measures may be called for as a result of malfunction of all or portions of the water system that reduces supplies by greater than 25% on a daily, peak seasonal or annual basis. It also may be called due to prolonged drought conditions and a need to focus public attention on water conservation.

Further triggering could also be based on:

- 1) Detection of a statistically significant increase in Nitrate concentrations but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the CDPH "Upper Level primary drinking water standard currently set 45 mg/L at the wells(s) in question, or

- 2) Detection of VOC concentrations, but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the primary drinking water MCL for each VOC, and/or blending of this supply with other well supplies cannot maintain a distribution system concentration(s) below these standards, and/or when gross reduced well production of up to 25% is necessary to maintain adequate water quality.

Stage 4: >35% to 50% - Mandatory

Stage 4 conservation measures may be called for as a result of malfunction of all or portions of the water system that reduces supplies by greater than 35% on a daily, peak seasonal or annual basis. It also may be called due to prolonged drought conditions and a need to focus public attention on water conservation.

Further triggering could also be based on:

- 1) Detection of a statistically significant increase in Nitrate concentrations but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the CDPH "Upper Level primary drinking water standard currently set 45 mg/L at the wells(s) in question, or
- 2) Detection of VOC concentrations, but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the primary drinking water MCL for each VOC, and/or blending of this supply with other well supplies cannot maintain a distribution system concentration(s) below these standards, and/or when gross reduced well production of up to 35% is necessary to maintain adequate water quality.

Stage 5: >50% - Mandatory

Stage 5 conservation measures may be called for as a result of malfunction of all or portions of the water system that reduces supplies by greater than 50% on a daily, peak seasonal or annual basis. It also may be called due to prolonged drought conditions and a need to focus public attention on water conservation.

Further triggering could also be based on:

- 1) Detection of a statistically significant increase in Nitrate concentrations but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the CDPH "Upper Level primary drinking water standard currently set 45 mg/L at the wells(s) in question, or
- 2) Detection of VOC concentrations, but where such concentrations do not threaten to exceed the primary drinking water MCL for each VOC, and/or blending of this supply with other well supplies cannot maintain a distribution system concentration(s) below these standards, and/or when gross reduced well production of up to 50% is necessary to maintain adequate water quality.

4.0 Conservation Requirements and Variance Procedures

The following are the City of Soledad's conservation requirements by customer type and stage and the variance procedures. These requirements and procedures are adopted as part of the City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

Stage 1: Up to 10% - Voluntary – Minimal Conservation Requirement

The City shall:

- Notify all customers of the water shortage
- Mail information to every customer and reasonably available potential water user explaining the important of significant water use reductions
- Provide technical information to customers on ways to improve water use efficiency
- Conduct media campaign to remind consumers of the need to save water
- Publicize the showerhead, toilet rebate and other efficiency programs
- Enforce mandatory restrictions on water waste as provided in the City Code Chapter 13.09

Stage 2: >10% to 25% - Voluntary – Moderate Conservation Requirement

In addition to the actions listed in stage 1, The City of Soledad shall call for voluntary reductions of up to 25% for each connection based on the average use a base period proposed by the Water Quality Division and adopted by the City Council.

Stage 3: >25% to 35% - Mandatory – Severe Conservation Requirement

In addition to the actions listed in Stage 1 and 2, the City of Soledad shall establish mandatory annual allotments for each connection based on the average use during a base period proposed by the Water Quality Division and adopted by the City Council. When stage 3 use reduction becomes necessary, administration and enforcement of water conservation rules becomes the major focus of Water quality Division. If necessary, additional temporary personnel may be hired and special meetings of the water Quality Division and/or City Council may be scheduled.

1. Each water service connection shall receive an allotted quantity of water, typically specified in hundred cubic feet (hcf) units per billing cycle, as calculated by the Water resources Manager.
2. The City Council may pass an emergency ordinance increasing the usage rate for potable water in order to ensure stable revenues for operation and maintenance of the City's water system.

3. As individual customers are notified of allotments, it is expected that many request for special consideration will be received. These petitions must be processed rapidly, efficiently and fairly. Every application for variance must be heard, evaluated and acted upon by the Planning Director as rapidly as possible. Every action by the City Manager shall be referred to the Soledad’s City Council for consideration. The procedures for variances are defined, below.
4. No building permits will be issued or meters installed for new accounts that had not received building permits before the “Severe Shortage” was declared.
5. The following water use restrictions shall be imposed.

Stage	Type of Use	Restriction
3	Landscaping Irrigation for Existing Landscapes, including Public Parks	<p>Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction.</p> <p>Landscape watering with potable water shall be subject to the following limits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Landscape watering using sprinkler or irrigation systems is permitted only two days per week. Address ending in even numbers (0,2,4,6 and 8) may water on Mondays and Thursdays. Addresses ending in odd numbers (1,3,5,7,and 9) may water on Tuesdays and Fridays. If there is no street address, or if more than one street address is associated with a contiguous property, the irrigation days are Wednesday and Saturday. 2) Manual landscape watering with a soaker hose, handheld hose or watering can/bucket is allowed on any day.
3	Landscape Irrigation for New Landscapes, including Public Parks	<p>Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction.</p> <p>Landscape watering with potable water shall be subject to the following limits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Landscape watering is permitted to maintain adequate growth on newly installed landscapes, for a period generally up to five (5) weeks. Property owners must notify the Water Quality division of the address where new landscape is installed and the date of installation. 2) Following the initial establishment period, landscape watering using a sprinkler or irrigation system is permitted only on days associated with the current conservation stage in effect.

3	Golf Courses, Athletic Fields	<p>Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction.</p> <p>Landscape watering with potable water shall be subject to the following limits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All landscape out-of-play areas such as may be found around a clubhouse or entryway shall follow the general landscape irrigation restrictions. 2) All in-play areas may be irrigated during the standard watering hours (before 10:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.). 3) Course operators shall implement a ten (10) percent reduction in irrigation water use.
3	Hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts	Hotels, motels and B&B's must offer and clearly notify guests of a "limited linen/towel exchange" program.
3	Swimming pools, hot tubs	Initially filling new and existing swimming pools prohibited. Draining and refilling existing swimming pools permitted only if repairing a pool leak or repairing, maintaining or replacing a pool component that has become hazardous. All pools and tubs shall be covered when not in use to reduce evaporation.
3	Industrial and Commercial	<p>Reduction of water use by any means is encouraged. Compliance with mandatory demand reduction measures is required for outdoor water uses including landscape irrigation, swimming pools, and vehicle washing.</p> <p>Use of water from fire Hydrants is prohibited, except by city and/or fire personnel.</p>
3	Vehicle and Equipment Washing	<p>Non-commercial washing of vehicles and mobile equipment (e.g., washing a vehicle at a residence) is permitted only on assigned landscape watering days during landscape watering hours (before 10:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.).</p> <p>Fleet managers are encouraged to only wash those vehicles as is necessary for health and safety.</p>
3	Heavy Construction	The use of potable water for dust control shall be reduced to the greatest extent possible.

Stage 4: >35% to 50% - Mandatory – Critical Conservation Requirement

In addition to the actions listed in the previous stages, the City of Soledad shall establish allotments based upon a 35% - 50% curtailment of water use. All new and previous appeals for waiver shall be evaluated by field audit and shall be reheard by the Water Quality Division, if necessary, upon recommendation of WQD staff. Water rates may be increased by the City Council.

The following water use restrictions shall be imposed.

Stage	Type Use	Restriction
4	Landscape Irrigation for Existing Landscapes including Public Parks	<p>Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction.</p> <p>Landscape watering with potable water shall be subject to the following limits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Landscape watering using sprinkler or irrigation systems is permitted only one day per week. Addresses ending in numbers 0 or 1 may water on Mondays. Addresses ending in numbers 2 or 3 may water on Tuesdays. Addresses ending in numbers 4 or 5 may water on Wednesdays. Addresses ending in numbers 6 or 7 may water on Thursdays. Addresses ending in numbers 8 or 9 may water on Fridays. If there is no street address, or if more than one street address is associated with a contiguous property, the irrigation day is Wednesday. <p>Manual landscape watering with a soaker hose, handheld hose or watering can/bucket is allowed on any day.</p>
4	Landscape Irrigation for New Landscapes, including Public Parks	<p>Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction.</p> <p>Landscape watering with potable water shall be subject to the following limits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Landscape watering is permitted three (3) days a week to maintain adequate growth on newly installed landscapes, for a period generally up to five (5) weeks. Watering days for new landscapes are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Property owners must notify the Water Quality division of the address where new landscape is installed and the date of installation. 2) Following the initial establishment period, landscape watering using a sprinkler or irrigation system is permitted only on days associated with the current conservation stage in effect.
4	Golf Courses, Athletic Fields	<p>Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction.</p> <p>Landscape watering with potable water shall be subject to the following limits:</p>

4	Golf Courses, Athletic Fields	<p>1) All landscape out-of-play areas such as may be found around a clubhouse or entryway shall follow the general landscape irrigation restrictions.</p> <p>2) All in-play areas may be irrigated during the standard watering hours (before 10:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.). Course operators shall implement a twenty (20) percent reduction in irrigation water use.</p>
4	Hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts	Hotels, motels and B&B's must limit linen/towel exchange to once every two (2) nights or for the entire stay, whichever is shorter, except for health and safety program.
4	Swimming pools, hot tubs	Initially filling new and existing swimming pools prohibited. Draining and refilling existing swimming pools permitted only if repairing a pool leak or repairing, maintaining or replacing a pool component that has become hazardous. All pools and tubs shall be covered when not in use to reduce evaporation.
4	Vehicle and Equipment Washing	<p>Non-commercial washing of vehicles and mobile equipment (e.g., washing a vehicle at a residence) is permitted only on assigned landscape watering days during landscape watering hours (before 10:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.).</p> <p>Fleet managers are encouraged to only wash those vehicles as is necessary for health and safety.</p>
4	Industrial and Commercial	<p>Reduction of water use by any means is encouraged. The City Council may establish mandatory use reduction targets, if needed.</p> <p>Compliance with mandatory demand reduction measures is required for outdoor water uses including landscape irrigation, swimming pools, and vehicle washing.</p> <p>Use of water from fire Hydrants is prohibited, except by city and/or fire personnel.</p>
4	Heavy Construction	The use of potable water for dust control shall be reduced to the greatest extent possible.

Stage 5: > 50% - Mandatory – Emergency Conservation Requirement

Appropriate 50% water shortage allotments shall be calculated and notice to customers. Appropriate administration and enforcement of this stringent program shall be the highest priority of the Water Quality Division activity. All resources of the City of Soledad Water Quality Division will be directed toward improvement and increase of water supply to the system. Water rates may be further increased by the City Council.

The following water use restrictions shall be imposed:

Stage	Type Use	Restriction
5	Landscape Irrigation for Existing Landscapes including Public Parks	Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction. Landscape watering with potable water is prohibited
5	Landscape Irrigation for New Landscapes, including Public Parks	Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction. The installation of new landscapes irrigated with potable water is prohibited during Conservation stage 5. New landscapes installed prior to declaration of Conservation Stage 5 may water two (2) days a week to maintain adequate growth on newly installed landscapes, for the remainder of the initial five (5) week establishment period. Watering days for new landscapes are Tuesday and Friday. Property owners must notify the City of the address where new landscape is installed and the date of installation.
5	Golf Courses, Athletic Fields	Landscape watering with recycled water may continue without restriction. Landscape watering with potable water shall be subject to the following limits: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All landscape out-of-play areas such as may be found around a clubhouse or entryway shall follow the general landscape irrigation restrictions. 2) All in-play areas may be irrigated during the standard watering hours (before 10:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.). Course operators shall implement a thirty (30) percent reduction in irrigation water use.
5	Hotels, motels and bed and breakfasts	Hotels, motels and B&B's must limit linen/towel exchange to once every three (3) nights or for the entire stay, whichever is

		shorter, except for health and safety program.
5	Swimming pools, hot tubs	Filling new and existing swimming pools and/or draining and refilling existing swimming pools is prohibited. All pools and tubs shall be covered when not in use to reduce evaporation. Contact Water Quality Division staff if an existing swimming pool must be repaired and refilled during Conservation Stage 5.
5	Vehicle and Equipment Washing	Non-commercial washing of vehicles and mobile equipment is prohibited. Only commercial facilities with water recycling systems may be used.
5	Industrial and Commercial	Reduction of water use by any means is encouraged. The City Council may establish mandatory use reduction targets, if needed. Compliance with mandatory demand reduction measures is required for outdoor water uses including landscape irrigation, swimming pools, and vehicle washing. Use of water from fire Hydrants is prohibited, except by city and/or fire personnel.
5	Heavy Construction	The use of potable water for dust control shall be reduced to the greatest extent possible. The City may establish mandatory construction water budgets, if needed.

Variations Procedure

1. Any person who wishes to request a variance a customer classification or allotment shall do so in writing by using the forms provided by the City of Soledad.
2. Variations will be reviewed by the Planning Director and staff. Sites visits may be scheduled if required.
3. A condition of granting a variance shall be that all plumbing fixtures or irrigation systems be replaced or modified for maximum water conservation.
4. Examples of variations that may be considered are as follows:
 - a. Substantial medical requirements.
 - b. Commercial/Industrial/Institutional accounts where any additional water supply reductions will result in unemployment or inappropriate hardship, after confirmation by the City Manager that the account has instituted all applicable water efficiency improvements.
 - c. The City Manager may grant a temporary variance of up to one year to come into compliance with the terms in Chapter 13.08.030 of the City Code.
5. In the event a variance is requested for irrigation of trees or vegetation, Planning Director and WQS staff may use the services of a qualified consultant in determining the

validity of the request. Costs for such consulting services shall be paid by the party or parties making the request.

6. The Planning Director shall refer all variances to the City Manager. The City Manager may refer variances to the City of Soledad City Council.
7. If the City Manager and the applicant are unable to reach accord, then the variance shall be heard by the City Council, who will make the final determination.
8. All variances shall be reported monthly to the City Council as a part of the Water Supply Report.

5.0 Mandatory Prohibitions on Water Use

California Water Code Section 10632(d). Additional, mandatory prohibitions against specific water use practices during water shortages, including, but not limited to, prohibiting the use of potable water for street cleaning. Section 10632(e) Consumption reduction methods in the most restrictive stages. Each urban water supplier may use any type of consumption reduction methods in its water shortage contingency analysis that would reduce water use, are appropriate for its area, and have the ability to achieve a water use reduction consistent with up to a 50 percent reduction in water supply.

The City of Soledad adopted a "Mandatory Water Conservation Regulations" Municipal Code, Chapter 13.09 in 1993, which prohibits water waste and promotes water conservation. Section 13.09.040, Mandatory Restrictions on Water Waste, details the applicable prohibitions of use. These prohibitions are in force at all times. Additional water use reduction methods available to water users or City of Soledad to adopt in order to comply with use reductions during the more restrictive stages of water shortages (Stages 4 and 5) include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Elimination of turf irrigation with potable supplies;
- b) Restriction of landscape watering to shrubs and trees by hand or drip irrigation only;
- c) Elimination of vehicle washing except in car washes that have recirculation systems;
- d) Prohibition on filling or topping off of swimming pools where damage to pumping equipment will not result;
- e) Elimination of water served in food service establishments unless requested;
- f) Elimination of the issuance of construction meters;
- g) Shut-off of dedicated landscape irrigation meters; and
- h) Moratorium on provision of new supply meters.

If water use reductions called for in Stages 3-5 are not achieved, the City of Soledad may amend this Water Shortage Contingency Plan to make any of the above available conservation tactics mandatory.

6.0 Penalties Or Charges For Excessive Use

California Water Code Section 10632(f) Penalties or charges for excessive use.

Chapter 13.09.050 of the Municipal Code provides for a system violations and warnings. Violation of provisions of this Water Shortage Contingency Plan shall be enforced under Chapter 13.09.060 of the Soledad Municipal Code:

- A. Each violation of this chapter is an infraction.
- B. Any violation that occurs or continues from one day to the next shall be deemed a separate violation, for each day during which such violation occurs or continues to occur.
- C. The fine for a first violation of this chapter shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00). The fine for a second violation and each subsequent violation of this chapter within a period of twelve (12) months, regardless of the specific section or subsection violated, shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Current and ongoing Procedures

- 1) In order to encourage cooperative efforts to achieve water conservation, it is the policy of the City of Soledad to issue a written warning notice when an alleged violation is first noted. Such warning shall include an explanation of the alleged violation. Any individual provided with such notice will then be given an opportunity to correct the identified problem.
- 2) Any violation that occurs or continues from one day to the next shall be deemed a separate violation, for each day during which such violation occurs or continues to occur.
- 3) The fine for the first violation of this chapter is fifty dollars.
- 4) The fine for a second violation and each subsequent violation of this chapter within a period of twelve (12) months, regardless of the specific section or subsection violated, shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Shortage Stage Procedures, Stages 3,4,5

- 1) Issue a written warning notice when an alleged violation is first noted. Such warning shall include an explanation of the alleged violation. Any individual provided with such notice will then be given an opportunity to correct the identified problem.
- 2) If the violation is not corrected after one written warning notice, the City shall install a flow restrictive device on the service line of any customer observed by Soledad's personnel to be using water for any non-essential or unauthorized use.
- 3) Repeated violations of unauthorized water use will result in discontinuance of water service.

Chapter 13.09.090 Revenues Received from Enforcement

(A) All revenues received by the city from enforcement of this chapter shall be used exclusively for city water conservation programs, including but not limited to administrative, monitoring and enforcement costs of mandatory water conservation.

7.0 Revenue And Expenditure Impacts

California Water Code Section 10632(g) – An analysis of the impacts of each of the actions and conditions described in subdivisions (a) to (f), inclusive, on the revenues and expenditures of the urban water supplier, and proposed measures to overcome those impacts, such as the development of reserves and rate adjustments

Enforcement of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan is assumed to be covered by enhanced revenues from application of excess use charges and penalties. City of Soledad’s water reserves may be used temporarily should revenues remain below expectations. Soledad’s rate structure is based upon adopted rate ranges and allows for modification of rates by due process. Revenue impacts from water sales losses are estimated as follows, based upon Tier rates.

Table 3: Potential Revenue Impacts of Implementation of WSCP

Per Year?	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
Assumed Reduction	10 Percent	20 Percent	30 Percent	40 Percent	50 Percent
Water Sales Loss	\$212,649	\$335,630	\$458,610	\$579,395	\$689,806
Revenue Source: Pumping savings at \$135.00/af	\$29,774	\$59,548	\$89,322	\$119,070	\$148,871
Net Revenue Reduction	\$182,875	\$276,082	\$369,288	\$460,325	\$540,935
Percent of Total Annual Water System Revenue	12%	18%	25%	32%	38%

Under long-term drought conditions, it may be necessary to institute temporary increases to rates to cover increased operating expenses. One option that the City could utilize would be to adopt a surcharge or flat rate increase over a specific time period to cover increased operating expenses while under water shortage. This measure would allow the City to implement various levels of rate increases after City Council, by resolution, has declared a threatened shortage of funds due to water shortage or other emergency.

Conditions of drought and the implementation of water restrictions would also impact expenditures. Reduced availability of groundwater would produce higher energy bills. The difference in groundwater elevation would lengthen the pumping time required to produce the same amount of groundwater.

8.0 Water Shortage Contingency Plan Implementation

California Water Code Section 10632(h) A revised water shortage contingency resolution or ordinance.

The City of Soledad City Council adopted the Water Shortage Contingency Plan in Resolution No. 2014-??, which enables implementation of the Plan upon advice of staff based in part on the triggering mechanisms discussed herein. The resolution is attached as Appendix A to this Plan.

9.0 Water Use Monitoring Procedures

California Water Code Section 10632(i) A mechanism for determining actual reductions in water use pursuant to the urban water shortage contingency plan.

Normal Monitoring Procedure:

In normal water supply conditions, production figures are recorded daily by WQD personnel. Totals are reported monthly to the Water Resources Manager and Water Supervisor. Production figures are reported in the Annual Report to the Drinking Water Program, which is submitted to California Department of Public Health each year.

Stage 1 and 2 Water Shortages:

During a Stage 1 or 2 water shortage, daily production figures will be reported to the Water Operations Supervisor and Water resources Manager. The Water Resources Manager compares the weekly production to the target weekly production to verify that the reduction goal is being met. Monthly reports are forwarded to the Public Works Director, The City Manager and the City Council. If reductions goals are not met, the City Manager may notify the City Council so that corrective action can be taken.

Stage 3 and 4 Water Shortages:

During a Stage 3 or 4 water shortages, the procedure listed above will be followed, with the addition of a daily production report to the Public Works Director and weekly reports to the City Manager and City Council. Special meetings may be called for administration of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

Stage 5 Water Shortages:

During a Stage 5 shortage, production figures will be reported to the Water Resources Manager hourly, and to the Public Works Director and the City Manager daily. Reports will also be

provided to the City Manager, City Council, the Monterey County Office of Emergency Services, and the Planning Department and any other land use jurisdictions within the City's service territory.

Appendix

Water Conservation Ordinance-SMC Chapter 13.09

Variance Application

Appellant Name _____ Appellant Phone _____

Address _____ Billing Period _____

Soledad Water Account number _____

2012-2013 Base Year Average Monthly Consumption _____

13.09.080 The City Manager may grant a temporary variance of up to one year to come into compliance with the terms of the Mandatory Water Conservation Regulations chapter. (2) Granting the variance will not cause a significant adverse effect on the water supply or on service to other water consumers. In determining whether relief shall be granted the City Manager shall take into consideration all relevant factors including, but not limited to:

Does any additional reduction result in unemployment? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Have additional members been added to the household? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Has any additional landscape property been added to the base property? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Have there been changes in vacancy factors in multifamily housing? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Are there an increased number of employees in commercial or retail business? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Has there been an increase in production requiring increased water consumption? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Have there been necessary water uses during construction? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Necessary adjustments to water used caused by emergency health or safety hazards? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Was there (first) filling of a permit-constructed swimming pool? Y N
 Explanation: _____

Was there additional water use necessary for reasons related to family illness or health Y N

Explanation: _____

Additional Explanation: Y N

The following procedural requirements shall apply with regards to the City Manager conference and variance:

1. Request for an office conference must be filed in writing to the City Manager within ten (10) working days after receipt of the utility bill. The customer must state in writing the grounds for the variance.
2. The office conference shall be scheduled within ten (10) working days of receipt of request.
3. The City Manager shall render a decision within ten (10) working days of the office conference.
4. An appeal to the City Council may be filed within ten (10) working days after a final decision by the City Manager to the City Council. The appeal should state the grounds upon which it is based, and what remedy, if any, the appellant seeks. The appeal shall be addressed to the office of the City Manager. The City Council shall render a decision on the appeal within thirty (30) working days of the date of the appeal letter.

13.09.080 Variances

(D) Any decision of the city manager with respect to an application for a variance may be appealed in writing to the city council. The city council shall schedule the matter for hearing within thirty days of receipt. The city council may confirm, modify or rescind any decision of the city manager in this regard. The city council's decision on all variance appeals shall be final.

The following Agreement has been reached between the City Manager/City Council and City of Soledad Water Customer _____ . (Name)

Terms: _____

Agreed: _____

, City Manager

For: Water Appeals City Council

Date: _____

Agreed: _____

Sign: _____

Print: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____