

Ordinance No. 2016-01

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A WATER CURTAILMENT ELEMENT AS PART OF THE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION PLAN

Whereas, the Heceta Water People' Utility District (HWPUD) has steadily viewed the magnitude of available water or the loss of a water supply in a proactive manner.

Whereas, it is now appropriate for HWPUD to adopt curtailment actions, both, voluntary and mandatory, as another step towards accountability in water service

BE IT ENACTED BY THE HECETA WATER PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT:

Section 1. HWPUD adopts a five stage and a five level plan to curtail water use. The primary goal is to maintain sufficient supplies to meet essential uses such as drinking, cooking, sanitation and fire flow. A second goal is to maintain flow under normal conditions for consumers at all times. The five stages of alert are low, mild, moderate, high and emergency.

Section 2. Events that cause the plan to activate include:

- Mechanical or electrical malfunctions of pumping capabilities at one of the booster stations.
- Interruption of the local power company supply.
- Abnormal weather conditions, determined by low rainfall during winter months reducing levels in Clear Lake.
- Declaration of a drought for any particular area by the Governor pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute 536.720.
- Natural disasters that damage critical infrastructure hindering the water system to operate under normal conditions.
- The deliberate act of contamination at various points in the water system.

Section 3. Alert Triggers

A. A description of pre-determined levels of severity of shortage or water service difficulties trigger curtailment actions under each stage of alert to facilitate maintenance of potable water supplies for human consumption.

B. A low alert level is based on the following:

- 1) Water usage reaches 80% of capacity for three consecutive days,
- 2) Construction efforts impede system full capacity flow for more than five days,

- 3) A complete shut down or any action that reduces flow capacity below 80%,
or
 - 4) A drop in normal levels of Clear Lake, causing slower recovery than normal.
- C. A mild alert level is based on the following:
- 1) Usage equals historic peak for three consecutive days, or.
 - 2) Usage reaches 85% of capacity.
- D. A moderate alert level is based on the following:
- 1) Water use reaches 90% of capacity for three consecutive days,
 - 2) Pumping capacity is reduced to 80%, or
 - 3) Normal flow is reduced to 80%.
- E. A high alert level is based on the following:
- 1) Water use reaches 95% of capacity for three consecutive days,
 - 2) Pumping capacity is reduced to 70%,
 - 3) Normal flow is reduced to 70%, or
 - 4) The area is declared in a severe drought.
- F. An extreme alert level is based on the following:
- 1) Pumping capacity is reduced to 50%,
 - 2) Normal flow is reduced to 50%,
 - 3) A natural disaster that incapacitates the water system or contaminates the
water source,
 - 4) Intentional act causing long term disabling of the water system, or
 - 5) Other events cause a sustained deficit of water.

Section 4. Curtailment Actions:

A. A list of specific standby water use curtailment actions for each stage of alert ranging from notice to the public of a potential alert, increasing through limiting nonessential water use, to rationing or loss of service the at the critical alert stage;

B. Curtailment triggers establish when to impose restrictions, so curtailment actions establish the type of restriction. There is no defined method on the types of restrictions, yet curtailment actions must start with a “notice” to the public of the potential alert, increase to the limiting of non-essential uses of water and ending with rationing or loss of service at the most critical stage of alert.

C. All users will be notified in any of the following manners: Telephone call, door to door, leaflets placed in conspicuous locations, such as HWPUD office, and possible public announcement through website and other media.

D. Actions may be applied to the entire water system or to those zones which are directly affected by the water shortage conditions.

E. The General Manager is granted authority and is responsible for executing the plan provisions once the level of emergency is declared. The Board President or Board of Directors will evaluate factual circumstance and the established criteria to determine the actions to be taken, maintained, or rescinded.

F. Plan provisions will remain in effect until the emergency is declared ended by the Board President or Board of Directors. The goals established by each level of curtailment action are based on the reduction of peak demand.

G. Low Level Action

1) The General Manager or Board President will issue a general request for a voluntary reduction in water use by all water users. The request will be made at a time when there is strong evidence that District water supply will be reduced below capacity or that the maximum flow will be unable to provide adequate service to all water customers.

2) The request will include a summary of the current water situation, the reason for the requested reduction in use, and a warning that mandatory cutbacks will be required if the voluntary measures do not sufficiently reduce water usage by 5-10 percent. A time frame for the voluntary reduction will be established, showing the date and time when the reduction will be concluded.

H. Mild Level Action

1) The second step will implement mandatory reduction in water use by all consumers. This step will assure normal capacity flow during reduced production or delivery schedules and eliminate peak demands that may create other concerns for the water system. This step is the next natural level of curtailment moving towards a moderate level of action.

2) The goal of this step is to maintain 95% flow rates using a 10% reduction.

I. Moderate Level Action

1) HWPUD will put into place the following:

- a) No flushing of system lines unless essential,
- b) Implement schedules for irrigation of lawns and landscape,
- c) Commercial use to be reduced by 10% and residential use by 20%,
and
- d) Washing of vehicles will be prohibited.

2) The goal of this level is to maintain 85% flow rates using a 20% overall reduction in usage.

J. High Level Action

1) HWPUD will put into place the following:

- a) All outdoor use of water is prohibited,
- b) All customers will be set at a daily allotment in number of gallons per day. Water service will be disconnected if allotment is disregarded,

- c) Commercial users will be reduced to 70% of the previous year allotment, and
- d) All new connection work will be terminated until further notice.
- 2) The goal of this level is to maintain a 75% flow rate using a 30% overall reduction in usage.

K Extreme Level Action

- 1) When circumstances prevent the water system from supplying water to consumers.
- 2) This level is launched to provide the maximum of 70 gallons per person per day.

Section 5. This Ordinance takes effect on December 20, 2016.

Approved by the Board of Directors on November 15, 2016.

Approved and adopted by the Board of Directors on December 20, 2016.