



ITEM REPORT UTILITIES COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 8/5/2026
Agenda Section: Information Only

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: Drought Warning Phase: Mississippi-Headwaters and Missouri-Big Sioux Watersheds Discussion

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

The MN Department of Natural Resources recently notified the City that due to prolonged dry weather that has resulted in the expansion of severe drought, the Mississippi-Headwaters and Missouri-Big Sioux watersheds have moved into the *Drought Warning Response Phase*.

Public water suppliers that use the Mississippi River as a water supply or are located in **Cass, Wadena, Hubbard, Southern Beltrami, Southwest Itasca, Northern Crow Wing or Eastern Becker county or surrounding areas** should take special care and effort in reducing water supply demand in accordance with Statewide Drought Response Plan water use reduction goals.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED