



2025 – 2026 Drought Contingency Plan Amendment

- Andrew Cummings, Interim Chief Customer Officer

• February 26, 2026

DCP Project Intent and Deliverables

Project Intent

- Provide clear, easy-to-understand drought guidance for customers.
- Attempted alignment with neighboring entities for consistent messaging.
- Balance customer lifestyles with drought and empower voluntary conservation.
- Protect essential water users.
- Prepare for formal DCP revision in 2029

Deliverables

1. Revised Trigger Levels and Trigger Events
2. Updated Drought Surcharge
3. Updates to Customer Response for Drought Stages 0 - 5

Mission

Strengthening our community by providing resilient essential services



Vision

Be a trusted community partner dedicated to excellence in service



Core Values

Safety, Team, Integrity, Culture, and Stewardship

Proposed Changes Summarized

Trigger Levels and Events

- **Improved alignment** of trigger levels to the Edwards Aquifer Authority
- Expansion of **NBU operational flexibility** regarding “other considerations” in declaring stage
- Addition of **Stages 4 & 5** into trigger levels
- Establishment of **NBU water reduction goals** for all stages
- Changing from roman numerals to standard numeration for **simplicity and peer utility alignment**

Drought Surcharge

- Updates to drought surcharge **protects essential use customers entirely.**
- Increasing applicable surcharge from \$1.00 / \$2.00 per thousand gallons to **\$4.18 / \$4.89 per thousand gallons**
- Updating surcharge thresholds from increments of 7,500 gallons to increments of 3k, 6k, and 12k gallons to **align with current rate tiers**

Customer Response

- Updating Variance new grass allotments to **align with proposed City of New Braunfels’ Land Development Ordinance (LDO)**
- Creation of Stage 4 and 5 flexible strategies at NBU’s operational discretion for use in **worst-case-scenarios**
- **Clarification of verbiage throughout** ordinance due to changes listed above

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Project Timeline

Major Project Milestones

✓ NBU Board Preview

- August 28, 2025 - Informational Presentation to NBU Board

✓ CAP Workshops

- September 9, 2025 – Baseline Education on DCP
- October 14, 2025 – Proposals for Revised DCP
- November 18, 2025 – CAP Discussion
- December 9, 2025 – CAP Finalization

🕒 NBU Board Readings

- January 29, 2026 – 1st Reading, Item for Future Action, Present Revised DCP
- February 26, 2026 – 2nd Reading, Action Item, NBU Board Vote

🗨️ City Council Readings

- March 9, 2026 – 1st Reading, Present Revised DCP
- March 23, 2026 – 2nd Reading, City Council Vote

📅 Implementation of Revised DCP

- April 1, 2026

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Questions?

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Action Items

- Discuss and Consider Adopting Resolution #R-2026-205 to Approve Proposed Amendments to Chapter 130, Article IV, Division 3, Division 5, Division 6, and Division 7 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of New Braunfels (I) Adjusting Residential and Landscape Irrigation Drought Surcharges, (II) Revising Drought Stage Designations and Triggers, (III) Clarifying Definitions and Other Provisions; and (IV) Resolving Other Matters Incident and Related Thereto, and to Authorize the CEO to Present the Amendments to the New Braunfels City Council for Consideration

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