



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
ISIXEKO SASEKAPA
STAD KAAPSTAD

Critical Water Shortages Disaster Plan

4/10/2017
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Making progress possible. **Together.**

Ensuring the City is adequately prepared

RISK MANAGEMENT: the plan adopts a **pessimistic approach** and assumes no additional supply until the next rainy season.

PLANNING APPROACH: ensures the City is adequately prepared for a worst-case scenario by considering risks and impacts of possible scenarios. This is not a reflection on the City's confidence in the water supply augmentation programme.

MULTI-SERVICE: the plan is an **actively managed set of preparedness and implementation plans for sectors**, as well as various other critical and supporting services, communication protocols and decision processes.

ADAPTABLE: the plan is designed to account for changing conditions over time, particularly those relating to the available supply of the Western Cape Water Supply System (WCWSS) including water use by agriculture and other municipalities from the main supply dams.

Phases



Phase 1: Preservation Restrictions

Current phase: rationing

Purpose – To avoid escalation to Phase 2: Disaster Restrictions

- Water rationing through limiting supply and advanced pressure management which severely limits available water supply in the system per day
- Some areas will experience short periods of limited to no water supply
- Critical services, such as clinics and hospitals, will be largely unaffected
- Definitive timetables of the outages will not be provided, as the water systems need to be managed flexibly to avoid damage to critical infrastructure
- Intensified installation of water management devices to limit the consumption of users who are exceeding the water restriction levels

Phase 2: Disaster Restrictions ‘Day Zero’

Purpose – Avoid escalation to Phase 3 (Full-scale disaster implementation)

- Water rationing aimed at maintaining human life and critical services.
- City will more actively assume control over the daily water supply available to households and businesses.
- **Many households and businesses will be unable to access drinking water in their homes and places of work**
- **Water collection sites to be established across the city**
- Strategic commercial areas, high-density areas with significant risk of increased burden of disease, and critical services, where possible, will continue to receive drinking water through normal channels
- The City's law enforcement and policing resources, as well as resources from intergovernmental partners (SAPS and SANDF), will be deployed to ensure that general safety is maintained.

Phase 3: Full-scale disaster implementation

Purpose - Minimise impact on human life, dignity and property

- **Extreme scenario** – occurs if the Western Cape Water Supply System no longer has surface water supply which the City can access
- **Can be avoided with progressive rationing in phases 1 and 2.**
- Necessary that the City and its residents and stakeholders plan for such a situation
- **Limited drinking water supplies sourced within the city**
- **Households and businesses will be unable to access drinking water in their homes and places of work**
- Drinking water will be distributed, supplemented by bottled water, to residents through **water distribution points**
- Critical services dependent on reticulation supply will be significantly reduced
- The City's law enforcement and policing resources, as well resources from intergovernmental partners (SAPS and SANDF), will be deployed to ensure that general safety is maintained.

A phased approach to managing the disaster

DURATION: the duration of the implementation of Phase 1, and if necessary Phase 2, will be for as long as is required to ensure the continuity of basic water supply until such time as dam levels return to a minimum operating range and/or alternative water supply measures are activated

FOCUS ON PROGRESSIVE RATIONING: the City will do everything in its power to prevent the need for Phase 2: Disaster Restrictions to be implemented

INTENSIVE RATIONING IS THE LOWER IMPACT OPTION: However, the City is prepared to implement Phase 2: Disaster Restrictions if it is necessary to reduce the daily consumption in order to ensure that Phase 3: Day Zero (full-scale disaster implementation) never occurs

RECOVERY: all possible actions will be taken throughout the implementation of the disaster plan to ensure that minimal system damage occurs and recovery can be efficient when conditions improve



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Thank You

For queries contact (media.account@capetown.gov.za)

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