APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX B
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

DROUGHT ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE PLAN

1. Purpose. This operations plan supports the NCEOP and outlines drought-specific actions and coordination procedures the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the State Emergency Response Team (SERT), and other state agencies take and follow when drought conditions threaten North Carolina. It is intended to provide a systematic, effective method for assessing and responding to the impacts of drought on water supply and agriculture in North Carolina.

2. Situation.

   a. Drought is a cyclical weather phenomenon that can have a profound impact upon the physical environment and social systems of North Carolina. These impacts are often ambiguous and complex. They are usually related to such water use activities as agriculture, commerce, tourism, fire suppression, and wildlife preservation. Reductions in electrical power generation and water quality are also likely. Because drought is progressive in nature and comes on slowly, it is often not recognized until it reaches a severe level.

   b. North Carolina needs a Drought Response Plan that provides a system for assessing a drought cycle's progress and for determining when to institute a formal drought response from State government. Such a plan enhances the State's ability to apply limited resources and reduce the effects of drought.

3. Assumptions.

   a. Drought reduces the amount of water available for agriculture, municipalities, industry, commerce, tourism, fire suppression, and wildlife. Reduction of electrical power generation and water quality deterioration is likely.

   b. North Carolina State Government will respond through a coordinated effort between the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) and those agencies and commissions represented on the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (DMAC) (§ 143-355.1).

   c. The Division of Forest Resources (DFR) will use certain water sources to respond to a wildland or grassland fire.

4. Mission: For purposes of this plan, the mission of the Division of Emergency Management and the SERT and the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council is to support local government efforts during drought emergencies and to coordinate state and federal emergency activities.

5. Organization.

a. General.

(1) This plan is comprised of two systems—an assessment system and a response system. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council works with and as a part of the SERT for both assessment and response. It is important to note the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council is often—even routinely active outside SERT activation.

(2) The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council is organized to coordinate activities of state agencies in both the assessment and the response systems. It activates this Drought Response Plan, makes water supply assessments and projections, selects or develops specific formats for routine and special reports regarding water supply, identifies need for additional water supply information, and compiles all assessments of water supply capability to withstand drought impact. When necessary because of drought impacts, the DMAC may request SERT activation. The Division of Water Resources, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, is the lead agency for the DMAC and designates an employee of the Department to serve as Chair of the DMAC. The DMAC meets at least once in each calendar year to maintain appropriate agency readiness and participation. The Council meets as necessary on the call of the Chair to respond to drought conditions. It determines when DMAC activation is appropriate and will provide the DMAC chairperson. From time to time the DMAC Chairperson may select additional participants from local and federal agencies private industry, academic fields and other interest groups.

(a) The following agencies are members of the DMAC.

1 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (Chair)

2 North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service

3 State Climate Office at North Carolina State University

4 Public Staff of the Utilities Commission

5 Wildlife Resources Commission

6 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

7 Department of Commerce

8 Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management

9 National Weather Service

10 United States Geological Survey

11 United States Army Corps of Engineers

12 United States Department of Agriculture

13 United States Department of Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness and Response (Federal Emergency Management Agency)

The DMAC Chair may invite other agencies and organizations that represent water users, including local governments, agriculture, agribusiness, forestry, manufacturing, and others as appropriate, to designate representatives to serve on the Council or to participate in the work of the Council with respect to drought related issues

(b) The DMAC carries out the following specific tasks.

1 Review and update procedures upon activation.

2 Make assessments and projections and issues drought advisories (all based on technical factors). Advisories are tailored for specific areas, since drought is rarely homogeneous across the State.

3 Select or develop specific formats for reporting assessment and projection information.

4 Determine requirements for routine and special reports.

5 Synthesize data to provide appropriate task forces with availability/storage estimates by river basin or other appropriate demarcation.

6 Identify resource information gaps and make recommendations to fill them.

7 Obtain site-specific data to provide task forces with water availability/shortage estimates by river basin or other appropriate demarcation.

8 Meet as necessary to gather, review, and disseminate information on the drought situation throughout the State.

9 Coordinate and maintain information on response activities.

10 Collect information on grants, loans and other drought emergency assistance measures.

11 Develop methods for needs assessments and working with current problems.

12 Make assessments and provide them to SERT for appropriate response activity.

13 Develop and implement a process for recording the extent of mitigation that occurs in each drought emergency situation.

14 On a recurring basis, routinely provide a Water Supply Report comprised of information on precipitation, stream flow, reservoir storage levels, Palmer and other drought indices, weather forecasts, and other pertinent data.

15 Provide supplemental reports whenever a significant weather event occurs.

16 Coordinate data requirements for assessment task forces.

17 Place continuous emphasis on providing accurate, real-time assessments of water availability.

18 Consult with the SERT on use of the pipe and container inventory.

b. Assessment. Five task forces are organized under the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (DMAC) to make specific assessments of each drought event. Each task force coordinates with and reports its findings to the DMAC. These task forces are listed below and described in more detail at Tabs B through F.

(1) Agriculture Task Force (See Tab B).

(a) Assessments will detail crop and livestock loss, soil erosion, and insect/pest problems.

(b) The NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is the lead agency and, in conjunction with the DMAC, is responsible for activating this task force.

(2) Economic Impact Task Force (See Tab C)

(a) Assessments will include economic loss data from other task forces by sector or region.

(b) Assessments should also include loss of sales tax revenues, increase in unemployment, and decreases in tourism levels and lodging receipts.

(c) Assessments should identify major commercial and industrial problem areas.

(d) The Department of Commerce is the lead agency and, in conjunction with the DMAC, is responsible for activating this task force.

(3) Energy Loss Task Force (See Tab D)

(a) Assessments include total energy loss attributable to drought.

(b) Assessments will include an evaluation of water shortage impacts on electrical power generation, as well as identification of other major potential problem areas.

(c) The Department of Administration is the lead agency and, in conjunction with the DMAC, is responsible for activating this task force.

(4) Health Task Force (See Tab E)

(a) Assessments will include impact of water restriction measures on community health.

(b) Assessments will also include health needs and identification of potential health problem areas attributable to drought conditions.

(c) The Department of Health and Human Services is lead agency, and, in conjunction with the DMAC, is responsible for activating this task force.

(5) Water Sources Task Force (See Tab F)

(a) Assessments will include identification of water sources within the drought afflicted areas.

(b) Assessments will also include evaluations of weather on afflicted areas and identification of nearby sources for water transfer.

(c) The Water Sources Task Force is charged to maintain and update annually a list of available water moving equipment.

(d) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is lead agency and, in conjunction with the DMAC, is responsible for activating this task force.

c. Response. All State agencies will address drought related problems through normally established programs and cooperate lead agencies listed in Paragraph 6, below.

(1) Lead Response Agencies.

(a) Provide direction for all drought response activities within their assigned areas of responsibility using normal programs and available resources.

(b) Identify and report to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (DMAC) all drought related problems and response activities.

(c) Identify and report to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Division of Emergency Management, potential drought-effect mitigation measures that may be selected for funding under Section 404 of the Stafford Act (Hazard Mitigation Grant Program) in the event of a Presidentially declared disaster.

(d) Lead response agencies for drought and their responsibilities:

Lead Response Agency	**Responsibilities**
Department of Crime Control and Public Safety - Division of Emergency Management	Monitor drought conditions and task forces; respond to life threatening situations; prepare requests for federally declared disasters; assist with and coordinate other federal assistance.
Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Division of Water Resources - Division of Forest Resources - Wildlife Resource Commission - Division of Environmental Health - Division of Water Quality - Division of Soil and Water Conservation	Fire suppression in wildland/grassland and wildlife protection; oversight of public health, municipal water/sewer systems; assist with system leak detection; water sources.
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services - Food and Agriculture Council (FAC) - State Emergency Board (SEB)	Agriculture; promotion of water conservation use measures for agriculture; interface with federal agricultural agencies; disaster/emergency assistance.
Department of Commerce - Utilities Commission - Division of Community Assistance Department of Administration - State Energy Office	Economic impacts; utility impacts; energy loss.
Department of Insurance - Division of Safety Services	Water sources for fire fighting.
Department of Health and Human Services - Division of Social Services (DSS)	Assist Emergency Management in meeting individual needs.

(2) The Environmental Management Commission. In the event the Governor declares an extreme water supply emergency, the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) under NC General Statute 143 may authorize "any county, city, or town, in which an emergency has been declared to divert water in the emergency area sufficient to take care of the needs of human consumption, necessary sanitation and public safety", and "to make such reasonable rules and regulations governing the conservation and use of diverted waters…" The NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources, in representing the Commission, performs the following tasks.

(a) Monitors existing raw water supplies and identifies alternate/emergency sources and evaluates system operations.

(b) Recognizes a governmental unit or municipality's potential for water shortages and recommends as appropriate:

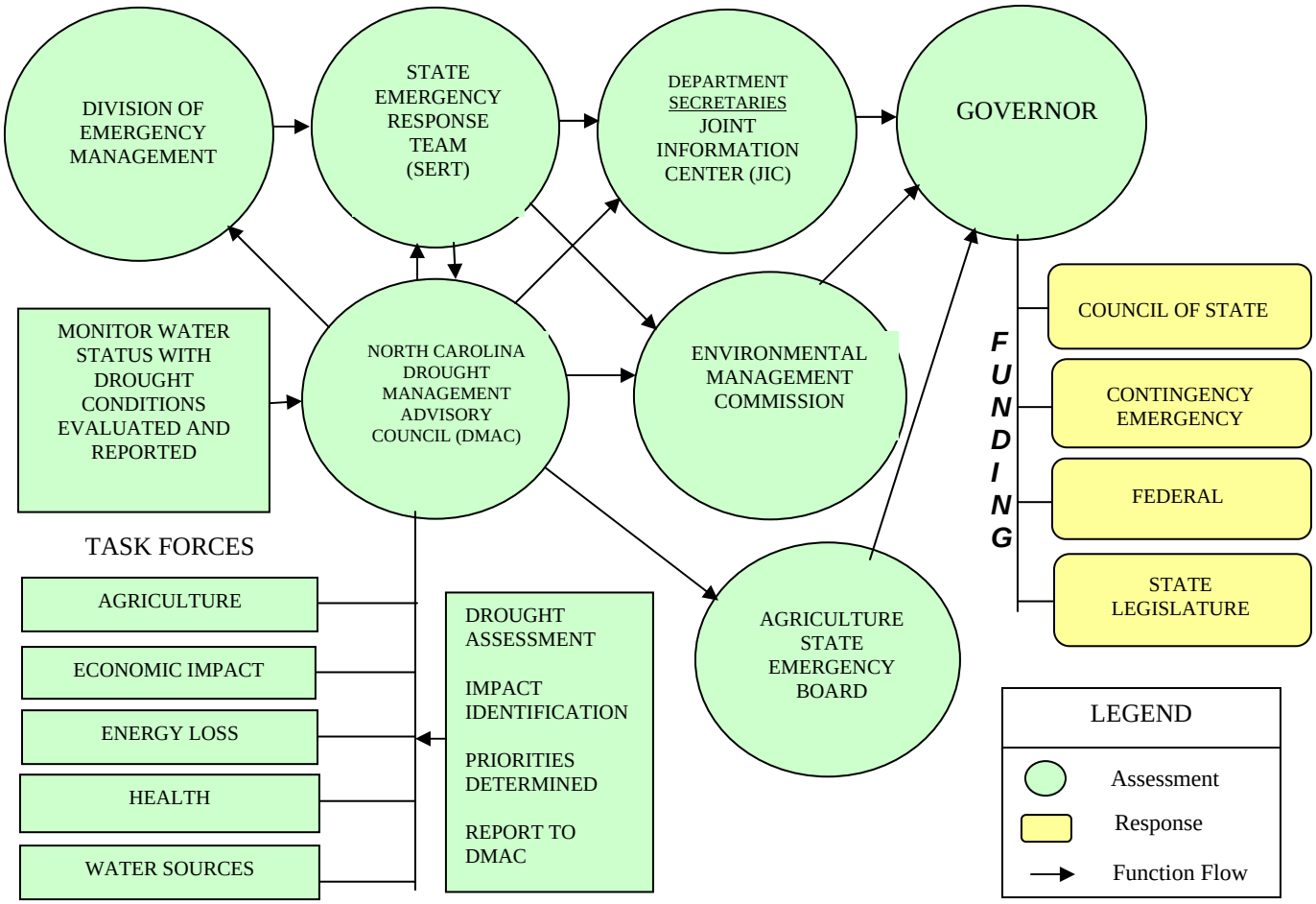
1 Restricting use and conserving water.

2 Increasing the water supply.

(c) Upon request of the governing body of a county, city, or town, determine whether satisfaction of water needs for human consumption, necessary sanitation, and public safety require emergency action.

6. Concept of Operations. North Carolina uses a dual system of assessment and response to deal effectively with drought. This dual system operates as shown below.

Drought Assessment and Response System



a. The Assessment System

(1) The assessment system calls for representatives from State and Federal agencies to form task forces that can rapidly evaluate and assess water availability and drought impacts and disseminate the information.

(2) The assessment systems uses a broad range of information sources, gathers and evaluates water resource data, and identifies existing and future water shortage areas. The sequence of actions to be taken is shown at Tab A.

(3) Task forces identified in paragraph 5 above ensure expeditions reporting to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (DMAC) and to the response system.

(4) Task forces are designed to assess the range of needs that can result from drought.

(5) Task forces are generally chaired by a middle-to-senior level management employee in the responsible state agency.

b. The Response System

(1) The response system deals with unmet needs that fall within the capabilities of the State. When needs exceed the State's capabilities, it is appropriate to seek legislative or federal assistance.

(2) Specific State Government actions must be geared to specific problems.

(3) As emerging drought conditions are identified and assessed, impacts are reported to the State Emergency Operations Center, concerned departments of State government, and the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (DMAC) for further analysis and development.

(4) Response might range from media announcements to funding and allocation of resources. Any action taken to solve a given drought problem constitutes response.

(5) Should an emergency situation arise, the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (DMAC) will notify the State Emergency Response Team. SERT actions may include:

(a) Activate the SERT to the appropriate level as described in the Basic Plan, paragraph III. If there are no adjunct emergencies (e. g. civil unrest), activation will not normally exceed Level 3.

(b) Review unmet needs identified by task forces and lead agencies.

(c) Identify potential drought mitigation measures.

(d) Determine when to deactivate as problems subside.

7. References

a. NCGS 166A, The North Carolina Emergency Management Act

b. NCGS 143-355.1 Drought Management Advisory Council, Drought Advisories

c. NCGS 147-33.2, Emergency War Powers Act

d. NCGS 14-288.1; Article 36A, Riots and Civil Disorders

e. PL 93-288: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act, as amended

8. Tabs.

Tab A Sequence of Drought Actions
Tab B Agriculture Task Force
Tab C Economic Impact Task Force
Tab D Energy Loss Task Force
Tab E Health Task Force
Tab F Water Sources Task Force

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TAB A TO APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX B
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

SEQUENCE OF DROUGHT ACTIONS

The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (DMAC) normally uses the US Drought Monitor and/or the Palmer Drought Severity Index to trigger a sequence of response actions (listed below) when drought occurs. The use of the US Drought Monitor and Palmer Index does not preclude use of other indices or information as appropriate to help depict drought for water supply, agriculture, or forest resources and particularly to decide when to activate Task Forces or when to request SERT activation.

DMAC Determinations	**Drought Severity**	**Actions To Be Taken**
Normal	Normal Conditions	Technical data is monitored periodically by the Division of Water Resources and significant information is sent to the Division of Emergency management
Drought Emerges	Normal to Dry Conditions	The Division of Water Resources monitors maps, discusses trend with the DMAC.
DMAC determines threshold conditions for drought have been met	Entering Phase 1 (Moderate Drought)	DMAC monitors technical data and developing trends. DMAC begins issuing drought advisories and provides drought status information to Emergency Management and other State agencies.
DMAC determines drought has increased in severity.	Entering Phase 2 (Severe Drought)	DMAC may request SERT activation if drought impact requires. CC&PS appoints a Joint Public Information Officer when/if SERT is activated.

DMAC Determinations	Drought Severity	Actions To Be Taken
	Phase 2 (Severe Drought) Continued	The assigned PIO establishes the Joint Information Center (JIC) which provides media status information. DMAC and/or Emergency Management activate appropriate task forces. Activated task forces make assessments of drought impact. If activated, SERT provides Situation Reports as required. If SERT is activated, task forces keep JIC advised of drought impacts. Lead agencies use available resources to undertake response actions within their normal programs. If activated, SERT documents unmet needs and assigns response to appropriate lead departments.

DMAC Determinations	Drought Severity	Actions To Be Taken
DMAC determines indicators and forecasts worsen and unmet needs prevail.	Entering Phase 3 (Extreme Drought)	The Environmental Management Commission (EMC) takes action within statutory authority as requested by the Division of Water Resources. Task Forces continue to make assessment reports. DMAC reports unmet needs to the SERT. The SERT determines which needs can be met by reallocation of existing resources. Those that cannot be met are forwarded to the governor with SERT recommendations. The SERT assembles data necessary to support a Governor's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration or a declaration from the US Secretary of Agriculture. The Governor requests a Presidential Disaster Declaration or an Agricultural Disaster Declaration from the US Secretary of Agriculture.

DMAC Determinations	Drought Severity	Actions To Be Taken
	Phase 3 (Extreme Drought) Continued	A Presidential Disaster Declaration established the Director of Emergency Manage (or other designated State official) as State Coordinating Officer (SCO) for Drought. The State Coordinating Officer works with FEMA to secure necessary federal assistance.
The DMAC determines the drought has subsided.	Leaving Phase 3 (Extreme Drought) and returning to Phase 2 (Severe Drought)	The SERT determines whether all requirements for assistance are being met within established channels. Task forces continue to make assessments and reports.
The DMAC determines the drought has further subsided.	Leaving Phase 2 (Severe Drought) and returning to Phase 1 (Moderate Drought)	Task forces terminate activity and issue final reports.
The DMAC determines the drought has ended.	Leaving Phase 1 (Moderate Drought) and returning to Normal Conditions	DMAC returns to normal operations. The Divisions of Water Resources and Emergency Management continue to monitor drought indicators.

TAB B TO APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX B
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

AGRICULTURE TASK FORCE

1. Tasked Agencies are expected to appoint representatives who are empowered to make reasonable commitments concerning cooperation and coordination of drought triggered activities.

   a. Members.

      (1) North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Chair)

      (2) US Department of Agriculture State Emergency Board (SEB)

      (3) Small Business Administration

      (4) Division of Forest Resources

      (5) Division of Soil and Water Conservation

      (6) North Carolina State Extension Service

   b. Support Agencies.

      (1) US Department of Agriculture

      (2) Agriculture-Industry Advisory Group (AIAG)

      (3) Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service

2. Purpose. North Carolina periodically experiences drought conditions. Drought can cause devastating impact on the State's agriculture industry. Timely assessments of agricultural impacts are necessary as drought conditions escalate. The purpose of the Agriculture Task Force is to make these assessments and report them to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, the SERT, and other State agencies as appropriate.

3. Concept of Operations

a. Drought is progressive in nature, and its impact might go unrecognized until it has reached a severe level. Additionally, drought impacts are different and occur at different stages depending upon the economic or human activity under consideration. The Agriculture Task Force is established to provide a coordinated approach to assessing the impacts of drought on agriculture. Members of the Agriculture Task Force are as listed in paragraph 1 above. The chairman of the Agriculture Task Force may call on other agencies for participation as necessary.

b. The Agriculture Task Force is an assessment group that serves as a collection point for data provided by the USDA State Emergency Board and other information published on the condition of agricultural commodities. This task force identifies the potential impacts of drought and tracks their occurrence and intensity. It does **not** become involved in the response of various agencies to a declared drought emergency, nor does it initiate data collection activities. Findings and recommendations of this task force are assimilated into the overall State drought assessment and are intended to assure effective response capabilities, as well as to provide documentation for any emergency declaration.

c. The Agriculture Task Force is a data collection and assessment group only, and it exercises no operational authority over its member agencies.

d. The Agriculture Task Force develops information from a variety of sources. Analysis, evaluation, and reporting will focus on major problems present or likely to occur. Such data and reports will be exchanged freely among the various assessment task forces and will be presented as they develop to the overall Drought Assessment System.

4. Procedures.

a. Activation. The Agriculture Task Force will be activated only during periods of drought or anticipated drought. Since the Palmer Drought Severity Index has recognized shortcomings as it relates to the onset and severity of agricultural drought, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will activate the task force if one or more of the following should occur.

(1) Subnormal precipitation effecting growing seasons in any major agricultural area of North Carolina.

(2) The Governor requests activation.

(3) The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council requests activation.

b. Meeting Frequency. When activated, the Agriculture Task Force will meet according to a schedule established by its chairperson.

c. Duties and Activities.

(1) Review guidelines and procedures. Update them as necessary.

(2) Assemble and evaluate impact data.

(3) Assess current and potential agricultural drought severity.

(4) Identify potential sources for drought assistance.

(5) Recommend SERT response levels and activities.

(6) Prepare agricultural assessment reports for the DMAC and the SERT.

(7) Maintain supporting data and records of activities.

d. Data Sources.

(1) Natural Disaster Damage Assessment Report--completed when requested by the USDA SEB the Governor through the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

(2) USDA Flash Situation Report—completed when requested by the USDA SEB or the Governor through the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

e. Products.

(1) An inventory of available special resources with cost data and procedures for activation.

(2) A list of key points of contact in support service agencies and agricultural industries.

(3) A list and description of appropriate and available response actions.

(4) A projection of drought impacts on the agricultural economy.

(5) Procedures for coordinating with other drought task forces.

(6) Regular and special reports to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, the SERT and other government agencies as appropriate.

f. Termination. The Agriculture Task Force will terminate activities according to drought severity indicators and the sequence of actions listed in Tab A. The task force will prepare a final report for the DMAC at termination.

TAB C TO APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX B
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

ECONOMIC IMPACT TASK FORCE

1. Tasked Agencies are expected to appoint representatives who are empowered to make reasonable commitments concerning cooperation and coordination of drought triggered activities. Members of the Economic Impact Task Force include:

    a. Department of Commerce (Chair)

    b. Department of Revenue

    c. Division of Social Services

    d. Department of Labor

    e. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

    f. Council of Governments

2. Purpose. Drought can cause devastating impact on the State's economy. Timely assessments of economic impacts are necessary as drought conditions escalate. The purpose of the Economic Impact Task Force is to make these assessments and report them to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, the SERT, and other State agencies as appropriate.

3. Concept of Operations

    a. Drought is progressive in nature, and its impact might go unrecognized until it has reached a severe level. Additionally, drought impacts are different and occur at different stages depending upon the economic or human activity under consideration. The Economic Impact Task Force is established to provide a coordinated approach to assessing the impacts of drought on the State's economy. Members of the Economic Impact Task Force are as listed in paragraph 1 above. The chairman of the Economic Impact Task Force may call on other agencies for participation as necessary.

    b. The Economic Impact Task Force is an assessment group that serves as a collection point for data on the condition the State's economy. This task force identifies the potential impacts of drought and tracks their occurrence and

intensity. It does **not** become involved in the response of various agencies to a declared drought emergency. Development of new data sources is appropriate as necessary, but, where possible, Economic Impact Task Force data collection should be from existing sources. Findings and recommendations of this task force are assimilated into the overall State drought assessment and are intended to assure effective response capabilities, as well as to provide documentation for any emergency declaration.

c. The Economic Impact Task Force is a data collection and assessment group only, and it exercises no operational authority over its member agencies.

d. The Economic Impact Task Force develops information from a variety of sources. Analysis, evaluation, and reporting will focus on major problems present or likely to occur. Such data and reports will be exchanged freely among the various assessment task forces and will be presented as they develop to the overall Drought Assessment System.

4. Procedures.

a. Activation. The Economic Impact Task Force will be activated by the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council as necessary during periods of drought and will function in accordance with the Sequence of Actions described in Tab A.

b. Meeting Frequency. When activated, the Economic Impact Task Force will meet according to a schedule established by its chairperson.

c. The Economic Impact Task Force will study the feasibility and enlist involvement of appropriate individuals concerned with the use of economic simulation models to project drought related economic impacts on a regional and statewide basis.

d. The Economic Impact Task Force develops information to be used by the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, the SERT and other government agencies to assess drought's overall impact. Specific tasks include:

(1) Upon each activation, review and update task force procedures.

(2) Identify actual and potential economic impacts in regions of the State identified by other task forces as most likely to be affected by drought.

(3) Identify counties that have experienced or will experience significant additional social services expenses arising out of payments to drought victims.

(4) Identify significant actual or potential State and local government revenue losses.

(5) Identify and compile economic impacts associated with major commercial and industrial problem areas.

(6) Identify assessment resource shortfalls and necessary tools for effective assessment procedures. Take action to meet these assessment needs.

(7) Provide recommendations for mitigation and response to actual and potential economic drought impacts.

(8) Prepare regular and special reports for the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, the SERT, and other government agencies as appropriate.

e. Termination. The Economic Impact Task Force will terminate activities according to drought severity indicators and the sequence of actions listed in Tab A. The task force will prepare a final report for the DMAC at termination.

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TAB D TO APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX B
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

ENERGY LOSS TASK FORCE

1. Tasked Agencies are expected to appoint representatives who are empowered to make reasonable commitments concerning cooperation and coordination of drought triggered activities. Members of the Energy Loss Task Force include:

   a. Department of Administration, State Energy Office (Chair)

   b. North Carolina Utilities Commission

   c. Division of Water Resources

2. Purpose. Drought can cause serious impact on the capability to meet energy needs—specifically in those areas of the State that depend on generation of hydroelectric power. Timely assessments of energy impacts are necessary as drought conditions escalate. The purpose of the Energy Loss Task Force is to make these assessments and report them to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, the SERT, and other State agencies as appropriate.

3. Concept of Operations

   a. Drought is progressive in nature, and its impact might go unrecognized until it has reached a severe level. Additionally, drought impacts are different and occur at different stages depending upon the economic or human activity under consideration. The Energy Loss Task Force is established to provide a coordinated approach to assessing the impacts of drought on energy availability. Members of the Energy Loss Task Force are as listed in paragraph 1 above. The chairman of the Energy Loss Task Force may call on other agencies for participation as necessary.

   b. The Energy Loss Task Force is an assessment group that serves as a collection point for data on the condition the State's economy. This task force identifies the potential impacts of drought and tracks their occurrence and intensity. It does **not** become involved in the response of various agencies to a declared drought emergency, nor does it initiate data collection activities. Findings and recommendations of this task force are assimilated into the overall State drought assessment and are intended to assure effective

response capabilities, as well as to provide documentation for any emergency declaration.

c. The Energy Loss Task Force is a data collection and assessment group only, and it exercises no operational authority over its member agencies.

d. The Energy Loss Task Force develops information from a variety of sources. Analysis, evaluation, and reporting will focus on major problems present or likely to occur. Such data and reports will be exchanged freely among the various assessment task forces and will be presented as they develop to the overall Drought Assessment System.

4. Procedures.

a. Activation. The Energy Loss Task Force will be activated only during periods of drought or anticipated drought as directed by the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council.

b. Meeting Frequency. When activated, the Energy Loss Task Force will meet according to a schedule established by its chairperson.

c. Duties and Activities.

(1) Contact and coordinate with appropriate utilities to provide a continuing assessment of all impacts on the energy operating system.

(2) Identify, outline, and determine geographic hydroelectric energy impacts resulting from loss of adequate water levels.

(3) Assist private and public utilities in implementing their response plans.

(4) Assess all apparent and ramifying implications pertinent to the immediate problems such as societal, social, economic, and environmental consequences of the situation.

(5) Provide media input to the Joint Information Center for dissemination to the public.

(6) Gather information on hydroelectric energy loss, make impact assessments and prepare regular and special reports for the North

Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council, State Emergency Response Team, and other government agencies as may be required.

(7) Establish procedural tasking for the evaluation of specific hydroelectric energy loss.

(8) Exchange timely information with private and public utilities on hydroelectric energy loss assessment and response requirements.

(9) Advise and recommend courses of action in energy loss response and recovery to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council and the State Emergency Response Team.

(10) Emphasize and suggest appropriate actions (including conservation) to the geographical area concerned.

(11) Monitor and report adverse affects of water shortage on hydroelectric plants including utility redirection of energy supply.

d. Termination. The Energy Loss Task Force will terminate activities according to drought severity indicators and the sequence of actions listed at Tab A. The task force will prepare a final report for the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council at termination.

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TAB E TO APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX B
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

HEALTH TASK FORCE

1. Tasked Agencies are expected to appoint representatives who are empowered to make reasonable commitments concerning cooperation and coordination of drought triggered activities. Members of the Water Sources Task Force include:

   a. Division of Public Health (Chair)

   b. Division of Environmental Health

   c. Division of Human Ecology and Epidemiology

   d. Division of Food and Drug Protection

   e. Veterinary Division

   f. Division of Facility Services

   g. Division of Aging

   h. Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services

2. Purpose. The Health Task Force is established to investigate and specify adverse health conditions caused by water shortages during drought and report this information to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council. The Health Task Force may make response recommendations to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council and the State Emergency Response Team.

3. Concept of Operations

   a. Drought is progressive in nature, and its impact might go unrecognized until it has reached a severe level. Additionally, drought impacts are different and occur at different stages depending upon the economic or human activity under consideration. The Health Task Force is established to provide a coordinated approach to assessing the health impacts of drought on citizens. Members of the Health Task Force are as listed in paragraph 1 above. The

chairperson of the Health Task Force may call on other agencies for participation as necessary.

b. The Health Task Force is an assessment group that serves as a collection point for data on drought conditions. This task force identifies the potential impacts of drought and tracks their occurrence and intensity. It does **not** become involved in the response of various agencies to a declared drought emergency, nor does it initiate data collection activities. Findings and recommendations of this task force are assimilated into the overall State drought assessment and are intended to assure effective response capabilities, as well as to provide documentation for any emergency declaration.

c. The Health Task Force is a data collection and assessment group only, and it exercises no operational authority over its member agencies.

d. The Health Task Force develops information from a variety of sources. Analysis, evaluation, and reporting will focus on major problems present or likely to occur. Such data and reports will be exchanged freely among the various assessment task forces and will be presented as they develop to the overall Drought Assessment System.

4. Procedures.

a. Activation. The Health Task Force will be activated only during periods of drought or anticipated drought as directed by the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council.

b. Meeting Frequency. When activated, the Health Task Force will meet according to a schedule established by its chairperson.

c. Duties and Activities.

(1) Contact and coordinate with appropriate government and private agencies concerning drought related health problems.

(2) Investigate and evaluate environmental health aspects of the drought situation.

(3) Investigate and evaluate epidemiological ramifications of the drought throughout the affected area.

(4) Examine the effects of water shortage on foods and drugs.

(5) Evaluate drought related veterinary health problems, particularly those associated with meat and poultry diagnostics which may pose a danger to human consumption.

(6) Evaluate and report drought effects on home health services, group care, detention centers, and medical centers.

(7) Evaluate and report the effects of drought on the aging population.

(8) Determine the requirements for mental health counseling for drought related difficulties.

(9) Assess the effects of water restriction measures on community health.

(10) Prepare reports to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council and the State Emergency Response Team as required.

d. Termination. The Health Task Force will terminate activities according to drought severity indicators and the sequence of actions listed at Tab A. The task force will prepare a final report for the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council at termination.

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TAB F TO APPENDIX 3 TO ANNEX B
NORTH CAROLINA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

WATER SOURCES TASK FORCE

1. Tasked Agencies are expected to appoint representatives who are empowered to make reasonable commitments concerning cooperation and coordination of drought triggered activities. Members of the Water Sources Task Force include:

   a. Division of Water Resources (Chair)

   b. Division of Environmental Health

   c. Division of Water Quality

   d. Division of Soil and Water Conservation

   e. Division of Emergency Management

   f. North Carolina State Extension Service

   g. North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
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2. Purpose. The Water sources Task Force is established to investigate and specify available water sources during drought, and report this information to the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council. These assessments are based upon the ad hoc water situation in the state and differ from all other assessments in that they bring to bear the very latest information.

3. Concept of Operations

   a. Drought is progressive in nature, and its impact might go unrecognized until it has reached a severe level. Additionally, drought impacts are different and occur at different stages depending upon the economic or human activity under consideration. The Water Sources Task Force is established to provide a coordinated approach to assessing the impacts of drought on citizens Water Sources. Members of the Water Sources Task Force are as listed in paragraph 1 above. The chairman of the Water Sources Task Force may call on other agencies for participation as necessary.

b. The Water Sources Task Force is an assessment group that serves as a collection point for data on drought conditions. This task force identifies the potential impacts of drought and tracks their occurrence and intensity. It does **not** become involved in the response of various agencies to a declared drought emergency, nor does it initiate data collection activities. Findings and recommendations of this task force are assimilated into the overall State drought assessment and are intended to assure effective response capabilities, as well as to provide documentation for emergency declarations.

c. The Water Sources Task Force is a data collection and assessment group only, and it exercises no operational authority over its member agencies.

d. The Water Sources Task Force develops information from a variety of sources. Analysis, evaluation, and reporting will focus on major problems present or likely to occur. Such data and reports will be exchanged freely among the various assessment task forces and will be presented as they develop to the overall Drought Assessment System.

4. Procedures.

a. Activation. The Water Sources Task Force will be activated only during periods of drought or anticipated drought as directed by the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council.

b. Meeting Frequency. When activated, the Water Sources Task Force will meet according to a schedule established by its chairperson.

c. Duties and Activities.

(1) Establish procedures for the specific period of activation.

(2) Identify and locate surplus water in problem areas as well as adjacent and adjoining soil and water conservation districts.

(3) Using all available data, prepare reports on a timely and recurring basis to give the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council current water availability information.

(4) Identify water conservation measures to minimize water consumption and extend available resources.

(5) Monitor water supply and demand to make recommendations on how to allocate existing supplies.

(6) Monitor water supply conditions and the effectiveness of water conservation measures.

(7) Form special working teams as necessary.

(8) Establish procedures for evaluation of specific water resources.

(9) Provide weekly assessments of current and potential water supply.

(10) Monitor and evaluate local methods for measuring water supply and water use during water shortage conditions.

(11) Provide timely information to local officials to encourage community cooperation for water conservation.

(12) Explore and report possibilities for supplementing local water supplies.

(13) Advise and recommend water conservation phasing to agriculture and community water supplies.

(14) Emphasize voluntary conservation when conditions indicate the potential for serious water supply shortages.

(15) Emphasize mandatory conservation as soon as there are visible or measurable signs that water supplies are significantly lower than seasonal norms and are diminishing.

(16) Stress stringent conservation measures during water shortage emergencies.

(17) Recommend rationing only when supply is clearly inadequate to meet projected demands.

d. Termination. The Water Sources Task Force will terminate activities according to drought severity indicators and the sequence of actions listed at Tab A. The task force will prepare a final report for North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council at termination.

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