

Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 - Reauthorized P. L. 109-234

Forms of Assistance

Temporary drought assistance could include construction, management, and conservation activities undertaken by Reclamation on a non-reimbursable basis and are subject to applicable state and Federal laws, including the National Environmental Protection Act. Specific activities might include:

Title 1 – Emergency Drought Relief

- 1) Drilling of wells
- 2) Diking and dredging to improve river channel flow efficiency
- 3) Lining of canals with temporary equipment to maintain proper water temperature installation of temporary materials
- 4) Installation of temporary fish screens
- 5) Installation of temporary equipment to maintain proper water temperature levels
- 6) Temporary Installation of pumps in reservoirs and a canals in order to lift water to outlets
- 7) Improved measurements and reporting of conditions
- 8) Participation in State established water banks and changes in diversion schedules
- 9) Short term loans (in no cases no more than 15 years) to water users for permanent construction, management, conservation activities and the acquisition and transportation of water. The loans are for the same type of construction; operation and conservation measures listed above, but are of more long term nature.

Title 2 – Drought Contingency Planning- The elements of the contingency plans prepared may include, but are not limited to any or all of the following:

- 1) Water banking
- 2) Appropriate water conservation action.
- 3) Water transfers to serve users inside or outside authorized Federal Reclamation project facilities to store and convey non-project water for agriculture, municipal and industrial, fish and wildlife, or other uses both inside and outside an authorized Federal Reclamation project service area.
- 4) Use of water from dead or inactive reservoir storage or increased use of ground water resources for temporary water supplies.
- 5) Water supplies for fish and wildlife resources.
- 6) Minor structural action.

Beneficiaries: Activities and loans would be available to Indian reservation governing bodies, State and Federal agencies, and nonprofit entities, e.g. irrigation districts, municipal water utilities, private or public fish and wildlife facilities.

Availability: After the Governor, or the governing body of a tribe, has made a request to Reclamation for temporary drought assistance under Provisions of P. L. 102-250 and the Commissioner of Reclamation has determined that such request is merited, Reclamation's regional Offices will solicit specific proposals for funding.