

October 21, 2019

RE: Level 1 Drought Response Declaration

Dear EPD Permit Holder:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has been monitoring climatic indicators and water supply conditions to assess drought and severity, as directed by the Rules for Drought Management, Chapter 391-3-30. Some areas of Georgia are facing severe to extreme drought conditions, as shown by the US Drought Monitor. A public report on current climatic indicators, prepared pursuant to the rule, is available at <https://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch/drought-management>.

Because of these conditions, on October 18, 2019 the Director of EPD declared a Level 1 Drought Response for 103 Georgia counties for permittees using surface and/or groundwater. This declaration applies to your county. (Map of affected counties enclosed.)

A Level 1 Drought Response requires that public water systems implement a public information campaign that shall include, at a minimum, public notice regarding drought conditions and drought-specific public service messages in one or more of the following ways: newspaper advertisements, bill inserts, website homepage, social media, and notices in public libraries. Implementation of this campaign should begin within five days of receipt of this letter. While these measures are briefly summarized below, please review the rule and its requirements closely to ensure your system's compliance. The Rules for Drought Management are available at <http://rules.sos.ga.gov/GAC/391-3-30>.

A Level 1 Drought Response public information campaign should:

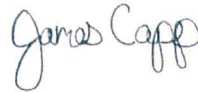
- Remind residents that general outdoor watering is allowed only between 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.
- Target all commercial and residential water use, not just outdoor watering; and

- Emphasize what customers should do and what they may do to be good stewards of our water resources.
 - Examples of things to emphasize that residents should do include the following:
 - Regularly check for, and repair, leaks inside and outside their home.
 - Don't leave the tap running when shaving, brushing teeth, and face washing.
 - Only water your landscape when necessary. Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered, and not the house, sidewalk, or street.

Additional water conservation information is available at <https://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch/water-conservation>.

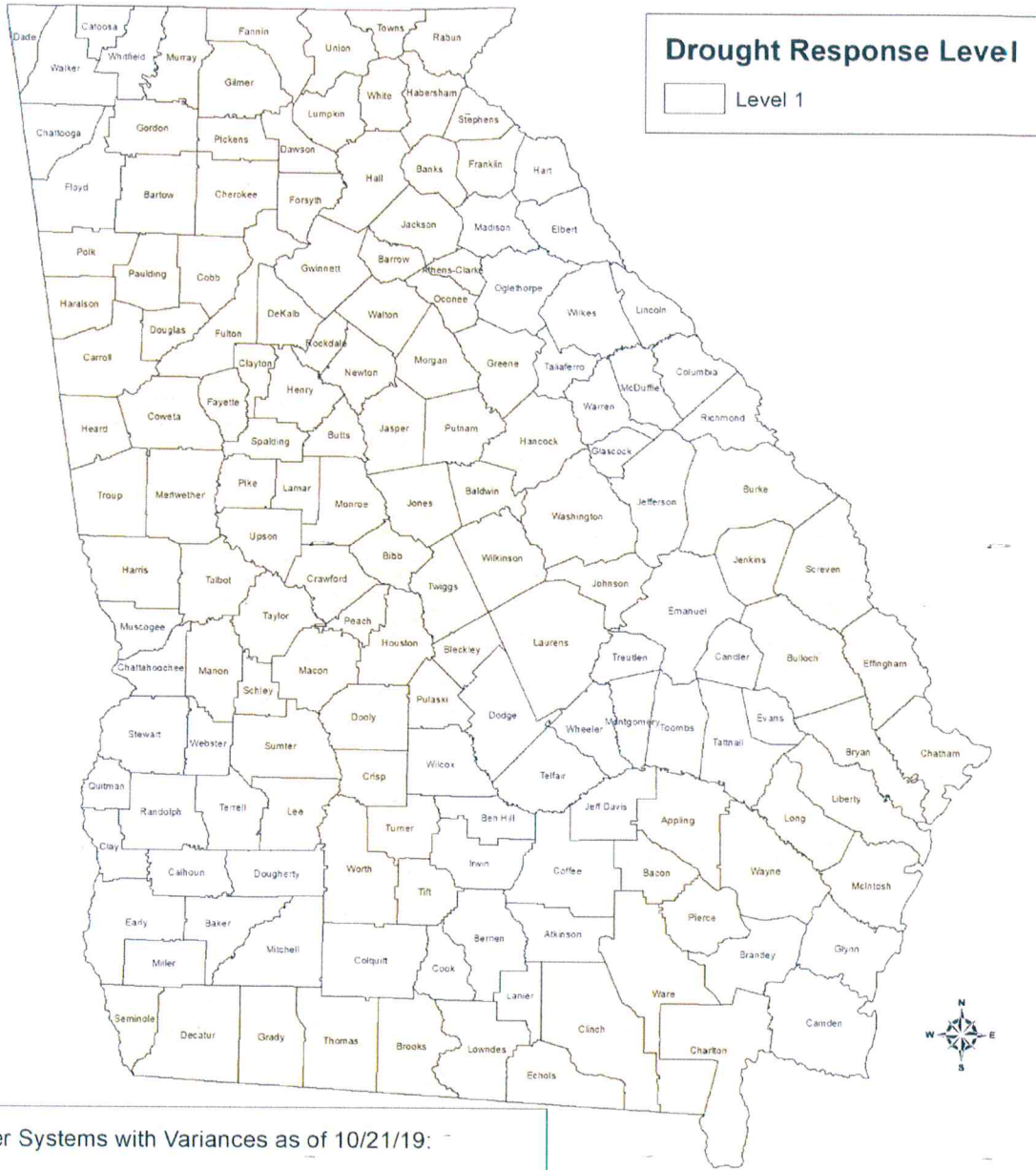
If you have any further questions, please contact Wei Zeng at 404-463-2883 or Johanna Smith at 404-656-6937. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



James A. Capp
Branch Chief
Watershed Protection Branch

Area for Drought Response October 18, 2019



Water Systems with Variances as of 10/21/19:
Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority (DRL 2)
City of Griffin (DRL 2)
City of Forsyth (DRL 2)

