



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MAIL CODE 401-03A

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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CHRIS CHRISTIE

Governor

KIM GUADAGNO

Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN

Commissioner

November 9, 2016

Re: Drought Warning – Water Conservation and Leak Detection

Dear Public Water System:

Commissioner Bob Martin signed Administrative Order 2016-10 on October 21, 2016, designating the following 14 counties as being in a Drought Warning: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren. As part of the on-going efforts to manage the regional water supply and in accordance with the Order and N.J.A.C. 7:19, the Department is hereby directing public water systems in the affected counties to complete the following:

Interconnections

- To ensure proper functioning, interconnection flow tests should be completed for all priority interconnections in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:19-11.6(a)3. If any interconnections are found to be in poor or non-working order, then repairs shall be made immediately. Once the tests and initial repairs are completed, please provide a brief description to the Department of any priority interconnections which are still found in poor or non-working order.

Leak Detection and Water Losses

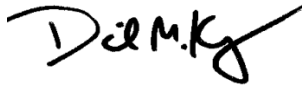
- Systems that have not conducted a complete leak detection survey within the last year, shall conduct a full or phased leak detection survey of the entire system in accordance with 7:19-11.6(a)5 and N.J.A.C. 7:19-6.5. All identified leaks shall be repaired immediately. The date(s) of the leak detection survey and a brief summary of repairs shall be submitted.

- Provide the most recent certified percentage of unaccounted-for-water. If available, please also provide the infrastructure leakage index (as available through a water audit);
 - If the percentage of unaccounted-for-water is greater than 15 percent, the water system shall identify actions that will be taken in the immediate future to reduce water losses and improve water conservation.
- In addition, if not already completed, the Department strongly urges each water public water system to conduct a water audit, such as the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Free Water Audit Software (www.awwa.org/home/awwa-news-details/articleid/2641/awwa-free-water-audit-software-version-5-0-now-available.aspx). The water audit will provide valuable tools for managing water losses.

Please submit the completed spreadsheet to NJDROUGHT@dep.nj.gov by December 31, 2016.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Chelsea Du Brul at 609-292-7219 or by email at chelsea.dubrul@dep.nj.gov.

Sincerely,



Daniel Kennedy
Assistant Commissioner
Water Resource Management

Enclosures