

Dr. Rao Govindaraju  
Professor  
Civil Engineering  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN 47907

Dear Dr. Govindaraju,

As Director of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and Chairperson of the Indiana Water Shortage Task Force, I am writing in support of your proposed project entitled "A Copula-Based Probabilistic Approach for Space-Time Characterization of Droughts". Both the IDNR and the Task Force believe that this project will lead to a much needed and useful tool for evaluating drought conditions in the State of Indiana.

As IDNR Director, one of my duties is to help direct the Division of Water's mission to serve as stewards of the state's surface and ground water resources. The Division tackles many issues related to the evaluation and use of water resources, including water rights, floodplain management, and dam/levee construction. The Division also provides technical support to the Task Force for the development and implementation of Indiana's Water Shortage Plan which provides guidance on assessing the on-set and severity of water shortages. It is my understanding that this proposed project would result in maps of drought conditions at greater resolution than are currently available. The potential for these proposed models to help predict recovery times would provide an even more powerful tool to assist the Task Force target areas of the state impacted by drought.

The IDNR and the Water Shortage Task Force would value new tools that enhance the ability to determine the extent of drought conditions and evaluate the potential to recover from water shortages. We look forward to working with you when this project receives support and you are ready to share this new resource with those who will benefit from its development and implementation. Appropriate IDNR staff are available to provide input and advice as you continue to develop this project.

Sincerely,

Rob Carter  
Director, IDNR