

## FINAL DRAFT (6/29/09)

Senate Bill 369 charges the Water Shortage Task Force with developing water use priorities to be implemented during periods of water shortage. Responding to this charge, the Task Force has examined water use, allocation, and management in Indiana, while considering the potential implications of water shortages. The Task Force finds that public health and safety represent the highest priority uses of water during water shortages and therefore recommends that public agencies and private purveyors implement policies to encourage water users to make wise decisions regarding water management during water shortages as well as periods of normal water supply.

The following table summarizes the findings of the Water Shortage Task Force in the form of Goals, Actions, and Implementing Agencies:

Goals	Actions	Implementation
1) Coordinate regional water supply and demand planning, and data collection efforts.	Encourage the Legislature to establish a sustainable Water Planning Task Force.	Water supply providers, IDNR, IDEM, IURC, USGS
2) Improve regional water conservation, allocation and management throughout Indiana.	Establish regional water supply and demand planning districts to develop water management and allocation policies for normal and abnormal water supply conditions for their respective areas, consistent with statewide goals and criteria.	Water supply providers, IDNR, IDEM, IURC *Establish a Division of Local Assistance to provide support for regional water planning per appropriate funding mechanism.
3) Protect public health and safety during water shortages.	Establish policies that allocate water to public health and safety uses as a matter of priority during water shortages.	Water supply providers, IDNR, IDEM, IURC
4) Encourage efficient allocation and conservation of water.	Implement policies and programs that encourage efficient allocation, use, and conservation of water in wet, dry, and normal years.	Water supply providers, IDNR, IDEM, IURC
5) Improve understanding of long-term water supply and demand in Indiana.	Establish water use databanks developed, standardized and shared through metering and reporting requirements.	IDNR, IDEM, IURC, USGS
6) Improve understanding of current water use in Indiana.	Promote installation of accurate water metering devices at all withdrawal and/or end use points.	Water supply providers, IDNR, USGS