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TAUESE P.F. SUNIA,
Governor

TOGIOLA T.A. TULAFONO
Lt. Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 13-1998

(AN ORDER DECLARING AN EMERGENCY BY REASON OF THE EXISTENCE OF A DROUGHT)

Section 1: Authority

This Executive Order is issued under the authority granted to the Governor in Article IV, Section 6, American Samoa Revised Constitution and Title 4 ASCA Section 4.0111(b).

Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of this Executive Order is to declare an emergency by reason of the existence of a drought which threatens the economic well being, public health and safety of residents of American Samoa.

Section 3: Drought Conditions

(a) A territorial wide drought condition exists according to the Pacific ENSO Update Special Bulletin of May 1998 and will continue through October 1998; it is predicted that rainfall will be at a level which is 20% that of normal. The rainfall for April and May, to date, measured at the Tafuna Weather Station was less than two inches.

(b) Prior drought conditions (1974 and 1983) were declared during which time rainfall was less than three inches per month for three consecutive months, resulting in water rationing, curtailment of fish canning operations, reduction in work hours for government employees and a general territorial wide recession.

(c) A continuous supply of potable water is vital to the economic and social welfare of residents of American Samoa.

Section 4. Declaration of Emergency

(a) Pursuant to ASAC §25.0465 an emergency is declared. The ASPA Board of Directors is hereby authorized and directed to take necessary measures to assure the safety and welfare of the people of the territory including but not limited to, by emergency rule, or otherwise, promptly procure equipment to increase water production, inventorying all water systems, declare water rationing and conservation, extent transmission and distribution lines to residents not currently served by ASG water system, improve and build new water storage facilities and withhold water supplies from users who continually use water in a wasteful manner.

(b) The ASPA Board of Directors is further authorized and directed to adopt all necessary procedures, including reductions in force, contract termination, short term contracts, overtime, disciplinary actions, emergency procurement, rationing schedules, maintenance and operational contracts, termination of noncritical water service, and restricting new water connections/services, to promptly ensure that existing rate payers receive reliable, potable water.

Section 5. ASG Agency Compliance

All ASG executive agencies, departments and offices shall fully cooperate with ASPA during this emergency.

Section 5: Effective Date

This Executive Order shall be effective upon signing. It shall remain in effect until it is amended by another Executive order or by statute.

DATED: May 26, 1998.


TAUESE P.F. SUNIA

Distribution:

As per standard list