

Public Law 104-318  
104th Congress

An Act

Oct. 19, 1996  
[H.R. 3910]

Emergency  
Drought Relief  
Act of 1996.

To provide emergency drought relief to the city of Corpus Christi, Texas, and the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, Texas, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1996”.

**SEC. 2. EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF.**

(a) CORPUS CHRISTI.—

(1) EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF.—For the purpose of providing emergency drought relief, the Secretary of the Interior shall defer all principal and interest payments without penalty or accrued interest for the 5-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act for the city of Corpus Christi, Texas, and the Nueces River Authority under contract No. 6-07-01-X0675 involving the Nueces River Reclamation Project, Texas: *Provided*, That the city of Corpus Christi shall commit to use the funds thus made available exclusively for the acquisition of or construction of facilities related to alternative sources of water supply.

(2) ISSUANCE OF PERMITS.—If construction of facilities related to alternative water supplies referred to in paragraph (1) requires a Federal permit for use of Bureau of Reclamation lands or facilities, the Secretary shall issue such permits within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, recognizing the environmental impact statement FES74-54 and the environmental assessment dated March 1991 (relating to the Lavaca-Navidad River Authority Pipeline permit).

(b) CANADIAN RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY.—

(1) RECOGNITION OF TRANSFER OF LANDS TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.—All obligations and associated debt under contract No. 14-06-500-485 for land and related relocations transferred to the National Park Service to form the Lake Meredith National Recreation Area under Public Law 101-628, in the amount of \$4,000,000, shall be nonreimbursable. The Secretary shall recalculate the repayment schedule of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority to reflect the determination of the preceding sentence and to implement the revised repayment schedule within one year of the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF.—The Secretary shall defer all principal and interest payments without penalty or accrued interest for the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act for the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority under contract No. 14-06-500-485 as emergency drought relief to enable construction of additional water supply and conveyance facilities.

Approved October 19, 1996.

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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 3910:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 104-770 (Comm. on Resources).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 142 (1996):

Sept. 10, considered and passed House.

Oct. 3, considered and passed Senate.

