



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

**WHEREAS:** An adequate supply of clean and affordable water is vital to Georgia's economic well-being and sustaining our high quality of life; and

**WHEREAS:** Communities across the state face short and long-term water supply challenges; and

**WHEREAS:** Enactment of the Water Stewardship Act (SB370) in 2010 advanced water conservation across the state, helping to create a culture of water conservation in the state of Georgia; and

**WHEREAS:** Georgia must now also support the development of new water supply sources to supplement existing water conservation efforts; and

**WHEREAS:** Local governments and water utilities face considerable constraints in financing critical water infrastructure projects in today's economic climate; and

**WHEREAS:** Various state agencies and authorities possess specialized powers and expertise that can be aligned to support the development of water supply facilities around the state.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER VESTED IN ME, AS THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:** That the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) will develop and implement the Governor's Water Supply Program to assist local governments in developing new sources of water supply adequate to meet future water demand forecasts.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That GEFA will convene a Water Supply Program Task Force that will provide GEFA expert guidance in program development and ensure interagency coordination in program implementation. GEFA will enlist representatives of key stakeholders as it sees fit, though the Council will include representatives of at least the following entities:

Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Georgia Environmental Protection Division  
Georgia Department of Community Affairs  
Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission  
State Properties Commission

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That GEFA and the Task Force will develop a strategy that enumerates the key challenges to developing new water supply facilities in the state and identifies the most effective solutions to those challenges.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That GEFA and the Task Force will develop project financing options, including but not limited to low-interest and subsidized loans and direct state project investment. GEFA and the Task Force will explore opportunities to leverage additional project financing through public private partnerships and maximize the potential value of such partnerships where feasible and mutually beneficial to all parties; and

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That GEFA and the Task Force will develop a project selection system that ensures alignment of state financial support for critical, cost-effective water supply projects.

This 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011.



GOVERNOR