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**WATER SERVICE GROUP**

INVESTING FOR LIFE



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# 2019 NARUC Summer Policy Summit

## “Extreme Weather Events and Climate Variation”

Presented by:

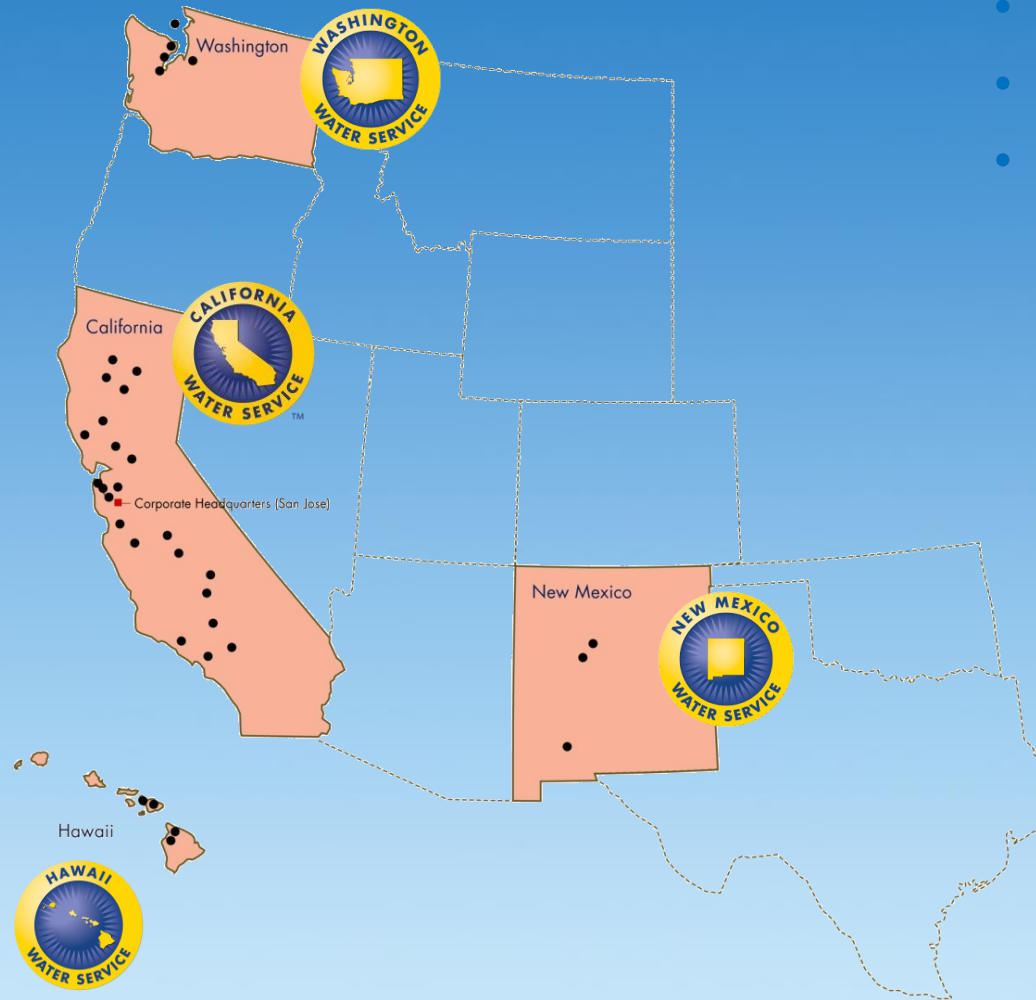
**Mike Mares**

Vice President of California Operations

# AGENDA

- Company Overview
- Changing Climate – “Is this the new norm?”
- Managing Risk
- Wildfire Task Force

# California Water Service Group



- Largest in the West
- 3rd largest in U.S.
- Serves 2 million+ people via...
  - 6,000+ miles of main
  - 1,130 wells
  - 662 storage tanks
  - 155,000+ valves
  - 50,000+ hydrants
  - 2,010+ sampling stations
  - 6 surface water treatment plants
  - 10 wastewater treatment plants

# “Is this the new norm?”

## California Drought:

- 2014 - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)  
Emphasizes local management and formed groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) from local and regional authorities
- Ensure sustainable groundwater management by 2040
- 2015 - Executive order to reduce urban water use by 25%
- Customer first approach – provided numerous options



# “Is this the new norm?”

## Wildfires:

- **2016 Erskine Fire – Lake Isabella, Kern County**
  - 47,800 acres burnt, 2<sup>nd</sup> largest fire of 2016
  - 300+ buildings destroyed
  - 2 fatalities
- **2018 Complex Fire – Lucerne (Clear Lake)**
  - 459,123 acres burnt, largest recorded fire in state history
  - 500+ structures destroyed
  - 1 fatality



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# “The new norm?”

## Wildfires:

- **2018 Woolsey Fire – Westlake Village, CA**
  - 96,949 acres burnt
  - 1500+ structures destroyed
  - 3 fatalities
- **2018 Camp Fire – Paradise/Chico, CA**
  - 153,336 acres burnt, most destructive fire in the history of the state of California
  - 13,973 homes and over 4,500 structures destroyed
  - 86 fatalities
  - 11 employee's homes destroyed – 18 employees displaced – 1/3 of the workforce





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# Managing Risk

- Robust risk management model
- Enterprise Risk Management assessment
  - ✓ Water Supply
  - ✓ Climate change - natural or human caused disasters and “Inverse Condemnation”



# Managing Risk - Water supply

- Water conservation is the new norm
- Working with agencies and creating partnerships to ensure a reliable future water supply for the communities we serve



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# Managing Risk – Natural Disasters

- People first approach, #1 priority in any emergency
- Robust emergency response planning and training
- Created “Wildfire Taskforce” to identify, reduce, and manage risk created from wildfires





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# Managing Risk – Wildfire Task Force

- Conducted risk assessments for all districts
  - ✓ Identified and ranked systems vulnerable to the threat of wildfire
  - ✓ Developed and prioritized a list of critical capital projects to reduce risks and add reliability against the threat of wildfires (back up power generators and equipment)





# Managing Risk – Wildfire Task Force

- Ensure that equipment and assets, are in proper working order or are repaired/replaced – “all hands on deck” approach
- Conducted mandatory training for all district employees on: Red Flag Warning, Weather Watch/Warning/Advisory, Hydrant Maintenance SOPs, Hot-work and Vegetation Management BMP’s
- Develop regionalized emergency response for: strike teams, EOCs, trainings, emergency supply, and equipment storage/“Emergency Response Trailer Units”

# Managing Risk – Wildfire Task Force

Manage “Public Safety Power Shutdowns” (PSPS)

- Employee and customer safety
- Firefighting
- Hospitals, critical care units
- Fuel for generators & vehicles
- Assure continuous water quality support during critical incidents



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# Extreme Weather

## NARUC Summer Policy Summit

7/23/2019

Megan Levy  
Local Energy Programs Manager &  
Energy Assurance Coordinator  
Office of Energy Innovation  
Public Service Commission of WI



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation





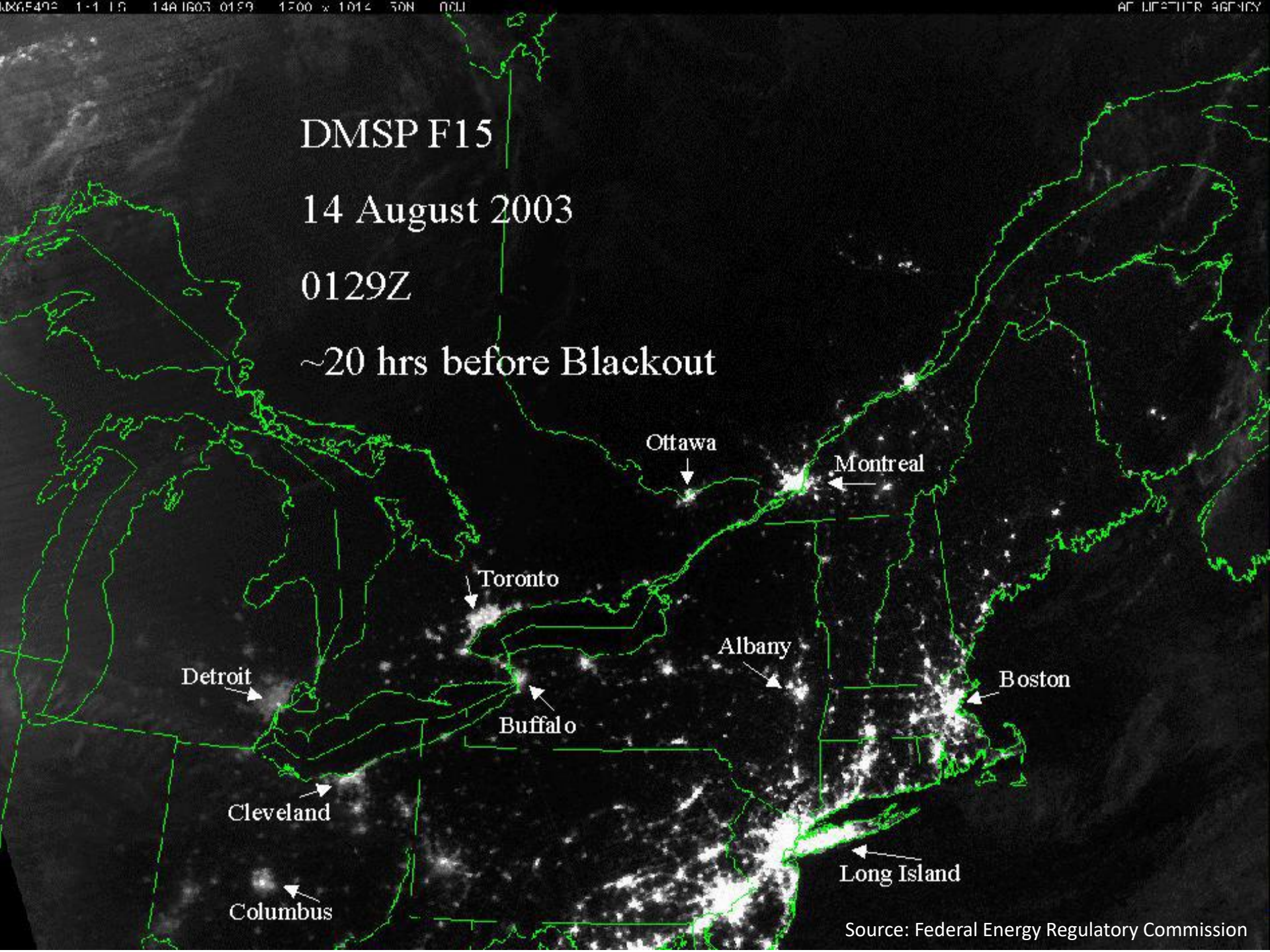


DMSF F15

14 August 2003

0129Z

~20 hrs before Blackout



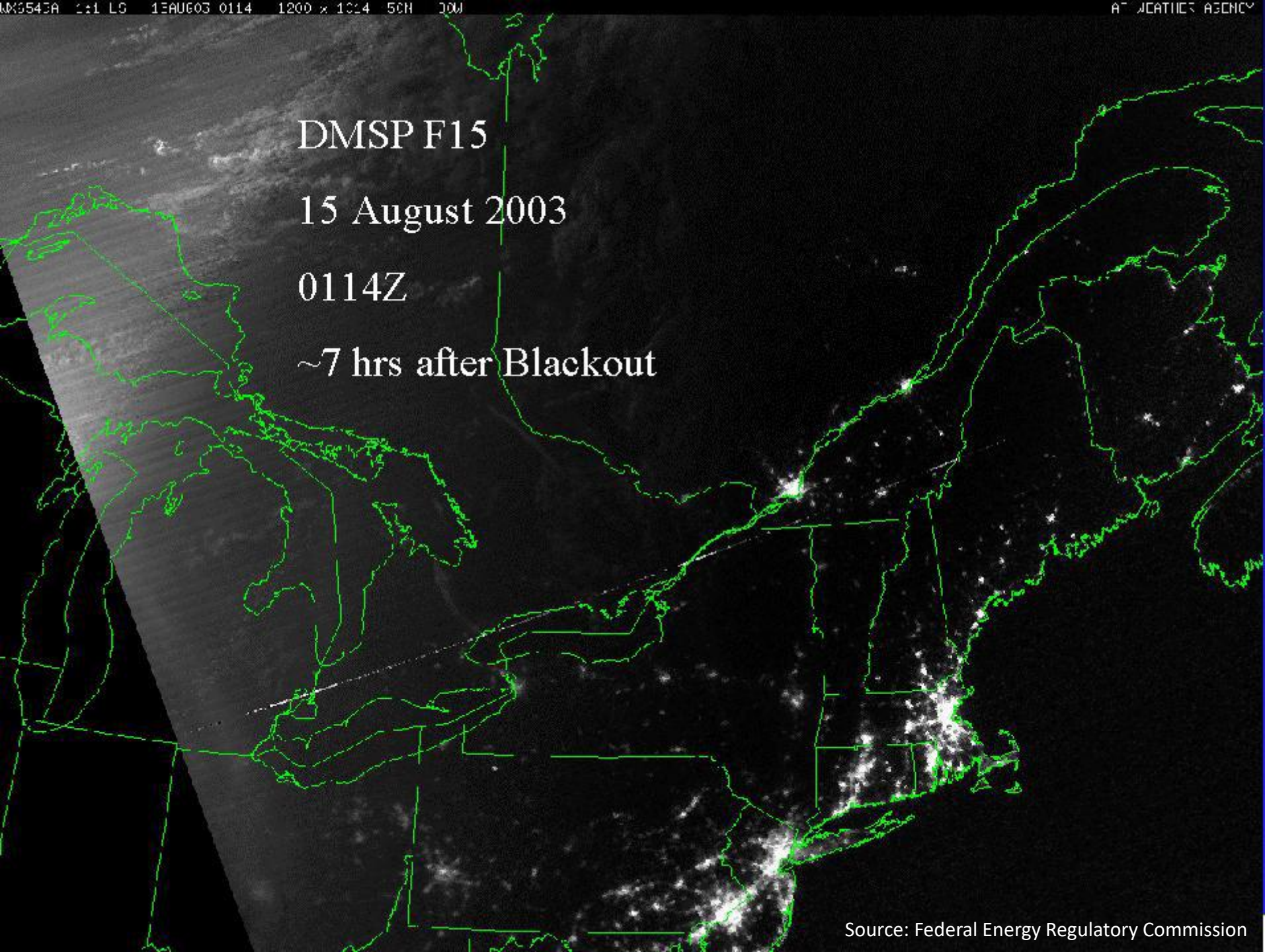


DMSP F15

15 August 2003

0114Z

~7 hrs after Blackout







ISAT GeoStar 45  
23:15 EST 14 Aug. 2003

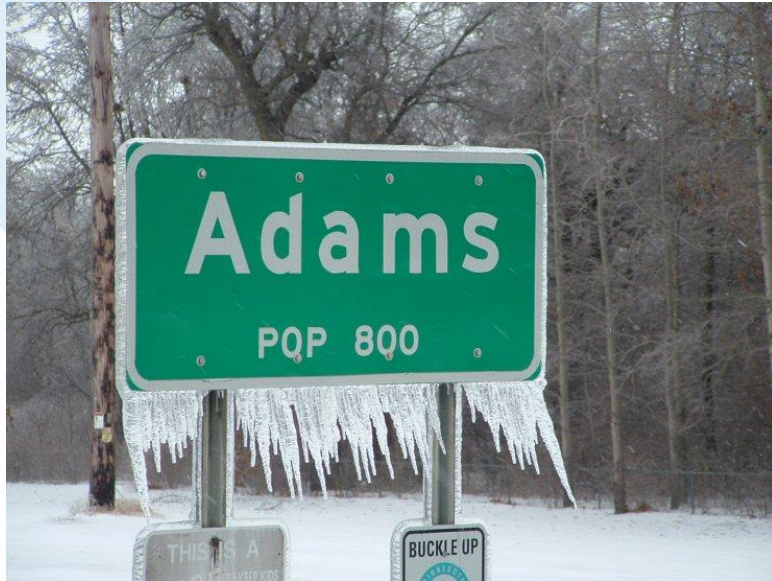




Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation









**Saturday and Saturday Night**  
**Winds 25 to 35 mph**  
**All Areas**

**SNOW: 10 TO 15 INCHES**

**SNOW: 6 TO 10 INCHES**  
**SLEET: UP TO 0.50 INCHES**

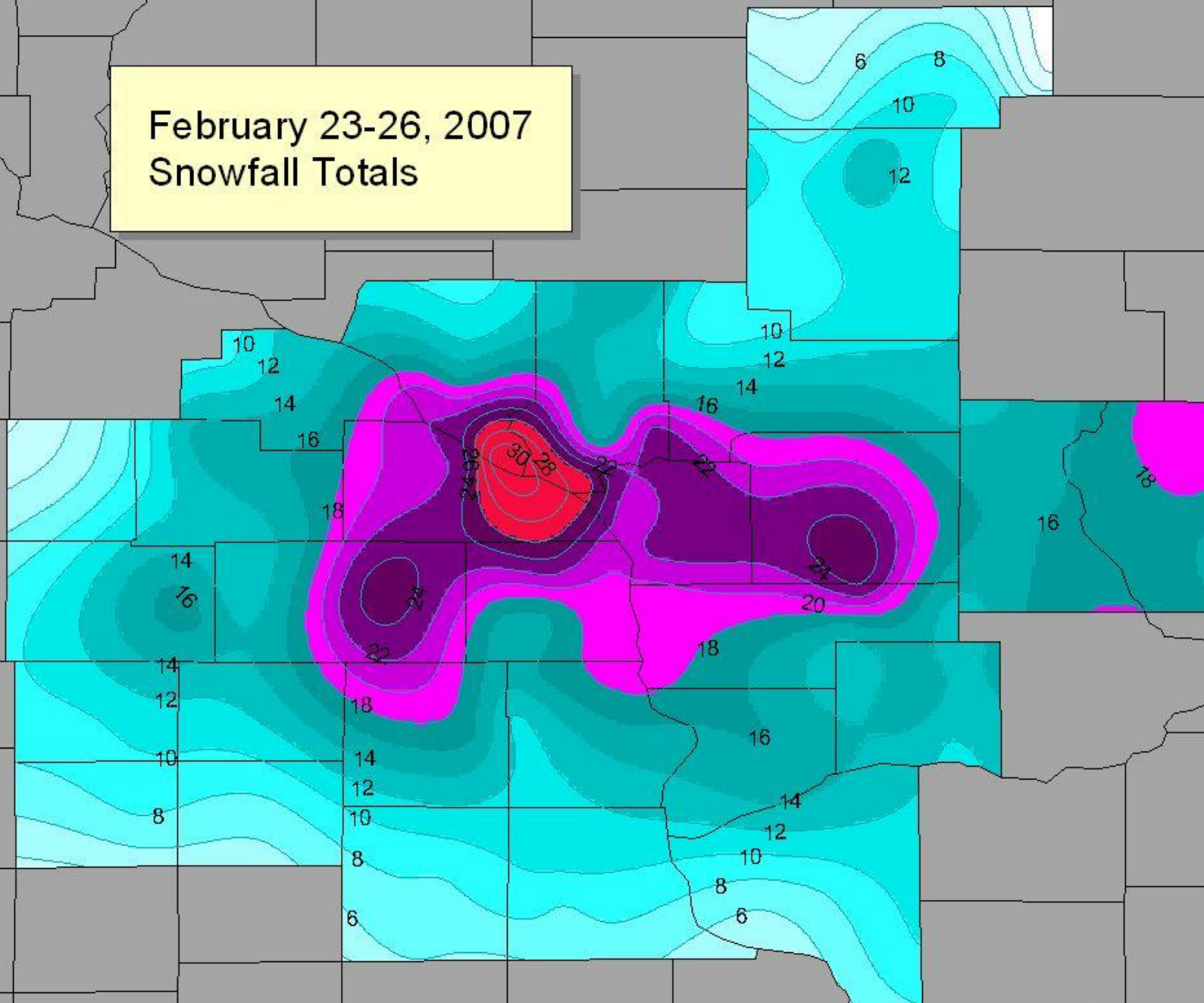
**SNOW: 4 TO 8 INCHES**  
**ICE: 0.25 TO 0.75 INCHES**



**NWS La Crosse**



February 23-26, 2007  
Snowfall Totals





02/25/2007

Photo by Jim & Connie Sathre  
Adams, MN



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation















# Extreme Weather and Climate Variability

NARUC Summer Policy Conference 2019



AMERICAN WATER

## More Frequent News Stories on Extreme Weather Impacts?

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The Telegraph, Alton, Illinois - May 20, 2019



KSDK.com June 3, 2019



# Relocated and Modernized Water Plant

## - Improved Resiliency, Treatment, Efficiency and Security

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1993

100+ Year Old Plant Flooded

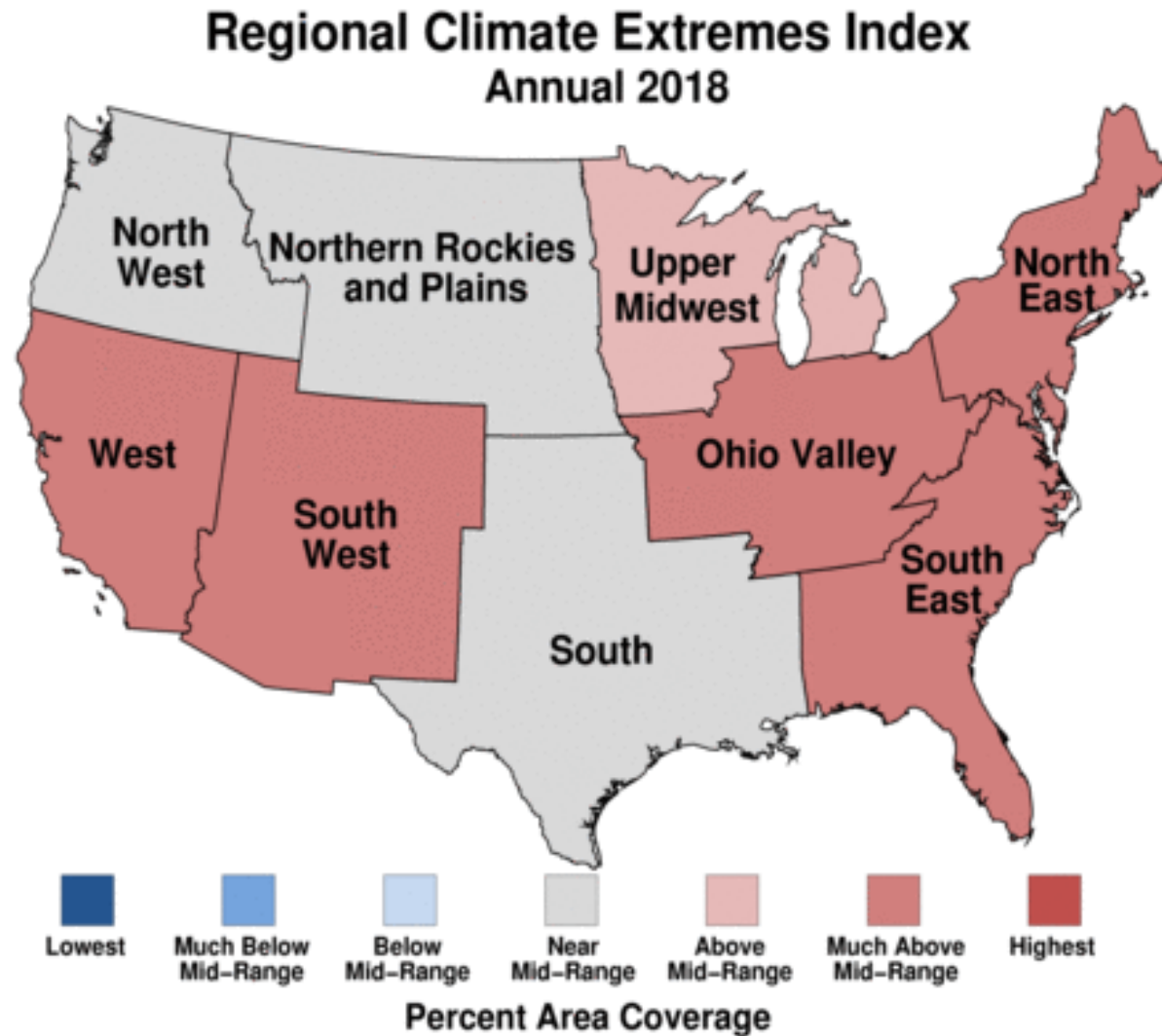


2001

New Plant Commissioned



# NOAA Monitors Extremes in 5 Variables



How does 2018 compare to history?

- Highest in days with precipitation
- 66% above average in extremes (more extremes than average year)
- Ranked 8<sup>th</sup> highest in 109-yr record
- 5<sup>th</sup> highest year in extremes in warm minimum temperatures

Source: NOAA

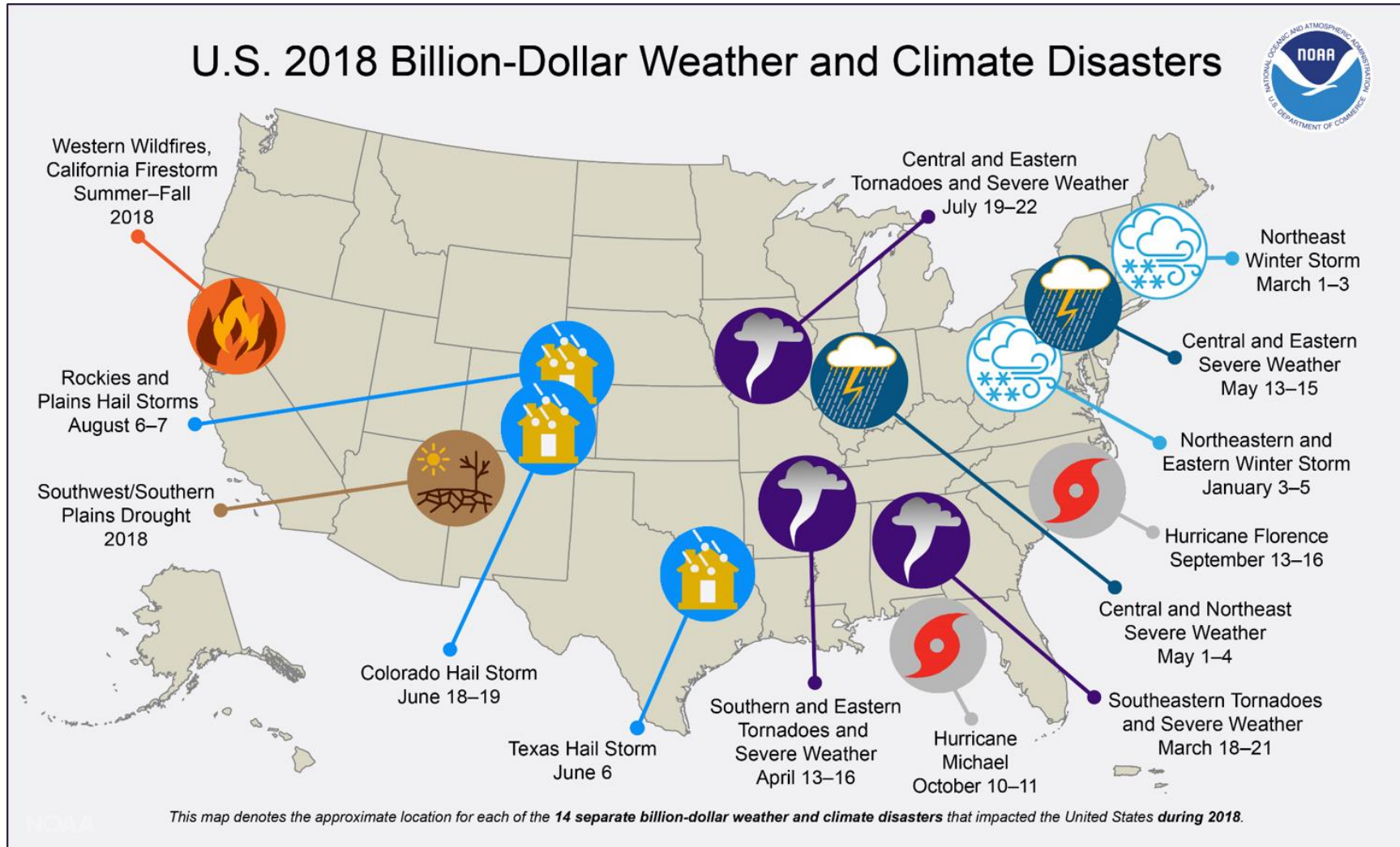
# Variability in Same Year – Meramec River, Missouri



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cMs4ZNCmH8>



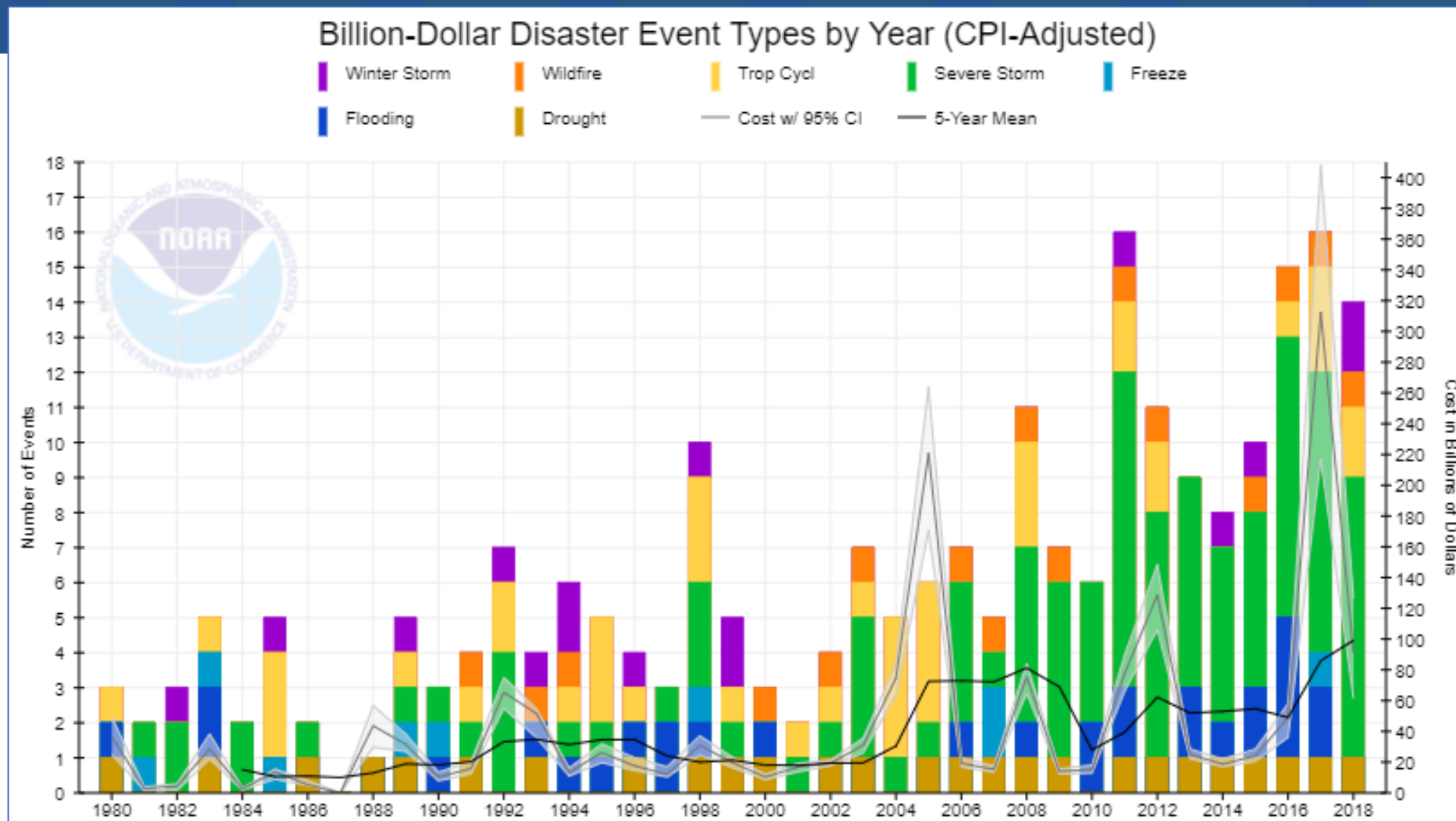
# Impacts - Large Natural Disasters Across U.S.



**8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year with 8 or more Billion-Dollar disasters**

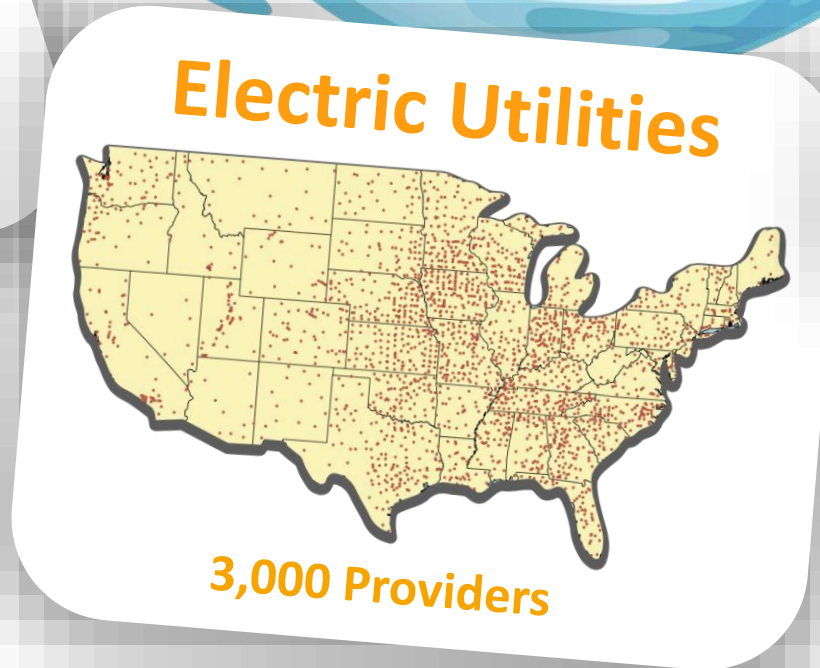
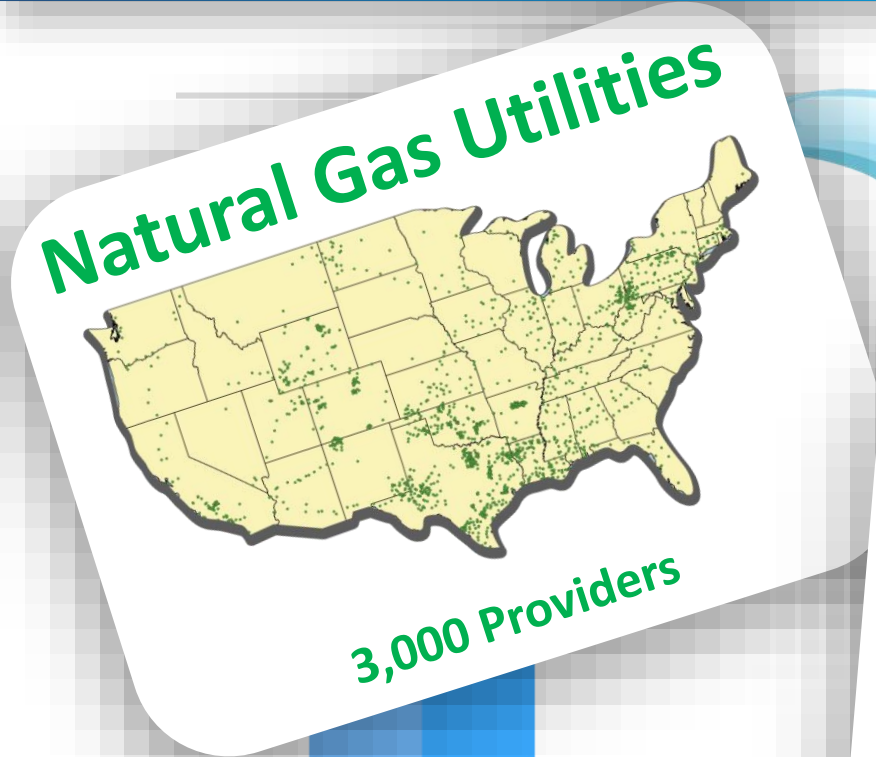
- Above average precipitation (4.69 inches)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> wettest year on record (124-year record)
- 1<sup>st</sup> wettest year in past 35 yrs
- 14<sup>th</sup> warmest year on record
- 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive warmer-than-average year for the U.S.

# Increasing Frequency and Magnitude of Events





# Compound extremes also increase the risk of cascading infrastructure failure

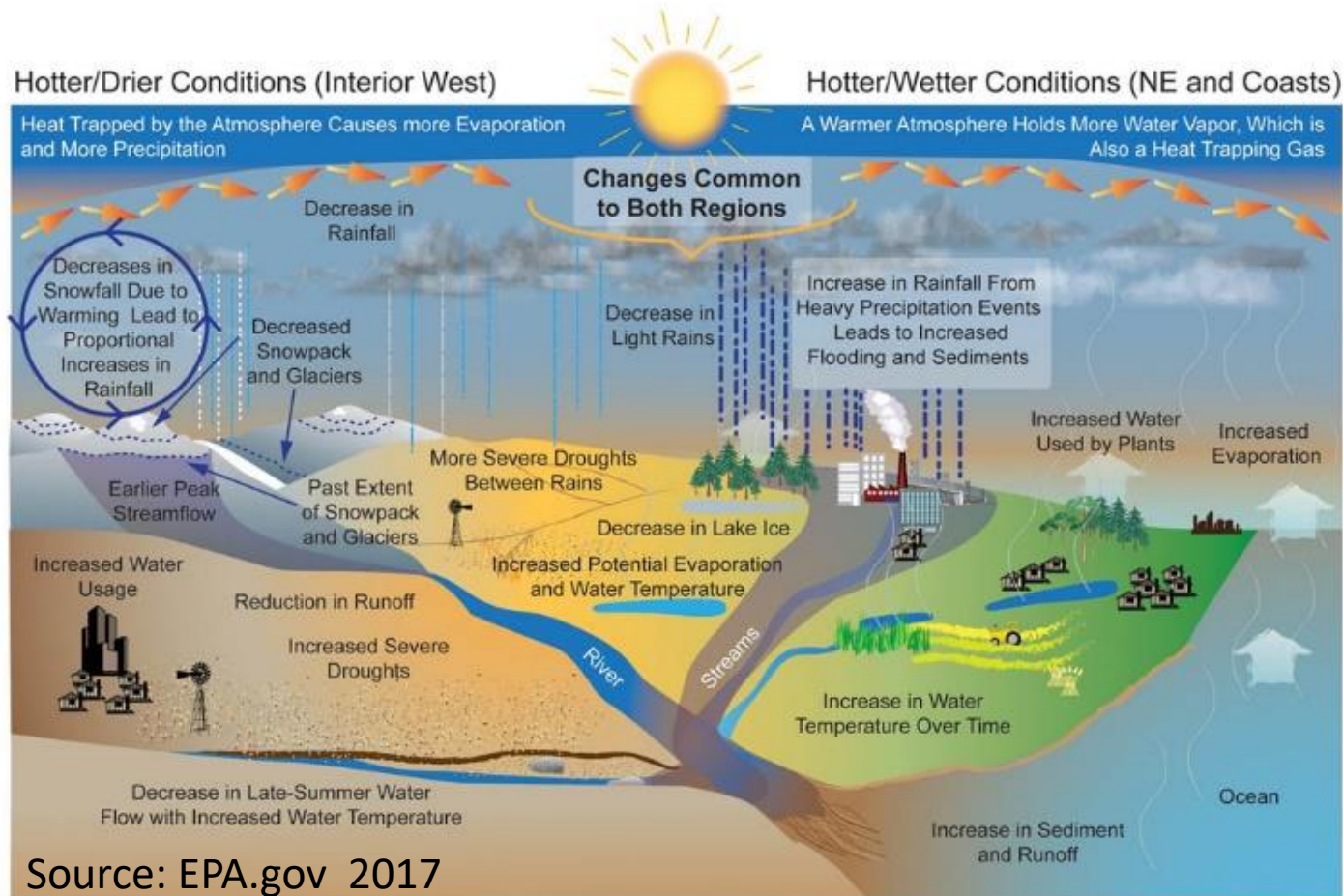


Gas Utilities Source: EPA F.L.I.G.H.T. Greenhouse  
Gas Emissions from Large Facilities  
[Ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/main.do#](https://ghgdata.epa.gov/ghgp/main.do#)

Electric Utilities Source: Form EIA-861 detailed data files  
[www.eia.gov/electricity/data/eia8](https://www.eia.gov/electricity/data/eia8)

Water Utilities Source: EPA SDWIS Federal Reports Search  
[www3.epa.gov/enviro/facts/sdwis](https://www3.epa.gov/enviro/facts/sdwis)

# How Do Changes in the Water Cycle Impact Utilities



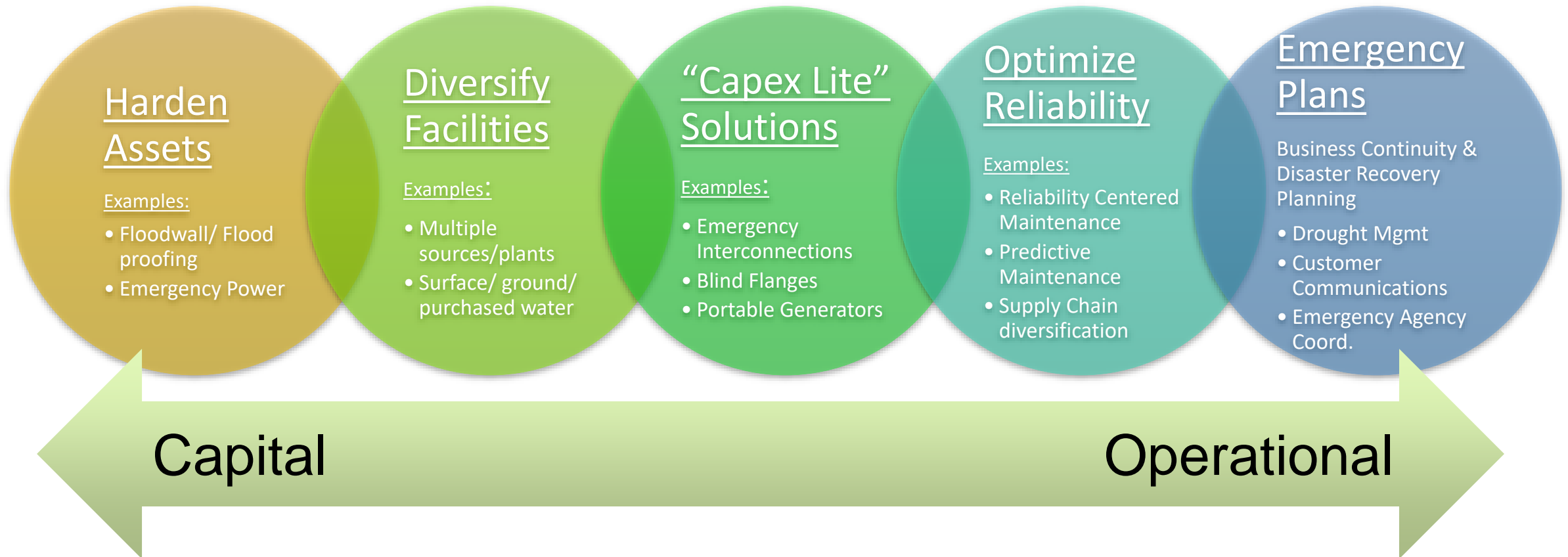
## Fourth National Climate Assessment

1. Changes in Water Quality and Quantity
2. Deteriorating Water Infrastructure at Risk
3. Water Management in a Changing Future

Source: EPA.gov 2017

# Resiliency Toolbox

## Hardening of Assets to Emergency Response Plans



# Work in Flood Hazard Area

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## Building Codes Cite ASCE-24 Flood Design Standard

**Essential facilities (Flood Design Class 4)**

**Elevation of lowest floor:**

**Base Flood Elevation (100yr flood) + 2 ft,  
Design Flood Elevation,  
or 500-year flood elevation,**

**whichever is higher.**





# “Harden Assets” Example: Davenport Iowa

- The river crested at a record 22.7' in 2019
- The previous record flood for this area was 22.63' in 1993



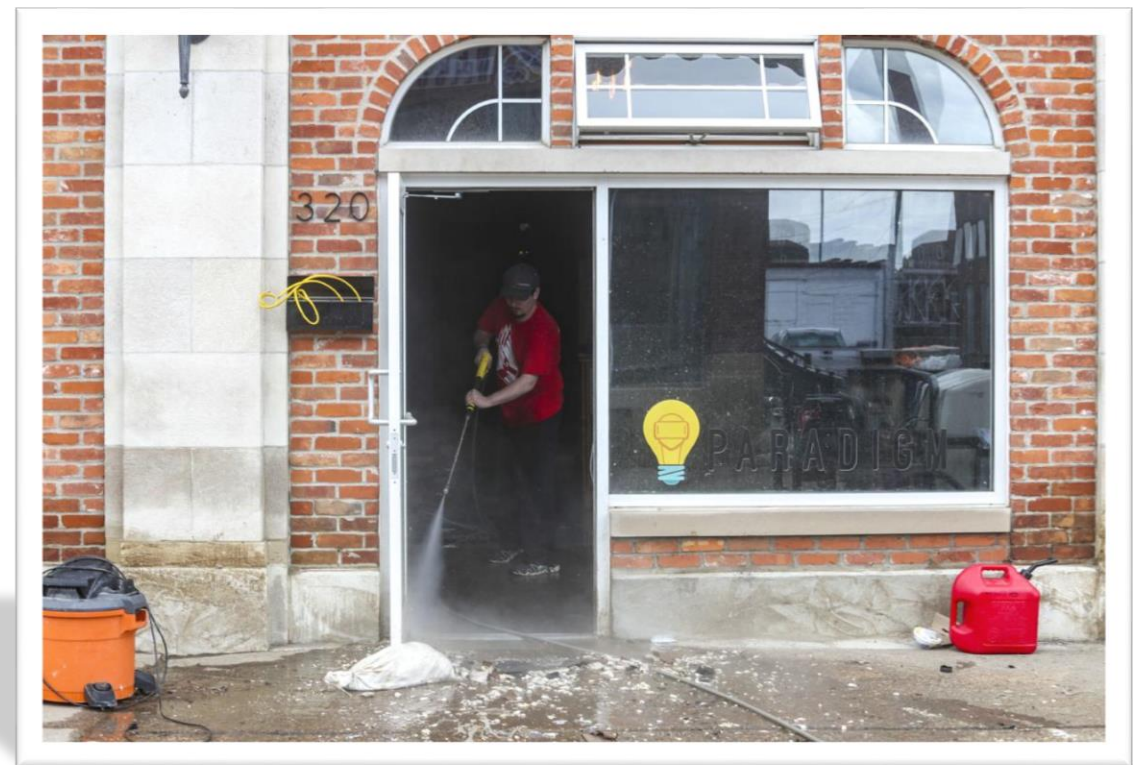
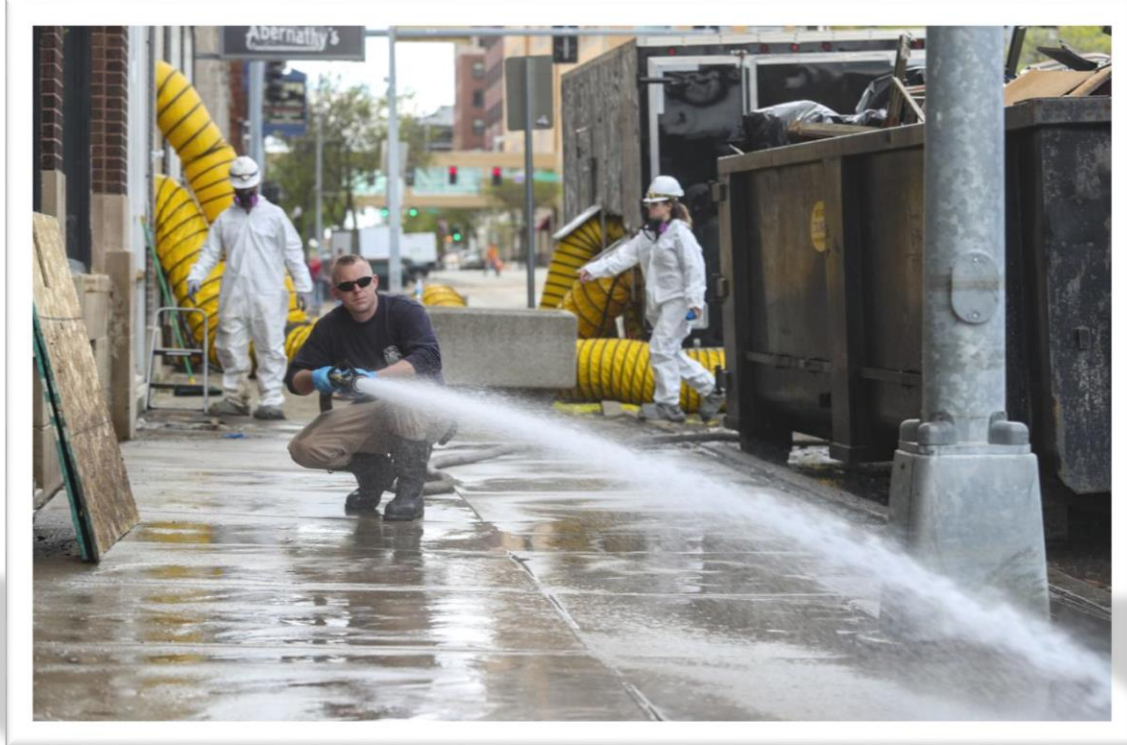
# Davenport Iowa Water Plant Floodwall

message to local media:  
***“We are operating normally and continually monitoring the water quality. The plant is operating under normal conditions and well protected by the flood wall.”***





# Water Service Available Before, During and After Event



QCTimes.com May 2019

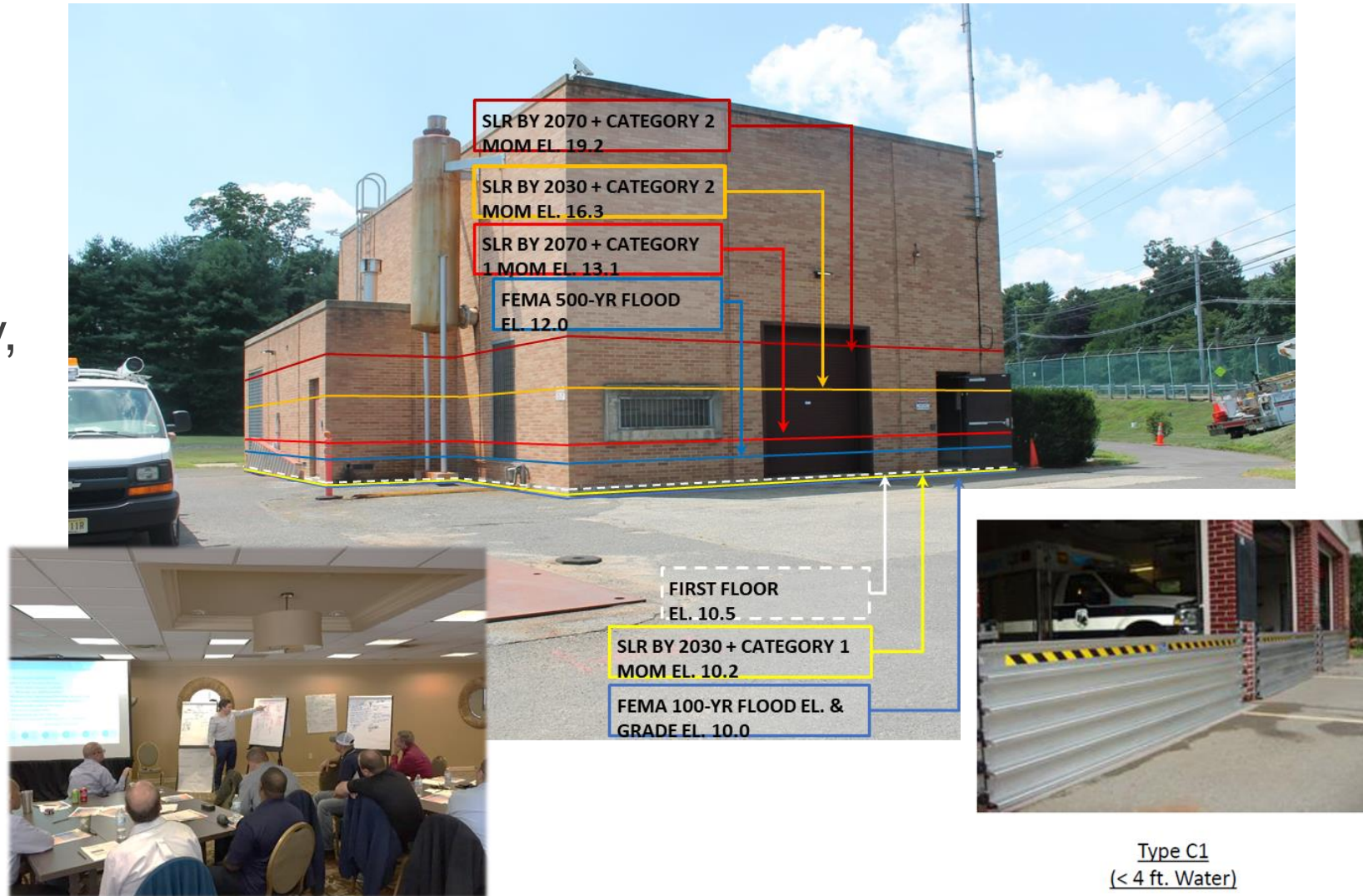
4<sup>th</sup> National Climate Assessment: Compound extremes can also increase the risk of cascading infrastructure failure since some infrastructure systems rely on others, and the failure of one system can lead to the failure of interconnected systems, such as water–energy infrastructure ([Ch. 4: Energy](#); [Ch. 17: Complex System](#))



# What's Next?

## AWIA- America's Infrastructure Act of 2018

- Conduct risk and resiliency assessments
- Revise emergency response plans
- Review and, if necessary, revise these documents at least every 5 years
- Consider physical risks posed by malicious acts and natural disasters, as well as risks from cyber threats





**THANK YOU**