



# DOWN IN THE DEPTHS

Laborers work on an overhaul of Mexico City's drainage system. Mayor Marcelo Ebrard toured the project Thursday, calling it a "guarantee that we are not going to suffer a large-scale flood in Mexico City."

PHOTO NEWS



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COURTESY OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT

# Without water in the capital

*This weekend, Mexico City residents will experience water cutoffs. For some capital neighborhoods, potable water is already hard to come by.*

**PHOTO NEWS**

In the Mexico City borough of Gustavo A. Madero, the neighborhood known as El Mirador looks out upon the nation's cap-

ital. But while the neighborhood has access to a splendid view, it lacks basic amenities such as potable water.

For more than 20 years, residents of El Mirador have lacked regular access to potable water, having to rely instead on water that is delivered twice a week.

In order to make sure the water lasts as long as possible, whatever is delivered is then stored in vats, which can then be piped out to various parts of the community.

Throughout the capital – particularly on the outskirts in neighborhoods in Iztapalapa – residents get their water this way. In recent weeks, the Mexico City Assembly has urged the city government not

to make residents in these areas pay for their water service at all, given that supply is so limited.

The cutoffs this weekend will affect residents of all 16 Mexico City boroughs, according to the city, but to varying degrees. The Assembly has also called on the administration of Mayor Marcelo Ebrard to be more specific in outlining plans for future water cutoffs, as it has only said that they may last throughout the spring.

Experts recommend that ahead of any water rationing period, residents conserve and store water as much as possible by re-using shower water runoff, for instance, or keeping water in buckets days before.

