

Project Planning & Weather Forecasting

North Texas can experience significant rainfall over a few weeks to a few months each year, causing delays to construction projects. The impact of these delays is a reminder that weather should be given more than just a passing thought when planning and scheduling projects, from the beginning to the completion.



There is an assumption within the construction industry that weather delays are excusable, but many are surprised at how often the weather is not considered a legitimate legal reason for delays.

Unforeseeable weather events are. Tornadoes, super floods, hailstorms, and mega ice storms are excusable, since no one can predict when or where they will occur or the damage they will cause.

And any weather out of the ordinary for the season or place where the project occurs is most likely excusable. But the weather, in general, is not.



That means that in the spring in North Texas, when wave after wave of thunderstorms roll in, well, you should have expected it and planned for it. Flexibility should be built into the project schedule to account for delays caused by rain and storms that prevent work on fair-weather-dependent activities.

And when there are weeks on end of 100-plus-degree temperatures in June through September, plans should prioritize worker

safety, allowing for more break time for water and cooling. Consider scheduling work activities earlier or later in the day to avoid the worst part of the heat.

There are helpful resources available to look ahead throughout project execution and get a rough idea of what weather conditions you'll likely encounter during the life of the project.

For example:

<http://www.almanac.com/weather/longrange/TX/Dallas>

<https://www.weather.gov/>



There are also software programs available that will incorporate weather forecasts and alerts into planning, updates, and documentation.

If you have done your homework, then when something unforeseeable does occur, catching you without your waders, you have documented your due diligence and can support your case for the resulting delay.

If the weather works to your project's favor, use some of the slack built into your schedule to get ahead of a milestone or two. Milestone can partner with your company to help with planning and scheduling. [Our Scheduling as a Service](#) offering could be your perfect scheduling and project controls solution.