

**LOWER COLORADO REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP**

**RESOLUTION**

**Requesting Participation by the Texas Water Development Board in the  
Groundwater Study for the LCRA/SAWS Water Project**

- WHEREAS,** In 1997 with Senate Bill 1 (SB1) the Texas Legislature recognized the essential need for long range water planning to sustain social and economic viability for Texas by creating basic planning elements, and
- WHEREAS,** The responsibility for enacting and establishing procedures for this unique “Grass Roots” planning effort was delegated to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and
- WHEREAS,** To accomplish the letter and spirit of SB1 the TWDB embarked on an unprecedented statewide mission to ascertain the opinions and attitudes of all Texas citizens regarding this planning for our future water supplies, and
- WHEREAS,** This consummate approach resulted in the establishment of sixteen (16) Regional Planning Groups (RPG) each of which were to address the water issues within their geographic regions with individual water plans, and
- WHEREAS,** The resulting sixteen (16) Regional Water Plans would then be coordinated and coalesced into a Texas State Water Plan that would assess and address the water needs of the State of Texas and assess and address the strategies needed to accomplish providing for these needs, and
- WHEREAS,** The projections and strategies formulated in the initial five (5) year planning cycle are now being updated and refined preparatory to being considered for the upcoming 2007 State Water Plan, and
- WHEREAS,** The Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (Region K) established its distinctive “Nine Points” strategy to provide for Region K future water needs while also augmenting water supplies for the neighboring Region L Water Planning Region, and
- WHEREAS,** The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) and the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) have subsequently contracted to implement the strategies adopted by both regions provided that the implementation can be accomplished while protecting and benefiting agricultural, environmental, municipal, industrial and other interests in the Colorado River watershed, and
- WHEREAS,** To determine what effects the project may incur on these interests, individual studies have been initiated, one of which will include the impact on developing certain groundwater resources of the Gulf Coast Aquifer to be available to agricultural interests when sufficient surface water is not available during times of drought, and
- WHEREAS,** It is essential that the groundwater study accurately and reliably project the consequences of the development and utilization of these water resources on the aquifer water table, on existing wells, on sustainability of future water supplies and on water quality, and
- WHEREAS,** Detrimental projections can affect whether the project should be undertaken or can indicate the degree of mitigation necessary to respond to harmful effects, and
- WHEREAS,** Due to the singular importance of the outcome of the Groundwater Study to the LCRA/SAWS Project and consequently to the implementation of the plan, and
- WHEREAS,** The Texas Water Development Board does have responsibility for an accurate, thorough and especially an objective outcome for the study

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Lower Colorado Regional Planning Group respectfully requests that the Texas Water Development Board provide ongoing technical review and feedback of the Gulf Coast Aquifer Groundwater Availability Model being developed for the LCRA/SAWS project. The Goals of such TWDB review and feedback should be to assure the reliability and accuracy of data and methodologies used in the model development as well as to assess the resulting model’s sufficiency and predictability for use in future water planning efforts.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Lower Colorado Regional Planning Group as public acknowledgment of this resolution.

**PASSED IN REGULAR MEETING,** this the 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005

**Attest:**

**Approved:**

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Teresa Lutes, Secretary LCRPG

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John Burke, Chairman

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Haskell L. Simon, Vice Chairman