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Texas Water Development Board



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August 31, 2011

Mr. Scott Diermann, Chair
Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group
P. O. Box 7555
Waco, Texas 76714-7555

RE: Senate Bill 660, Texas 82nd Legislative Session

Dear Chairman Diermann:

Although we acknowledge your concerns regarding the requirements of Senate Bill 660 on the regional planning process, both the TWDB and regional water planning groups must comply with these legal requirements regardless of how they might be perceived.

The TWDB's interpretation of these requirements regarding the addition of groundwater management area representatives to regional water planning groups is detailed in our July 22, 2011 letter. If the regional water planning group decides that the appointment of these additional planning group members unbalances the representation of interests on the planning group, the members may amend their bylaws to rebalance the mix of membership, as allowable under statute and considered appropriate by the members. In addition, all regional water planning group members, including the new members representing groundwater management areas, must follow the planning group bylaws.

With regard to evaluation of the implementation of water management strategies from previous water plans, Texas Water Development Board staff is currently considering changes that must be made to Texas Administrative Code and agency guidance documents to perform this work. It is our intent to propose new rules guiding this activity later this year. Following completion of the rule-making process, staff will provide detailed instructions to regional water planning groups. The actual performance of this task will occur relatively late in the planning cycle, so there is ample time to carefully consider how best to meet this requirement.

If you have further questions about this issue, please contact me or your regional project manager, Mr. Lann Bookout, at (512) 936-9439.

Sincerely,

Carolyn L. Brittin
Deputy Executive Administrator
Water Resources Planning and Information

Our Mission	:	Board Members		
To provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas	:	Edward G. Vaughan, Chairman	Thomas Weir Labatt III, Member	Billy R. Bradford Jr., Member
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