



**TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD APPROVES
\$67,470,000 LOAN TO THE SAN JACINTO RIVER
AUTHORITY TO FINANCE A WATER SUPPLY PROJECT**

AUSTIN – (June 22, 2011) – The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) today approved by resolution a \$67,470,000 loan from the Texas Water Development Fund to the San Jacinto River Authority (Montgomery County) to finance planning, design and partial construction of a water supply project.

The San Jacinto River Authority (Authority) is currently in the planning phase of development for an alternative water supply for Montgomery County. The project is identified as a recommended strategy in the Region H 2011 Regional Water Plan and the 2007 State Water Plan. The project is being implemented to address the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District's (LSGCD) groundwater reduction plan, which mandates a 30 percent decrease in the consumption of groundwater within the LSGCD by 2015 in Phase I.

The proposed project from the Authority will develop Lake Conroe as a surface water source of supply for Montgomery County. The proposed project includes installation of a raw water intake and pump station, a 30-million-gallon-per-day surface water treatment plant, finished water storage facilities, high service pump stations, approximately 60 miles of transmission lines, supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA), electrical work and ancillary facilities. Under this funding request the Authority will complete the planning, environmental review and design, and begin construction. The construction portion of this funding only includes an administration building and the entrance road into the surface water treatment plant site.

The Authority's jurisdiction includes the entire watershed of the San Jacinto River and its tributaries, excluding Harris County. It covers all of Montgomery County and parts of Walker, Waller, San Jacinto, Grimes and Liberty counties. The Authority also serves customers in the Houston area and is authorized to operate in east Harris County through an agreement with the City of Houston. Its office is located in Conroe.

The TWDB is the state agency charged with collecting and disseminating water-related data, assisting with regional planning and preparing the State Water Plan for the development of the state's water resources. The TWDB administers cost-effective financial programs for the construction of water supply, wastewater treatment, flood control, and agricultural water conservation projects.