

September 18, 2018

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez
Chairman
Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group
310 Chetumal Drive
Laredo, TX 78045

RE: Region M Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) request for approval to modify surface water availability hydrologic assumptions for development of the 2021 Region M Regional Water Plan (RWP)

Dear Chairman Rodriguez:

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has reviewed the request dated August 17, 2018 for approval of alternative water supply assumptions to be used in determining existing and future surface water availability. This letter confirms that the TWDB approves the following variances:

1. Use adjusted demand patterns for irrigation water rights above Fort Quitman for existing supplies, as approved for the Region E RWPG.
2. Determination of the upper limit of source water available for reuse water management strategies (WMSs) based on the amount of water returned to a utility's wastewater treatment plant, estimated at 50% of the utility's projected water demands, adjusted for water conservation and drought management strategies, unless site-specific information is available. Indirect reuse WMSs may be evaluated with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Water Availability Model (WAM) RUN3. If such strategy is the indirect reuse of calculated return flows, modification to the WAM is allowed.

For the purpose of evaluating potentially feasible water management strategies not included in the above list, the TCEQ WAM RUN3 is to be used.

While the TWDB authorizes these modifications to evaluate water supplies for development of the 2021 Region M RWP, it is the responsibility of the RWPG to ensure that the resulting estimates of water availability are reasonable for drought planning purposes and will reflect conditions expected in the event of actual drought conditions; and in all other regards will be evaluated in accordance with the contract Exhibit C, *Second Amended General Guidelines for Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Plan Development*.

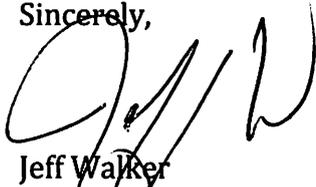
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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact William Alfaro, project manager for Region M at 512-463-4741 or via email at william.alfaro@twdb.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Walker', written over a faint, illegible background.

Jeff Walker
Executive Administrator

JW/WA/ms

c: Mr. Ron Garza, Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
Ms. Sara Eatman, Black & Veatch
Ms. Jennifer Herrera, WSP
Mr. William Alfaro, TWDB