

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Kevin Patteson, Executive Administrator
Les Trobman, General Counsel
Jeff Walker, Deputy Executive Administrator, Water Supply & Infrastructure

FROM: Temple McKinnon, Manager, Regional Water Planning

DATE: September 14, 2015

SUBJECT: Minor Amendment to the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan, relating to the Central Harris County Regional Water Authority.

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider approving the adopted minor amendment to the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan; and authorizing the Executive Administrator (EA) to develop the corresponding amendment to the 2012 State Water Plan, with associated public hearing, as appropriate per 31 TAC §357.51(f).

BACKGROUND

At the April 8, 2015 meeting of the Region H Regional Water Planning Group (Group), the Group approved requesting a minor amendment determination from the EA for a revision to the Central Harris County Regional Water Authority's (CHCRWA) recommended transmission and distribution from the City of Houston water management strategy (WMS) to include a capital cost. This action was documented in a letter dated April 8, 2015.

The CHCRWA's revisions to their recommended WMS includes capital costs for the primary transmission line and the secondary distribution line. The capital cost for the transmission line is \$8,737,162 and for the distribution line is \$11,283,234 for a total revised strategy cost of \$20,020,396. The transmission and distribution line WMS will be implemented in the 2010 planning decade and provide up to 4,806 acre-feet of water per year through 2070 to CHCRWA's customers. Water is provided for this strategy through a contract with the City of Houston through an existing WMS in the 2011 Regional Water Plan and the 2012 State Water Plan.

The EA made a determination (Attachment A) that revising the recommended WMS for the CHCRWA constitutes a minor amendment under 31 TAC §357.51(c), based on the amendment having met the following criteria:

1. Does not result in over-allocation of an existing or planned source of water.
2. Does not relate to a new reservoir.
3. Does not have a significant effect on instream flows, environmental flows or freshwater flows to bays and estuaries.
4. Does not have a significant substantive impact on water planning or previously adopted management strategies. This amendment simply reflects strategy costs not previously included in the plan.
5. Does not delete or change any legal requirements of the plan.

The EA provided a written response to the Region H Regional Water Planning Group for this minor amendment determination on April 24, 2015 and the Group adopted the minor amendment at their July 1, 2015 meeting. Following this adoption, a two-week public comment period was held and no public comments were received. No revision to the proposed minor amendment was found to be necessary by the Group.

KEY ISSUES

1. The Region H Regional Water Planning Group submitted to the TWDB on July 16, 2015, the required written documentation of their adopted minor amendment, including an addendum to the current 2011 Region H Water Plan (Attachment B).
2. The EA has reviewed the adopted amendment and determined that statutory and rule requirements have been met.
3. If approved, an associated amendment to the 2012 State Water Plan will be presented for the Board's consideration following a 30-day notice period and public hearing in accordance with 31 TAC §358.4(a).

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Administrator recommends approval of the adopted minor amendment to the Region H Regional Water Plan.

This recommendation has been reviewed by legal counsel and complies with applicable statutes and Board rules.

Les Trobman, General Counsel

Attachments:

- A. April 24, 2015 Executive Administrator Minor Amendment Determination Response Letter
- B. Minor amendment documentation, including the addendum to the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan.

Texas Water Development Board

P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov
Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

April 24, 2015

Mr. Mark Evans
Region H Chair
North Harris County Regional Water Authority
3648 Cypress Creek Parkway #110
Houston, Texas 77068

Re: Region H request for a determination of a minor amendment for Central Harris County Regional Water Authority's (CHCRWA) Transmission Line.

Dear Mr. Evans:

I have reviewed Region H's request, and based on Region H's request and supporting materials, have determined that adding the costs associated with CHCRWA's Transmission Line water management strategy constitutes a minor amendment under 31 TAC §357.51(c).

If Region H adopts the proposed minor amendment, Region H will need to:

1. Provide the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) with documentation of the planning group action adopting this water management strategy as a minor amendment;
2. Issue and distribute an addendum to the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan updating the plan accordingly;
3. Provide TWDB with corrected DB12 data to reflect all the associated changes to the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan and the 2012 State Water Plan; and,
4. Request that the CHCRWA obtain a web link from TWDB staff in order to fill out an associated online Infrastructure Financing Survey regarding how the entity plans to finance the projects associated with the amendment.

If Region H makes any substantive changes to the project components or configuration during the minor amendment process, TWDB will need to review the modified proposed amendment to ensure that the modified project still meets all of the criteria under 31 TAC §357.51(c).

<p>Our Mission : To provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas</p>	<p>: Board Members : Carlos Rubinstein, Chairman Bech Bruun, Member Kathleen Jackson, Member : : Kevin Patteson, Executive Administrator</p>
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Mr. Mark Evans, Region H Chair

April 24, 2015

Page 2

If you have any questions concerning this approval or its associated requirements, please contact Lann Bookout, the Board's designated regional water planning project manager for this region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Patteson', written over a horizontal line.

Kevin Patteson
Executive Administrator

cc: Mr. Jace Houston, General Manager, San Jacinto River Authority, PO Box 329, Conroe,
Texas 77305
Lann Bookout, TWDB

REGION H

Water Planning Group

ATTACHMENT B
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
Senate Bill 1 - Texas Water Development Board
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P. O. Box 329, Conroe, Texas 77305
Telephone 936-588-1111 Facsimile 936-588-3043

July 16, 2015

Agricultural
Robert Bruner
Pudge Willcox

Mr. Kevin Patteson
Executive Administrator
Texas Water Development Board
1700 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Counties
John Blount
Mark Evans, Chair
Judge Art Henson

**Re: Amendment to the 2011 Region H Water Plan
Central Harris County Regional Water Authority
Adoption of Amendment by Region H**

Electric Generating Utilities
Gene Fisseler

Environmental
John R. Bartos,
Executive Committee

Dear Mr. Patteson:

Groundwater Management Areas
David Bailey
Kathy Jones

The Region H Water Planning Group (RHWPG) has reviewed, considered, and approved the amendment of the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan (RWP) to include a revision to the definition of strategies for the Central Harris County Regional Water Authority (CHCRWA). This action follows your determinations of major and minor amendment status for this revision on April 24, 2015.

Industries
James Comin
Glenn Lord

According to your determination of the CHCRWA revision as a minor amendment, the RHWPG provided 14-day notice prior to the July 1, 2015 RHWPG meeting to consider adoption of the amendment. Following this action by the RHWPG, a 14-day period was also observed for the receipt of comment related to the minor amendment through July 15th. The RHWPG now wishes to submit a completed amendment package for the revision to the RWP along with comments received from the public regarding the amendment.

Municipalities
Jun Chang,
Executive Committee
Robert Istre

Should you have any further questions regarding this submittal, please feel free to contact me at 281.440.3924 or mevans@nhcrwa.com or the Region H consultant, Jason Afinowicz, at 713.600.6841 or jason.afinowicz@freese.com.

Public
Carl Masterson

River Authorities
David Collinsworth
Jace Houston, Secretary
Kevin Ward

Sincerely,



Mark Evans
Region H Chair

Small Businesses
Judge Bob Hebert
John Howard

cc: Lann Bookout, TWDB

Water Districts
Marvin Marcell
Ron Neighbors, Vice-Chair
Jimmie Schindewolf

Water Utilities
James Morrison
William Teer

TWDB Liaison
Lann Bookout

Attachment	Description
A	Amended excerpt from Executive Summary Table ES-7
B	Amended excerpts from Chapter 4: Identification, Evaluation and Selection of Water Management Strategies Based on Needs
C	Amended Table 4A-3: Water Management Strategy Screening
D	Amended Table 4A-6: Decadal WMS Summary
E	Amended Technical Memorandum 4B17: Transmission Line to CHCRWA Municipal WUG and WWP
F	Amended Table 4C-1: WWP-Level Project Costs
G	Summary of database entries anticipated for DB12
H	Comments received regarding proposed minor amendment
I	Revised project prioritization for 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan