

NORTH TEXAS COMMISSION
Statement by Dan S. Petty, President/CEO
Texas Water Development Board – State Water Plan Hearing
September 20, 2006 – Bob Duncan Center, Arlington

Region C Water Plan – Key Points

- Texas' Water Planning Region C, comprising 16 counties in North Texas including the Dallas Fort Worth metropolitan area, produces over 33% of the state's GDP, and is home to over 25 % of the state's population. Current water supply in this region is inadequate to serve significant portions of the region's population over the long term, even with strenuous conservation measures. Recent drought conditions in North Texas remind us of the importance of water to the economic future of our region and state.
- The Region C Water Plan, adopted in December 2005 by the Region C Planning Committee, sets forth specific strategies for insuring that this region has an adequate water supply to serve its citizens and businesses through the year 2060. The balanced, cost effective plan includes a wide range of Water Management Strategies such as:
 - Increased conservation
 - Reuse and recycle projects
 - Connection of existing supplies
 - Development of needed new sources of water, including reservoirs.
- Because no one strategy can meet the projected demand in Region C over the next 50 years, the region must rely upon a multiple set of cost effective strategies. For example:
 - Conservation alone can not meet future water needs, however implementing the conservation and reuse strategies in the plan will reduce the average per capita municipal water demand by 29% over the next 20 years.
 - The conservation and reuse strategies achieve the goal set by the Texas Water Conservation Implementation Task Force of average per capita municipal water demand less than 140 gpcd by 2020.
 - The plan shows 26% of the region's 2060 water supply coming from conservation and reuse and 18% from needed new reservoirs.
 - Connecting to distant water supply sources in lieu of developing new reservoirs would add \$7 billion to the cost of implementing the plan
- The Region C Plan should retain all Water Management Strategies it has set forth so that the region retains the flexibility respond to the uncertainty and risks inherent in long range planning horizons, including security threats. The Region C Plan does not assure that any project contained in the plan will be built. Each project must have a sponsor and funding and must go through required, lengthy State and Federal permitting processes, including extensive environmental reviews and public hearings, before it is implemented.
- Region C's continued growth and prosperity are important to Texas. To insure that North Texas continues remain economically viable and continues to contribute to the economic health of Texas and of its residents, the Region C water plan must move forward. Region C contains the state's most populous region. Failure to provide an adequate water supply would:
 - Reduce the projected North Texas 2060 population by 1,007,000 or 7.7%;
 - Reduce the projected 2060 employment by 691, 060 jobs or 17%;
 - Reduce the projected income in 2060 by \$58.8 billion or 21%; and.
 - Reduce income and taxes receipts by a combined \$160 billion.