



CITY OF Huntsville

Incorporated in 1845 under the Republic of Texas

October 3, 2006

Mr. Bill Roberts
Texas Water Development Board
P.O. Box 13231
Austin, TX 78711-3231

Re: Public Comments and Requested Revisions
State Water Plan
"Water for Texas 2007"

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Please consider this letter as a formal request for revisions and corrections to the above referenced "Water for Texas 2007" plan.

1. Table H2 – Water needs by County and type of use for 2010-2060 (acre-ft per year): page 59 of Volume II.

Comments: Numbers reflected for Walker County water needs and type of use are significantly in error.

a) Numbers currently portrayed for "Municipal and County – other" reflect an estimated 2010 need of 845 acre-ft per year and a 2060 need of 1,633 acre-ft per year.

City of Huntsville projections for water needs in the year 2050 is an average daily demand of 22 MGD or **24,645** acre-ft per year. Consideration for the other water providers in Walker County is not included in this number.

b) Numbers currently portrayed under "Steam-Electric" in the proposed State plan "Water for Texas 2007" are shown at zero (0) for both 2010 and 2060. The Region H regional plan water demand projections also reflect a usage of 0 acre-ft/year which is in error.

The City of Huntsville has existing contractual obligations dating from 1997 to provide Tenaska Frontiers (Power facility) with 6.0 MGD (**6,721** acre-ft per year) of clarified water for facility operations.

c) Additionally, inquiries within the last six months to provide water for two (2) additional power plants with a total estimated demand of 7.0 MGD (**7,842** acre-ft per year) realistically reflect this additional amount will be required. Therefore the 2060 projection for "Steam-Electric" should be realistically 13.0 MGD or **14,563** acre-ft per year.

ADMINISTRATION

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Our vision for the City of Huntsville is a community that is beautiful, historic, culturally diverse, affordable, safe, and well planned with great opportunity for our citizens.

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d) Numbers currently portrayed under "Irrigation" are shown at zero (0) for both 2010 and 2060 in the State plan. The 2006 Region H plan shows usage of 11 acre-ft/year.

Sam Houston State University currently operates a golf course which is irrigated with a 450 gpm water well. Normal irrigation is approximately 0.5 MGD (**560** acre-ft per day). I would request that this column is corrected also.

2. Appendix 4.1 County Population Projections for 2000-2060
Comments:

Walker County's population is projected to increase from the 2000 census of 61,758 to a 2060 population of 80,737, an increase of 18,979 over a 60 year period. This appears to be an unrealistic growth for a 60 year time frame. It is also unrealistic to assume that Region H population will increase in excess of 6,000,000 people over the next 60 years and Walker County will only be the recipient 18,979 people.

For the last 60 years of recorded census data, the City of Huntsville has never grown less than 1.93% in any decade and has an average annual growth rate of 2.58% over the last 50 years. Projected growth for the City of Huntsville alone is estimated between 90,000 and 125,000 by the year 2050. It is unreasonable to review the projected growth of Montgomery County, immediately to the south, and ascertain that Walker County will only receive 18,878 people over 60 years.

I request the incorporation of the revisions enumerated above into the Water for Texas 2007 document and that all associated references, tables and appendices be amended to reflect the corrections.

Thank you for the opportunity to input the above recommended corrections.

Sincerely,



Kevin Evans
City Manager

cc: Carolyn L. Brittin, Texas Water Development Board
State Representative Lois W. Kolkhorst
State Senator Steve Ogden