

**TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
DRAFT 2007 STATE WATER PLAN  
PUBLIC HEARING  
OCTOBER 2, 2006**

Chairman Pitman, Board Members; for the record, my name is Jim Parks. I am the Executive Director of the North Texas Municipal Water District.

Large portions of Texas are again being reminded why it is vitally important to have an implementable State Water Plan. For over three years, North Central and Northeast Texas have suffered through drought conditions that may well prove to be worse than the 1950's drought of record. Two of the three reservoirs that supply water to over 1.5 million people served by NTMWD are currently over 16 feet below normal elevation. The District is in Stage 3 of its Drought Contingency Plan; and while our cities have conserved a remarkable amount of water, if fall rains don't begin to refill our reservoirs, we will face the very real possibility of having to allocate supply to all or parts of four of the fastest growing counties in Texas early next year. Not only will this be devastating to the Texas economy, but it may threaten the health and safety of the citizens served by the District.

If Texas is to continue to grow and prosper, we must have a State Water Plan that addresses the needs of the people that live here, our water dependent industries, agriculture and the needs of the environment. The plan must not only address all of these needs, but it must be implementable in a timely manner.

After almost ten years of grass roots regional planning, I believe you have before you now a plan that meets this standard by using multiple water management strategies.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the North Texas Municipal Water District, I ask that the Texas Water Development Board unanimously adopt the draft 2007 State Water Plan as the State Water Plan. I also ask the Texas Water Development Board to continue its support of the adopted plan throughout the implementation phase:

- (1) by working to protect and preserve all elements of the plan,
- (2) by continuing to develop and to compile data vital to water supply development, and,
- (3) by providing financing programs that support implementation of the plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Jim Parks  
Executive Director  
North Texas Municipal Water District  
P.O. Box 2408, 505 E. Brown Street  
Wylie, Texas 75098  
(972) 442-5405

