

Board Members and Staff

I appeal to you as a landowner involved in agriculture namely farming and ranching to follow Texas Water Code and Texas Water Laws which states definitely that no State Water Plan can be adopted without protecting the State and Regions agriculture and natural resources.

Reference: Texas Administrative Code 31. Chapter 357.5, Chapter 357.14, Chapter 358.3 and Chapter 358.4. In addition to Chapter 16 of the Texas Water Code are just a few of the references that require a State Water Plan before it is adopted must verify that it protects agriculture and natural resources. *Building a reservoir destroys Agriculture + Natural resources.*

Chapter 357.5 paragraph 4 says a state water plan will identify and list all possible water management strategies.

Chapter 357.5 paragraph 6 states you must conduct planning to achieve efficient use of existing water supplies.

Chapter 357.5 paragraph 3 states that "water supplies based on contract agreements, shall be based on the terms of the contract, which may be assumed to renew at the contract terminations date if the contact contemplates renewal or extension."

The 2007 Plan considers contracts termination date to be a water shortage. This is wrong, the water is still in place just the paperwork needs to be adjusted.

Chapter 357.14 paragraph 3 interregional conflicts was not followed in adoption of the regional water plan.

The R.W. Beck Company was engaged by the Toledo Bend Group in 2004 to perform a feasibility and impact study on a proposed plan to transfer 600,000 acre feet of water to the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex. Why is only 200,000 acre feet of water included in the 2007 State Water Plan? Also there is over one million acre feet available for sale in Toledo Bend Reservoir.

Why does the water development staff not use the correct number in the 2007 State Water Plan?

Texas Water Code Chapter 15 authorizes a storage acquisition fund for the design, acquisition, lease, construction, reconstruction, development or enlargement of any existing or proposed water project. Why is this not a requirement of all water entities before the construction of any new reservoir? i.e. raising the storage level of Wright Patman Reservoir.

The 2007 Water Plan states in Volume 2 p. 158 that 13% of the current total storage capacity of the States major water supply reservoirs is 4.5 million acre feet. This would equate to approximately 31 million acre feet total. With 31 million acre feet total and a projected use in 2060 of 21.6 million acre feet, why do we need new reservoirs?

I believe the reservoir yield figures for the river basins Volume 2 pg 142-156 do not add up.

How did we drop groundwater supplies of 14.7 million acre feet per year in the 2002 State Water Plan down to 12.7 million acre feet per year in the 2007 State Water Plan?

I do not believe the Texas Water Development Staff or Board can justify support for the average unit cost for the new reservoirs recommended. I do not believe construction cost vary this much across the state of Texas. Reference Volume 2 p 267.

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