February 28, 2018

C.E. Williams
Chairman
Panhandle Water Planning Group
c/o Panhandle GCD
P.O. Box 637
White Deer, TX 79097

RE: Region A Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) request for approval to modify existing surface water availability hydrologic assumptions for development of the 2021 Region A Regional Water Plan (RWP)

Dear Chairman Williams:

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has reviewed your request dated December 15, 2017 for approval of alternative water supply assumptions to be used in determining existing surface water availability. This letter confirms that the TWDB approves:

1. Use of reservoir operation model(s) with extended hydrology through 2017 for Lake Meredith and extended hydrology through 2016 for Greenbelt Reservoir.
2. Use of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s (TCEQ) Water Availability Model (WAM) with extended hydrology through 2004 for Palo Duro Reservoir and run-of-river water rights in the Canadian River basin.
3. Use of a one-year safe yield.

Although the TWDB approves the use of a one-year safe yield for developing estimates of current water supplies, firm yield for each reservoir must also be reported to TWDB in the online planning database and plan documents.

For the purpose of evaluating potentially feasible water management strategies, the TCEQ WAM RUN3 is to be used.

While the TWDB authorizes these modifications to evaluate existing water supplies for development of the 2021 Region A RWP, it is the responsibility of the RWPG to ensure that the resulting estimates of water availability are reasonable for drought planning purposes and will reflect conditions expected in the event of actual drought conditions; and in all other regards will be evaluated in accordance with the contract Exhibit C, General Guidelines for Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Plan Development.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact William Alfaro, project manager for Region A, at 512-463-4741 or via email at william.alfaro@twdb.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeff Walker
Executive Administrator

c: Mr. Dustin Meyer, Panhandle Regional Planning Commission
   Ms. Simone Kiel, Freese & Nichols, Inc.
   Mr. William Alfaro, Water Use, Projections, & Planning