## Texas Water Development Board

P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

June 04, 2018

Mr. Walt Sears General Manager Northeast Texas Municipal Water District P.O. Box 955 Hughes Springs, TX 75656

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

Dear Mr. Sears: Walt

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has reviewed Region D's request dated April 11, 2018, for approval of alternative water supply assumptions to be used in determining surface water availability. This letter confirms that the TWDB approves the following variances:

- 1. Modify the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Water Availability Model (WAM) RUN 3 with water user group specific return flow values from TCEQ WAM RUN 8.
- 2. Utilize yields from a drainage area specific WAM for Pat Mayse Reservoir and Lake Crook, which was developed for the City of Paris.
- 3. Correct errors in the drainage area for control point C10 (Sulphur River near Talco), within the Sulphur Basin WAM, subject to the TCEQ's consent or approval.

Region D is authorized to use these water supply assumptions for strategy evaluations as well as for existing supply determinations. While the use of these modified conditions may be reasonable for planning purposes, an unmodified WAM RUN 3 would be utilized by the TCEQ for analyzing permit applications. It is acceptable to use the modified conditions for water management strategy supply evaluations only if the yield produced is more conservative for surface water appropriations than an unmodified WAM RUN 3. The TWDB is of the understanding that the modified conditions for the Red River WAM would result in more conservative (i.e., lower) yields than WAM RUN 3 when sedimentation is reflected. Accounting for use of future return flows are acceptable modifications for strategy evaluations as outlined in Exhibit C, Section 5.2.1.

Our Mission

To provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas Board Members Peter Lake, Chairman | Kathleen Jackson, Board Member

Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator

Mr. Walt Sears June 04, 2018 Page 2

While the TWDB authorizes these modification to evaluate water supplies for development of the 2021 Region D 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, *Second Amended General Guidelines for Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Plan Development.* 

Additionally, as required by Exhibit C and regional water planning administrative rules, should Region D perform their own groundwater availability analysis in lieu of utilizing modeled available groundwater volumes, the Region must submit the RWPG-Estimated Groundwater Availability to the TWDB for review and approval prior to inclusion into the initially prepared plan.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ron Ellis, project manager for Region D, at (512) 463-4146 or via email at Ron.Ellis@twdb.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeff Walker

Executive Administrator

c: Richard LeTourneau, Region D Chairman Tony Smith, Carollo Engineers Ron Ellis, TWDB