

February 20, 2015

Welcome New Regional Water Planning Group Member:

We, at the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), look forward to working with you during the development of your region's water supply plan. The regional water planning process, created in 1997 under Senate Bill 1, was set up to encourage public involvement by those directly affected by water issues. Regional water plans are developed every five years through consensus building with the voting interest categories on your regional water planning group (RWPG).

The opportunity for RWPG members to participate in regional water planning comes with certain responsibilities. Planning group members are to:

- Represent their interest categories in the regional water planning process.
- Develop a water plan that serves the entire region and takes into consideration the water needs of all interests in the region.
- Consider local water plans developed by local entities when developing the regional water plan.
- Ensure adoption of a regional water plan by the statutory deadline that meets all requirements.

We encourage planning group members to regularly attend all planning group meetings and to become informed regarding the items on which they are being asked to make decisions.

Along the way, participants in this planning process should keep in mind that these are high-level, long-term water supply plans addressing all water uses in each region over 50 years. In addition, specific water management strategies in the plans must undergo more detailed evaluations by project sponsors before water management strategies can be permitted and implemented.

The next regional water plans, for the fourth cycle of regional planning, must be adopted and submitted by December 1, 2015. I must emphasize that failure by a RWPG to adopt their regional water plan by the statutory deadline would present significant barriers to obtaining state financing and surface water right permits for all water providers within the region for a five-year period.

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

Carlos Rubinstein, Chairman | Bech Bruun, Member | Kathleen Jackson, Member

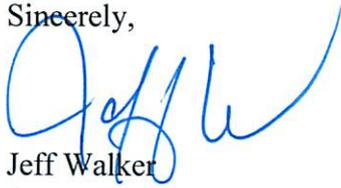
Kevin Patteson, Executive Administrator

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As a resource, TWDB has additional information on its website that may be beneficial to you as a planning group member. The information is on our new members webpage <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/regions/newmembers.asp>. Additionally, your TWDB project manager is available to assist with any questions you may have.

Thank you for participating in this process and assisting in meeting Texas water supply needs.

Sincerely,



Jeff Walker
Deputy Executive Administrator
Water Supply and Infrastructure