

To: Brazos G RWPG Members	
From: HDR Engineering, Inc.	Project:
CC:	
Date: February 17, 2005	Job No:

**RE: February 22-23, 2005 Brazos G RWPG Meeting
Summary for Agenda Item 6.1 – Amendment of Groundwater Availability Estimates in Lee County**

At the February 15, 2005 meeting of the Groundwater Availability Workgroup, the workgroup considered a request from the Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District (LPGCD) to reduce the estimate of groundwater availability from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer System in Lee County from 45,000 acre-feet per year to 7,500 acre-feet per year. The LPGCD includes Lee County (Region G) and Bastrop County (Region K). As a compromise between the workgroup and LPGWCD, the workgroup voted 3-2 in favor of recommending to the RWPG that the groundwater availability estimate be decreased from the current value of 45,000 acre-feet per year adopted by the RWPG in 2004 to 33% of that value (15,000 acre-feet per year).

Considerations regarding this agenda item are complex and have implications throughout the region and the State. Considerations involved with the recommendation from the workgroup include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Local versus regional or state control of groundwater resources
- Relationship between local groundwater regulation and regional and state water supply planning
- Requirements for regional water plans to protect existing contractual agreements for water supply
- Conflicts between groundwater district plans and regional water plans
- Conflicts between regional water plans
- Resolution of conflicts in regional and state water planning
- Use of the new TWDB Groundwater Availability Models (GAMs)
- Definition of “sustainability” in water supply planning
- Consistency of groundwater availability estimates among adjacent groundwater conservation districts

Following a report from Kent Watson, chair of the Groundwater Availability Workgroup, HDR will present an overview on how the adopted estimate of 45,000 acre-feet per year was determined, and an analysis of how the Lee County groundwater supply factors into the Brazos G Regional Water Plan. Following HDR’s presentation, representatives of several stakeholders are scheduled to speak, including:

- Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District
- San Antonio Water System (SAWS)
- Alcoa Rockdale Operations
- South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (Region L)
- Texas Water Development Board

Following all presentations and discussion, it is anticipated that the RWPG will consider and take action (accept or reject) on the recommendation from the Groundwater Availability Workgroup to change the groundwater availability estimates for Lee County.