

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
Summary for Meeting Agenda Item 6.5 – Brazos River Authority System Operations Plan**

During agenda item 6.5, HDR will present an overview of the Brazos River Authority's System Operation Plan, and how specifically it might influence the 2006 Brazos G Regional Water Plan.

The Brazos River Authority (BRA) has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a permit to appropriate additional water from the Brazos River Basin. The BRA has requested 421,449 acre-feet per year of firm water supply, and an additional 670,000 acre-feet per year of interruptible supply, for which 90,000 acre-feet per year of the firm supply is to be utilized to increase the reliability of the interruptible supply. The additional firm supply requested by the BRA is made available from the following sources:

- Increased efficiency gained by operating all 11 BRA reservoirs (excluding Lake Alan Henry) as a system to meet common downstream diversions,
- Unpermitted yield from the existing reservoirs,
- Unappropriated basin flows that originate in the watershed downstream of the BRA reservoirs, and
- Unappropriated return flows from wastewater treatment plants.

Under the BRA's concept of system operations, basin flows that originate downstream of the reservoirs can be diverted in wet years, supplemented by reservoir system releases in dry years. If all BRA water (existing and proposed) were diverted in the lower basin near the Gulf of Mexico, the BRA has estimated that an additional 421,449 acre feet per year of firm water supply could be developed. Current permits and a System Operations Order currently held by the BRA provide the BRA great flexibility in meeting the agency's contractual commitments, but do not increase the amount of supply authorized for appropriation. The permit application is an attempt by the BRA to acquire and utilize the additional water that the agency's system could make available for use in the basin.

HDR has completed analyses (funded by the BRA on behalf of the Brazos G RWPG) determining

- How much additional water could be made available for use within the Year 2010-2060 planning horizon,
- Specific Water User Groups that might reasonably utilize the BRA system water,
- Specific impacts of the proposed system permit on water management strategies currently being contemplated by the Brazos G RWPG for the 2006 Regional Water Plan, and
- How specific new and existing projects could be operated in conjunction with the BRA system in order to further increase available supplies in the basin.

HDR will present an overview of how the BRA system operations make additional water available, and will present in summary fashion data describing how much water is made available and how that water could potentially be used in Brazos G and Region H.

This information is being provided for your information only. No action is requested at this time.