

From: wctmwd.mgr@gmail.com [mailto:wctmwd.mgr@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** david bell
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2008 10:37 PM
To: Trey Buzbee
Cc: david.dunn@hdrinc.com; Christy Ferguson; Sam Fare; Tommy O'Brien;
kjwebster@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Scope of Work Committee meeting re phase II of Third Round/2011 BGRWG planning

Trey:

Please share this information with Chairman Diermann and the committee.

The BGRWPG has given the west central Texas area many favorable considerations over the past years of regional planning. Specifically, many of the items in the joint letter to Chairman Diermann from Abilene and the District dated July 11th, 2006 have been funded. We thank the Planning Group and this committee for their efforts.

As Abilene [Tommy O'Brien] and the District review our current situation and the opportunity to make suggestions for the upcoming funding cycle, we would like to extend and/or adjust our support for several previously proposed study topics:

- Previously, a study topic was suggested regarding the evaluation of changes to municipal demands, supplies, and strategies due to accelerated or desired growth. We encourage continuing focus on this topic in the next study round. Obviously, we suggest a specific focus on west central Texas. Hydrologic conditions continue to change [whether due to climate change or other may be less critical than the identification of impact/adjustment]. Our concerns include extended drought of record, enhanced safe yield considerations and any other factors to provide adequate margins of safety. Further, we believe that non-resident populations impact our area in the general form of numerous small tracts of land inhabited as holiday and weekend retreats from other areas of the state [but not subject to historical count/water demand determination]. Last, but not least, we want to keep our concern for being at the upper end of the watershed highlighted. Upper basin areas cannot look upstream for additional supplies, consequently, when upper basin water has been committed to long term supply needs, alternatives are limited in ways not duplicated in downstream areas.
- Chloride control issues were also included in our previous recommendations to the committee. These concerns deserve to be included in upcoming study topics. The impact of successful chloride control on other strategies should be well established. Additionally, concern for chloride levels in the shallow groundwater just east of Hubbard Creek Reservoir deserves increasing attention as long as the price of oil remains high. Crude oil production in Stephens County, especially along Big Sandy Creek represents a continuing risk factor to a major water supply for Abilene and west central Texas.
- Studies of the needs of small water systems have been funded in the current round of study projects. The west central Texas area has presented evidence of need/interest in this study. Phase II study efforts should be contemplated to develop strategies to support the needs determined in Phase I work.

- Water quality aspects of indirect reuse were included in our previous recommendations. While we recognize that water quality studies related to human consumption can be expensive and MAY be beyond the scope of currently available funding, this topic MUST be included in the mix of issues critical to long term water planning. An example of a small scale study has been previously suggested for the Clear Fork of the Brazos near Hubbard Creek Reservoir where low volume scalping could supplement existing water supplies IF water quality concerns related to human consumption were adequately evaluated.
- Water supply adequacy for areas off the main stem of the Brazos has been suggested as important in previous recommendations [not by our west central Texas group]. Such efforts could impact many of the upper basin areas due to limited runoff areas as well as the previously mentioned extra caution due in upper basin watersheds.

Formal support for these study topics can be generated from Abilene, the District and other west central Texas local governments following today's meeting and with adjustment for the input of the public and the committee members. We thank the committee for their consideration.

/s/ David Bell, WCTMWD [with significant input from Mr. O'Brien]