

January 16, 2024

Mark Evans
Region H Chair
Region H Regional Water Planning Group
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, TX 77305

Dear Chairman Evans:

I have reviewed the Region H memorandum dated December 8, 2023, for approval of alternative water supply assumptions to be used in determining existing surface water availability. This letter confirms that the TWDB approves the following assumptions that require a variance:

1. In the Trinity River Basin, use the Trinity WAM as modified by the Region C RWPG and approved by the TWDB for existing supply analyses.
2. Include a limited quantity of return flows in the modified Trinity WAM to conduct the firm yield analysis of Lake Livingston for evaluating existing supply.
3. In the Brazos River Basin and the San Jacinto-Brazos Coastal Basin, use the Brazos G WAM as modified by the Region G RWPG and approved by the TWDB for existing supply analyses.
4. In the Brazos-Colorado Coastal Basin, modify the Colorado WAM (which includes the Brazos-Colorado Coastal Basin) to adjust the modeling procedures for multiple water rights to evaluate existing supply.

For the purpose of evaluating potentially feasible water management strategies, the TCEQ WAM Run 3 is to be used, unless a separate hydrologic variance for water management strategy availability is submitted and approved by the TWDB.

While the TWDB authorizes these modification to evaluate existing water supplies for development of the 2026 Region H 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 most recent version of regional water planning contract Exhibit C, *General Guidelines for Development of the 2026 Regional Water Plans*.

Mark Evans
January 16, 2024
Page 2

Please do not hesitate to contact Heather Rose of our Regional Water Planning staff at 512-475-1558 or heather.rose@twdb.texas.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Matt Nelson
Deputy Executive Administrator

c: Ed Shackelford, San Jacinto River Authority
Philip Taucer, Freese & Nichols, Inc.
Courtney Corso, Freese & Nichols, Inc.
Jordan Skipwith, Freese & Nichols, Inc.
Heather Rose, Water Supply Planning
Sarah Lee, Water Supply Planning
Nelun Fernando, Ph.D., Surface Water
Abigail Gardner, Freese & Nichols, Inc. (Region C)
Tony Smith, Carollo Engineers (Region G)