CAMERON COUNTY IRRIGATION DISTRICT NO. TWO

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Sonia Lambert- General Manager

RESOLUTION

2013

WHEREAS, the 1944 Treaty between the United States and Mexico provides that the United States is entitled to one-third (1/3) of the flow reaching the main channel of the Rio Grande from the Conchos, San Diego, San Rodrigo, Escondido and Salado Rivers and the Las Vacas Arroyo, provided that this third shall not be less, as an average amount in cycles of five consecutive years, than 350,000 acre-feet annually; and,

WHEREAS, Texas is the sole beneficiary of the United States' one-third (1/3) portion of such flow in the Rio Grande; and,

WHEREAS, the 1944 Treaty further states that any deficits during a five (5) cycle caused by "extraordinary drought" which is a year in a five (5) year cycle in which there are insufficient surface water runoff in the Rio Grande Basin in Mexico to provide for the required Treaty flows to the Rio Grande or a serious accident to the hydraulic systems on the measured Mexican tributaries must be made up within the five (5) year period/cycle; and,

WHEREAS, during the current five (5) year cycle which began on October 25, 2010 and will end on October 25, 2015, Mexico is in excess of 400,000 acre-feet behind in deliveries of the United States share of water to the Rio Grande ; and,

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Watermaster has reported that our water right holders have 60% less water starting off in 2013 as compared to this time last year, and this situation is due in part to the lingering drought conditions in Texas and to the continued lack of inflows from Mexico during this five (5) year cycle; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Chihuahua, Mexico has plans in place to undertake infrastructure projects which include the construction of at least fifteen (15) storage reservoirs of which seven (7) to nine (9) could potentially reduce the inflows into the Rio Grande and our reservoir system; and,

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (Region M, Texas Water Development Board) has determined that water requirements will exceed supply for the next 30 and 50 year planning horizons in the Region on the Rio Grande dependent upon the Treaty water from Mexico; and,

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Valley is expected to be in a water shortage for irrigation and is headed toward a serious water shortage for municipalities in the near future; and,

WHEREAS, the United States gives priority to its obligations under the 1944 Treaty to assure required flows of the Colorado River in the Colorado River Watershed in the western United States reach Mexico and takes actions to ensure that Mexico receives required flows of water from the Colorado River Watershed in the United States to which it is entitled under the Treaty; and,

WHEREAS, over the past few years, additional concerns have been expressed to the International Boundary and Water Commission regarding, as examples, the improper accounting of water at Ft. Quitman, Texas, said water belonging 100% to the United States; as well as the yet to be credited 78,000 acre-feet of Texas water that had to be used to mitigate increased salinity in the lower Rio Grande due to poor operations of the Morillo Drain; and,

WHEREAS, in contrast to actions taken by the United States in the form of emergency deliveries of water and additional storage agreements that have benefitted Mexico as it relates to binational sharing of water, Mexico has yet to reciprocate.

Board of Directors

Bill McMurray-President Sam Simmons-Vice President
William Goad-Secretary Edwin Schneider-Member Ovi Atkinson-Member

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cameron County Irrigation District No.2 Board of Directors request the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission and the United States Department of State to pursue through appropriate Minute Orders and formal agreements whereby Mexico (1) in the short term agrees to make up current five (5) year cycle annual deficits, restore to the United States 78,000 acre-feet used to mitigate salinity in the lower Rio Grande and institute correct accounting of water at Fort Quitman, Texas, as 100% United States water and (2) in the long term that Mexico formalizes a compliance program under the 1944 Treaty to annually set aside water in sufficient amounts, as a priority allocation to the United States from the named tributaries in Mexico to ensure Mexico's full compliance with the 1944 Treaty. Passed and executed this 21st day of March, 2013.

Bill McMurray, President
Cameron County Irrigation District No.2