



United States Department of State

*Assistant Secretary of State
Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs*

Washington, D.C. 20520-6258

June 11, 2013

Commissioner Carlos Rubinstein
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Commissioner Rubinstein:

Thank you for your May 22 letter regarding inadequate Mexican water deliveries to the United States in the Rio Grande basin. From my own experience with this issue, I know the profound U.S. interests at stake. I know that the impact of the current drought on the people, businesses, and farmers of the Lower Rio Grande Valley is severe and growing more acute as time passes.

I strongly support the efforts of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission on this issue. Matthew Rooney, my deputy for North American affairs, is in daily contact with Commissioner Drusina. I and other senior Department of State officials have repeatedly discussed the Mexican water deficit with the most senior levels of the Mexican government. We raise the need for relief with the Mexican Embassy here in Washington, through the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, and everywhere we encounter Mexican leaders. We have the Mexican Government's attention and we will persist in our advocacy until we achieve our goal of securing sufficient water deliveries from Mexico to relieve the hardship of south Texas communities.

As we continue our intense engagement over this serious matter, we will continue to welcome your views on how we can best achieve our shared objectives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roberta S. Jacobson".

Roberta S. Jacobson