

2191 Hwy 2247  
Comanche, Texas 76442  
April 2, 2010

Chief Clerk  
ATTN: Agenda Docket Clerk  
Mail Code 105, P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is a protest to the WRPERM 5851 permit that would be granted to Brazos River Authority for inappropriate water. We (farmers and ranchers in Comanche, Eastland, and Erath counties) should be seniors to the granting of this permit, taking the rest of the water in Lake Proctor water shed.

Lake Proctor has been devastating to our economy in Comanche, Eastland, and Erath counties. In 1946 there was 90,000 acres of peanuts in Comanche county alone. In 1964 when Lake Proctor permits were granted there was 46,000 acres in Comanche county. In 2009 there were 1,150 acres of peanuts.

Comanche county had several buying points and three peanut shelling plants. One in the town of Comanche, one in DeLeon, and one in Comyn. We had an annual sale of peanuts of 20-40 million dollars. Now we have less than a million in all counties.

Eastland County had a shelling plant in Gorman that employed up to 100 people at most times. Now these towns have lost most of their economy and people have left.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Brazos River Authority look at this with blinders on. They have one goal and that is to shut all of us off. But, if they would look at the amount of runoff in the lake, they would find that there was more runoff with the land in cultivation. With the land in bermuda grass and trees there is less runoff, because the grass holds the water and it goes into the ground instead of running into the streams that feed the lake.

In 2003 the corps of engineers at Lake Proctor did a sounding on the lake and found there was very little sediment in the lake. It still holds more water than they thought it would in 1964.

At one time there were 242 permits in Lake Proctor water shed and they still had water to fill their contracts.

There were none of these permits that land owners did not want to keep. But, T.C.E.Q. and B.R.A. kept raising the price and making it harder and harder to get permits renewed. Also, that they would not be renewed again. So the land owners could not improve their

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CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

TEXAS  
COMMISSION  
ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY

irrigation systems.

I am sure it is important to have water so people can fill their swimming pools ,water their lawns,and ,wash their cars ,but, raising food is very important too. We have good land and can grow almost anything ,but, we have to have water.

Thanks for your time.

Respectfully:

George Bingham

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Bingham". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.