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Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

RE: Lower Colorado River Authority's Application No. 5838

The City of Austin supports the Agreed Order to adopt the Lower Colorado River Authority's ("LCRA") Application No. 5838 to amend the Water Management Plan ("WMP"). The City wants to emphasize that we believe that it is critically important that the WMP amendment ("2003 WMP") be approved and effective prior to February 1 of this year, as the LCRA Board has established a policy that the version of the WMP in effect on February 1, 2010 will govern the availability of interruptible stored water in 2010. The 2003 WMP includes an important incremental adjustment in the curtailment trigger—changing from a beginning year combined storage of 1.1 million acre-feet for Lakes Travis and Buchanan to 1.4 million acre-feet. In a repeat of dry years such as 2008 and most of 2009, this change is expected to improve supply availability for municipal customers in a severe drought.

The City of Austin believes updates are needed to the curtailment triggers and availability curves for interruptible stored water in LCRA's WMP to account for increased firm water demands since 2003 and to incorporate the lessons learned in the recent drought. The City supports an expedited schedule for the next amendments to LCRA's WMP as set forth in the Agreed Order.

Sincerely,

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Mailing List
Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA)
and proposed agreed order amending
LCRA's Water Management Plan and related filings
TCEQ Docket No. 2010-0025-WR

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