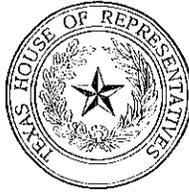


Capitol Office:
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915.859.3111
Fax 915.859.3120

State of Texas
House of Representatives
CHENTE QUINTANILLA
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 75

OPA

JUL 19 2011

By 011

July 11, 2011

Office of the Chief Clerk
MC 105, TCEQ
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

*UIC
77602*

Re: El Paso Water Utilities Aquifer Exemption Application

Chief Clerk:

The efforts by the El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU) to guarantee a bountiful and safe supply of water that will benefit El Paso for decades to come have been exceptional. In addition to setting standards on water conservation that are paramount in Texas, EPWU developed a state of the art water desalination plant in east El Paso. The plant is the linchpin to our long term water supply.

I have been informed by EPWU that an application for exemption has been submitted to TCEQ for the purpose of deep well disposal sites for the brine concentrate produced. Throughout the process going back to 2003, the engineers at the utility have assured my office that the deep well disposal sites are sufficiently remote and do not imperil the future use of the Hueco Bolson.

Because the plant is so important to the future vitality and growth of the county of El Paso, it is imperative that the application be accepted and approved. The desalination process is also important to our national defense in that Ft. Bliss, the premier military installation in the U.S., depends on the treated water as well.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chente Quintanilla
State Representative

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
2011 JUL 18 AM 10:15
CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE



State of Texas
 House of Representatives
CHENTE QUINTANILLA
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 75
 P.O. Box 2910
 Austin, TX 78768-2910

TEXAS
 COMMISSION
 ON ENVIRONMENTAL
 QUALITY

2011 JUL 18 AM 10:15

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

EL PASO TX 799
 15 JUL 2011 PM 2 L



Office of the Chief Clerk
 MC 105, TCEO
 P.O. Box 13087
 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

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 JR

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SILVESTRE REYES
16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES
RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH



WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2210 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
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FAX: (202) 225-2016

DISTRICT OFFICE:
310 NORTH MESA, SUITE 400
EL PASO, TX 79901
(915) 534-4400
FAX: (915) 534-7426

<http://www.reyes.house.gov>

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

July 28, 2011

OPA

AUG 01 2011

UIC
77602

BY RL

Ms. Melissa Chao
Acting Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, MC105
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Ms. Chao:

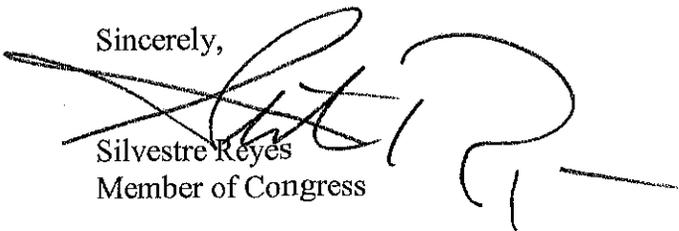
I am writing in support of the El Paso Water Utilities aquifer exemption application related to the deep well injection of concentrate produced at the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Desalination Plant. The aquifer exemption is a waiver of the requirement that the injected water (concentrate) meet primary drinking standards.

The desalination plant produces up to 104,098 cubic meters (27.5 million gallons) of fresh water daily for the El Paso community. The plant is the largest desalination inland plant in the world and proves that this water supply alternative can be financially viable for inland areas. El Paso Water Utilities serves 97 percent of El Paso County which is home to about 800,600 residents, and the reverse osmosis desalination plant is a critical component to El Paso's diversified water portfolio. Desalination helps reduce the city's reliance on the Hueco Bolson Aquifer's finite fresh water supply, and it also provides a drought-proof water resource during years of river drought, a condition which our region is currently experiencing.

While deep well injection is not commonly used for concentrate disposal, this method of disposal saves money and preserves land without adversely affecting the environment.

For these reasons, I support the El Paso Water Utilities aquifer exemption application which will help ensure the water supply for our community, especially in times of drought. If you have any questions please contact my office at (202)225-4831.

Sincerely,


Silvestre Reyes
Member of Congress

TEXAS
COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
AUG 1 10 13
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

Handwritten initials

SILVESTRE REYES
16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES
RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH



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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 28, 2011

UIC
77602

Ms. Melissa Chao
Acting Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, MC105
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

OPA
JUL 29 2011

BY

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

21 JUL 28 PM 1:54

TEXAS
COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

Dear Ms. Chao:

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Sincerely,

Silvestre Reyes
Member of Congress

MW



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CHIEF CLERKS OFFICE

28 JUL 2011 1:54

TEXAS
COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY

SILVESTRE REYES
16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, EL PASO, TEXAS

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| TO: Office of the Chief Clerk | FROM: John Aguilar |
| COMPANY: TCEQ | DATE: July 28, 2011 |
| FAX: 512-239-3311 | TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INC. COVER: 2 |
| PHONE NUMBER: | RE: Letter of Support |
| | |

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Letter of Support
Aquifer Exemption Request
Key Bailey Hutchinson Desalination Plant
El Paso Water Utilities