

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Carlos Rubinstein, *Commissioner*
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*
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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

July 2, 2013

Re: Alert for Permitted State Surface Water Diversions in the Brazos River Basin

Dear Water Right Holder:

By letter dated April 5, 2013, you were alerted that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) may have to suspend or adjust water rights on a priority basis due to drought conditions. The TCEQ has received a priority call on surface water from a water right holder in the Brazos River Basin. In accordance with the Texas Water Code (TWC), §5.013(a)(1), the TCEQ is responsible for enforcing water rights, which requires protecting senior and superior surface water rights, and must take action in response to the priority call.

With no immediate relief forecasted, the TCEQ is now suspending or adjusting certain diversions in the Brazos River Basin below Lake Possum Kingdom. Suspended or adjusted water rights include water right permits with a priority date of February 15, 1942 and later and term water right permits. Temporary water right permits have also been suspended. Exempt domestic and livestock diversions are not subject to this suspension. This letter is being provided as an alert to all water right holders in the entire Brazos River Basin.

If your water right is subject to the suspension or adjustment you will receive additional correspondence. The TCEQ continues to monitor the situation closely. Please be aware that should senior needs not be fulfilled as a result of suspension or adjustment of these diversions, the TCEQ may take additional actions to protect the priority call. If conditions improve, we may be able to lift the suspensions. Please take appropriate conservation steps for efficient water use.

You may find additional drought information on TCEQ's drought web page at: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/drought> or by contacting the TCEQ Drought Hotline at 1-800-447-2827. You may also contact your TCEQ Regional Office or Ms. Melissa Keller, Water Rights Liaison, at the TCEQ Central Office in Austin at 512-239-1768 should you have additional questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Hyde".

Richard A. Hyde, P.E.
Deputy Executive Director