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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

February 16, 2012

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor of Texas
State Capitol
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Re: Annual Reporting of Clothes-Washing Machines Imported into Texas

Dear Governor Perry:

The 77th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 2403 in 2001, which amended Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 372 by adding §372.004. Section 372.004 required the appropriate industry trade associations to report to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) the number of certain clothes-washing machines imported into the state during the previous calendar year. This legislation did not apply to clothes washing machines with a capacity of more than 3.5 cubic feet or less than 1.6 cubic feet. The report is to additionally include the average water consumption factor of all clothes-washing machines that were imported into Texas. The report is due each year to the TCEQ by January 31. The TCEQ is, in turn, required to provide this information to the legislature no later than February 28 of each year.

The figures below include the number of clothes washing machines, listed by the specific water consumption factors that were imported into Texas for calendar year 2011.

1. **17,987** clothes-washing machines with a water consumption factor of more than 11.
2. **126,616** clothes-washing machines with a water consumption factor of more than 9.5 but not more than 11.
3. **609,432** clothes-washing machines with a water consumption factor of 9.5 or less.

The average water consumption factor of all clothes-washing machines that were imported into Texas during calendar year 2011 is **6.09**.

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In comparison, the numbers for calendar years 2002 to 2010 are as follows:

	WATER CONSUMPTION FACTOR				
YEAR	< 9.5	9.5 to 11.0	> 11.0	TOTAL	AVG
2011	609,432	126,616	17,987	754,035	6.09
2010	429,211	80,413	164,349	673,973	7.24
2009	417,473	204,071	205,749	827,293	7.96
2008	340,653	103,153	445,511	889,038	8.89
2007	271,641	23,560	614,365	909,566	9.90
2006	222,337	101,446	576,126	899,909	10.38
2005	151,499	98,063	570,876	820,438	10.82
2004	104,712	95,679	552,144	752,535	11.42
2003	66,557	3,765	641,110	711,432	12.67
2002	28,677	2,191	614,350	645,218	13.40

Please note that *water consumption factor* is defined as “the quotient of the total weighted per cycle consumption divided by the capacity of the clothes-washer”. This implies that more water is conserved as the water consumption factor lowers.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kellye Rila, Director, Water Availability Division at (512) 239-4612.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Vickery, P.G., Executive Director
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

cc: The Honorable Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst
The Honorable Joe Straus III, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Troy Fraser, Chairman, Senate Natural Resources Committee
The Honorable Alan B. Ritter, Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee