Call Meeting to Order

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Science Advisory Committee (SAC) approved the meeting minutes from the December 5, 2008 SAC meeting.

A copy of all the presentations made during this meeting will be available on the TCEQ's Texas Environmental Flows Science Advisory Committee web page at http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/water_rights/eflows/txenvironmentalflowsaac.html

Update on BBEST organizational meetings     Bob Huston

Bob Huston, SAC Chairman, recapitulated the events of the Sabine and Neches Rivers and Sabine Lake Bay Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST) and the Trinity and San Jacinto River Basins and Galveston Bay Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee and Expert Science Team meetings held in December 2008.

Inflow-History Approach to Estuary Inflows Evaluation             Norman Johns, NWF

Norman Johns, National Wildlife Federation (NWF), gave a presentation on methodology "An Inflow-Pattern Approach to Estuary Evaluation", followed by discussion with the SAC.

Discussion of Hydrology Methods Strawman Draft   Dan Opdyke, TPWD

Dan Opdyke, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), presented a revised draft of "Use of Hydrologic Data in the Development of Instream Flow Recommendations for the Environmental Flows Allocation Process", a strawman on hydrologic methods. The SAC discussed revisions to be made to the document and the next action item for the strawman.

Dr. Paul Montagna, SAC member, requested that SAC deliverables include a standardized cover letter and contain a list of contributors that includes the name and contact information of the authors of the document.

ACTION ITEM: TPWD will add a closing paragraph to the end of the strawman and send it to the SAC by January 12, 2009. Edits to the document made by the SAC, Texas
Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) will be sent to the SAC and TPWD by January 19, 2009. Chairman Huston will draft a transmittal letter to accompany the hydrology document and send it to the other SAC members by January 19, 2009. Comments and revisions to be made to the document will be discussed at the next SAC meeting on February 4, 2009.

### Discussion of Geographic Extent of Instream Flow Regime  
**Todd Chenoweth, TCEQ**

Kathy Alexander, TCEQ, gave a presentation based on a draft document "Geographic Scope of Instream Flow Recommendations". The SAC discussed what revisions needed to be made to the document.

**ACTION ITEM:** The SAC will submit comments and suggestions on the Geographic Scope document to Todd Chenoweth, TCEQ, and to each other. TCEQ will revise the Geographic Scope document and the SAC will discuss the piece at their February 4, 2009 meeting.

### Continuation of Policy-Science Discussion  
**Mary Kelly/Bob Brandes**

The SAC discussed the revised outline of a strawman concerning freshwater inflow needs for bays and estuaries, "Revised Outline for SAC "paper" on B&E Inflows". The SAC and state agencies discussed the TWDB document "Component Data Sets, Analyses and Models from the Freshwater Inflows State Methodology". TPWD distributed an excerpt (Chapter 7.6) from a report created by TWDB and TPWD "Freshwater Inflows to Texas Bays and Estuaries: Ecological Relationships and Methods for Determination of Needs".

**ACTION ITEM:** The revised B&E Inflows outline will be converted into a draft document by Mary Kelly, SAC member, that is due to the other SAC members by January 26, 2009. The document will be discussed at the February 4, 2009 SAC meeting. TWDB and TPWD will revise the "Component Data Sets..." document.

### Discussion of Nutrient-Sediment Management  
**Paul Jensen**

Dr. Paul Jensen, SAC member, gave a presentation concerning nutrient-sediment management and distributed a handout "Nutrient Inputs to Galveston Bay and Upcoming Criteria Considerations". Discussion followed the presentation.

### Report on SB2 Literature Review Progress Reports  
**Cory Horan, TCEQ**

Cory Horan, TCEQ, briefed the SAC on progress being made by the literature review contractors. Mr. Horan discussed the deliverables received and suggested that bibliographies produced within each basin will be mailed electronically to members can review the bibliographies and submit requests for those documents deemed relevant to the SB3 process and as resources allow, requested documents will be made available in electronic format to the SAC and BBEST.

**ACTION ITEM:** Mr. Horan will distribute a list of literature, generated by the contractors, on a quarterly basis to the SAC and BBEST groups.
Formulate Recommendations for Special Studies

Bob Huston

The SAC discussed projects to work on in the upcoming months, including future strawman documents.

ACTION ITEM: TPWD will use the Hydrology-based Environmental Flow Regime (HEFR) method to compute data from the mouth of the Guadalupe River. Frank Heitmuller, SAC member, will continue revising a strawman for sediment transport. Paul Jensen, SAC member, will draft a strawman for water quality and James Wiersema will draft a strawman for biology. These projects will be discussed at the February 4, 2009 meeting.

Public comments

Chairman Huston opened the meeting to public comments. No comments were made by the public.

Suggested Agenda Items for the Next SAC Meeting to be held February 4, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (some items may be reserved for future meetings)

- Continued discussion of TPWD Hydrologic Methods document.
- Discussion of SAC context memo to support Hydrologic Methods document.
- Continued discussion of SAC subcommittee B&E Inflows document.
- Continued discussion of TCEQ Geographic Scope document.
- Discussion of Water Quality, Sediment Transport, and Biology strawman documents.
- Discussion of HEFR computations by TPWD.
- Presentation on inflows to Sabine Lake.
- Discussion/Feedback on Caddo/Cypress Creek inflow standards (Joe Trungale will provide to SAC)
- Discussion of how an environmental flow recommendation would look in a permit (Todd Chenoweth will draft for a future agenda)
- Environmental flow aspects of Regional Water Planning Group activities (for March agenda)
- Recurring items:
  - BBEST Liaison updates/reports
  - Budget updates (TWDB)

Meeting Adjourned