Environmental Flows
Stakeholder Meeting
For the Cypress Basin
November 16, 2010

Issues

1. Which report (Report on the Environmental Flows for the Cypress River Basin 2008, as revised and updated in May 2010 or the Environmental Flow Regime Analysis Recommendation Report, August 2010 submitted to the Science Advisory Committee (SAC)) should be considered in development of proposed standards?

2. If multiple levels of base flows are included in the recommendation, how should hydrologic condition triggers be defined?

3. Is there additional information for streams in the upper part of the basin that should be considered in development of proposed standards?

4. Which building block approach should be used? Should proposed standards be based on the specific numbers developed in the 2008 report, or should the narrative approach, included in the August 2010 study, be used?

5. How would a narrative standard be converted to a specific number that can be incorporated into the state’s water availability models which are used to determine availability for water right permits?

6. How should the standards be applied for applications on ungaged tributaries or in upstream areas where no specific flow recommendations were developed?

7. Should the same standards applied to large projects also be applied to applications requesting small amounts of water?

8. What potential future water use scenarios or strategies should be used to perform the balancing between environmental flows and human and other competing needs for water?

9. What other issues or concerns exist?

10. Is there consensus to move forward with the process of adopting environmental flow standards for the Cypress Basin?

Comments on these issues may be given at the meeting or submitted no later than November 23, 2010, to Ron Ellis, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, MC 160, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, (512) 239-1282, or by email to roellis@tceq.state.tx.us.