

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Carlos Rubinstein, *Commissioner*
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*
Zak Covar, *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

January 24, 2013

The Honorable Gary Beesinger
County Judge
County Courthouse
P.O. Box 458
Archer City, Texas 76351

Re: Priority Call Rescinded in the Brazos River Basin

Dear Judge Beesinger:

On January 15, 2013, I issued the third of three orders relating to the suspension or adjustment of junior water right holders which prohibited these water right holders from diverting or impounding water in the Brazos River Basin with a priority date of February 15, 1942 or later, except under temporary higher flow conditions. I issued these orders in response to a senior priority call from Dow Chemical Company (Dow) received on November 14, 2013.

On January 23, 2013, Dow rescinded its senior priority call. In accordance with the above-issued order, the order automatically terminated upon receipt of Dow's rescinded priority call. As a result, the provisions set forth in the order are no longer in effect.

The TCEQ continues to monitor drought conditions closely. Please note that should another priority call be made, adjustments or suspensions of junior water rights may again be necessary.

While the senior priority call may have been rescinded, the TCEQ is soliciting your help in disseminating appropriate information to affected parties in the Brazos River Basin communities. If this drought cycle worsens, it will be very important that all residents living and working in the Brazos River Basin are well informed. The TCEQ has established a drought web page to provide additional information and address questions and concerns. The drought web page is located at: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/drought>. You may also call the TCEQ Drought Hotline at 1-800-447-2827.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Deputy Director, Office of Water at 512-239-1321.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zak Covar".

Zak Covar
Executive Director