

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Buddy Garcia, *Commissioner*
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Mark R. Vickery, P.G., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

January 27, 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL

Re: Priority Call Rescinded in the Brazos River Basin

Dear Water Right Holder:

By letters dated May 18, June 27 and August 8, 2011, Brazos River Basin water right holders were notified that certain non-municipal diversions with priority dates of 1960 or later had been suspended due to a priority call on surface water from a senior water right holder.

The senior water right holder has now rescinded the priority call, and you may resume diversion and impoundment according to the terms and conditions of your water right.

The TCEQ continues to monitor the situation closely and strives to balance protection of senior and superior surface water rights while attempting to minimize the impact to junior water right holders, within TCEQ's authority. Please note that should another priority call be made or should drought conditions persist or worsen, suspensions of junior water rights may again be necessary.

In recognition of the severity of the drought, all water right holders should continue to take actions necessary to conserve water and require your customers, if any, to do the same. You can find drought information, conservation tips, and other helpful information at the TCEQ drought page at: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/drought>.

If you are a municipal water right holder, to help avoid the potential need for future suspensions and to ensure there is enough water for public safety needs, we recommend that you continue to implement your drought contingency plan (DCP).

In accordance with your DCP, you are required to notify TCEQ when there are changes in your drought response stages. You can notify us by using the online form available on the TCEQ drought page referenced above. If you need assistance completing the form, would like to provide notification by phone, or need answers to any of your questions, you can call our Small Business and Local Government Assistance hotline at 1-800-447-2827.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Vickery".

Mark R. Vickery, P.G.
Executive Director