

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



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

October 10, 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Re: Priority Call Rescinded in the Brazos River Basin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 July 2, 2013, I issued an order suspending or adjusting junior water right holders with a priority date of February 15, 1942 or later below Lake Possum Kingdom in the Brazos River Basin. I issued this order in response to a senior priority call from Dow Chemical Company (Dow) received on June 26, 2013.

On October 8, 2013, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) received an email from Dow notifying the TCEQ that it was rescinding its priority call. In accordance with its terms, the July 2nd Order automatically terminated when TCEQ received Dow's notification. Because the senior call has been rescinded and the order is no longer in effect, junior water right holders can store and divert water again according to the terms of their permits. Please note that should another priority call be made, adjustments or suspensions of junior water rights may again be necessary.

While Dow's senior priority call has been rescinded, the TCEQ is soliciting your help in disseminating appropriate information to affected parties in the Brazos River Basin communities.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 Watershed 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