

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



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

November 16, 2011

Re: Notifications to Public Water Systems Regarding Drought Contingency Plans

Dear County Extension Agent:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has sent a letter to public water systems statewide reminding them of TCEQ's encouragement for implementing their drought contingency plans due to continuing widespread drought conditions. Even though portions of Texas have experienced recent rain events, drought conditions persist and thus the TCEQ is also strongly encouraging systems statewide that have enacted some form of their drought contingency plan to continue to implement these restrictions. A copy of this letter is enclosed for your reference.

Multiple program areas at the TCEQ are actively engaged in the oversight of available water supplies statewide, and are working with municipalities that face potential shortfalls of available drinking water. With no immediate relief forecasted, the TCEQ is soliciting your help in disseminating appropriate information to affected parties in your communities. Should the drought cycle worsen as expected, keeping residents well informed will be very important.

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/agency/drought.html>. The TCEQ has also activated a Drought Hotline, which can be reached at 1-800-447-2827. You may also contact your TCEQ Regional Office or Ms. Amy Settemeyer, Water Rights Liaison; at the TCEQ Central Office in Austin at 512-239-2588 should you have additional questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

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

Zak Covar
Deputy Executive Director

Enclosure