

Response to Public Comment
Two TMDLs for Indicator Bacteria in the Tidal Segments of the Mission and Aransas Rivers
 April 5, 2016

Tracking Number	Date Received	Affiliation of Commenter	Summary of Request or Comment	Summary of TCEQ Action, or Explanation
001	11/05/15	Aransas County	(a) The commenter states that decisions were made based on 3 samples collected over a seven-year period.	(a) The TMDL shows that 74 samples were collected over a seven year period (Table 1 in the TMDL document). To assess water quality in Texas' surface water bodies, the TCEQ requires that a minimum of 20 bacteria samples be collected over the last seven years <i>or</i> that the most recently collected 20 bacteria samples be used within a ten year period to determine use support. These requirements are in compliance with Sections 305(b) and 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act.
			(b) The commenter calls for a realistic, longitudinal, and random sampling program.	(b) Currently, four water quality monitoring stations are sampled quarterly; two in the Mission River and two in the Aransas River. A Management Measure included in the TMDL Implementation Plan (NO. 9) will expand existing water quality monitoring in the watersheds of the two rivers. The stakeholders will have an opportunity to design the monitoring plan that will be implemented as a result of Management Measure No. 9 of the TMDL Implementation Plan.