



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

LYLE LARSON, CHAIR

March 31, 2020

Commissioner Jayne Harkins
International Boundary and Water Commission
U.S. Section
4191 N. Mesa St.
El Paso, TX 79902

Dear Commissioner Harkins,

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Commissioner Salmón, Commissioner of the Mexico Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, dated March 23, 2020. As you know, the irregularity of Mexico's water deliveries to the U.S. on the Rio Grande has been a longstanding concern of the State of Texas and its water users on the U.S. side of the Rio Grande border.

We share your disappointment that the Mexican government has not followed the plan it laid out to deliver water to the U.S. for Treaty compliance purposes at the meeting in El Paso on December 5, 2019 in which myself and other Texas officials participated.

I'd like to thank you for your letter to Commissioner Salmón and note that we agree on two key issues highlighted in your correspondence: the importance of ending the current 5-year cycle without a water debt from Mexico, and that treaty obligations between the two countries should be discussed holistically, looking at both the Rio Grande and Colorado River. Your reference to the United States' compliance record with respect to water deliveries to Mexico from the Colorado River is appreciated. In my opinion, as you know, syncing U.S. releases with Mexico's releases is the best course of action moving forward.

Again, thank you for representing the concerns of the State of Texas and the U.S., and for holding Mexico accountable for representations that were made at the December 5th meeting in El Paso.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lyle Larson".

Lyle Larson

WILL METCALF, VICE-CHAIR

ALEX DOMINGUEZ • JESSICA FARRAR • CODY HARRIS • TRACY O. KING • MIKE LANG • PONCHO NEVÁREZ • TOM OLIVERSON • FOUR PRICE • ANA-MARIA RAMOS

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