



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
UNITED STATES SECTION

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

November 3, 2020

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
Post Office Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Abbott:

I want to acknowledge the assistance of the State of Texas to the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, United States Section in assuring the 5-year cycle ended without a deficit. As you are aware, Minute 325, "Measures to End the Current Rio Grande Water Delivery Cycle without a Shortfall, to Provide Humanitarian Support for the Municipal Water Supply for Mexican Communities, and to Establish Mechanisms for Future Cooperation to Improve the Predictability and Reliability of Rio Grande Water Deliveries to Users in the United States and Mexico." was signed on October 21, 2020. Minute 325 received immediate approval from the U.S. Department of State and Mexico's Secretariat of Foreign Relations and was entered into force on October 21, 2020. Mexico completed the water transfer of 144,728 acre-feet (177.965 mcm) to the United States by transferring water from Mexican ownership to U.S. ownership at Amistad and Falcon International Reservoirs on the Rio Grande.

Minute No. 325 also establishes work groups to analyze and develop water management tools to provide for increased reliability and predictability in Rio Grande water deliveries to users in the United States and Mexico. Moreover, it includes a provision for U.S. humanitarian support to Mexico, if needed, to guarantee municipal water supplies for Mexican communities along the Rio Grande downstream from Amistad Dam.

I want to thank Commissioner Emily Lindley and the staff of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for all their assistance as we worked with Mexico. For the past several months there have been meetings at least weekly, if not daily, between the parties. We appreciate that TCEQ staff was available to work through technical and policy discussions which aided our ability to reach a successful ending to the cycle.

I look forward to working with Commissioner Bobby Janecka as we look to TCEQ to assist us with technical and policy support to implement Minute 325, as well as stakeholder involvement and TCEQ participation to improve the reliability and predictability in future Rio Grande deliveries for the benefit of Texas.

Sincerely,

Jayne Harkins, P.E.
Commissioner