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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

May 7, 2024

Mr. Sonny Hinojosa, Chair
Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee
Email: sh_hcid2@sbcglobal.net

Dear Mr. Hinojosa:

Thank you for your April 4, 2024, letter. The Rio Grande Watermaster Advisory Committee (WAC) is a valued resource for the Rio Grande Watermaster and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). I appreciate the time and commitment to service from yourself and the other WAC members. Recommendations made by the Rio Grande WAC provide valuable input for the administration of water rights in the Rio Grande Watermaster Program.

TCEQ recognizes the points outlined in the Rio Grande WAC's March 28, 2024 resolution and the impacts outlined in your April 4, 2024 letter. Over the past two years, my staff have either participated or attended the International Boundary and Water Commission's various workgroups and meetings focused on the 1944 Water Treaty. This has allowed my staff to consistently communicate and advocate on behalf of Texans with United States and Mexican officials participating in those workgroups about the dire need for Mexico to comply with the 1944 Water Treaty and deliver the water as obligated under the 1944 Water Treaty.

TCEQ continues to work with our state and federal partners to emphasize the need for Mexico to comply with the 1944 Water Treaty. At the same time, TCEQ's Office of Water will continue monitoring and preparing for response to water supply conditions in the Amistad/Falcon reservoir system.

Thank you for your letter and please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my office to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Keel". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "K" and a cursive "Keel".

Kelly Keel
Executive Director