

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Carlos Rubinstein, *Commissioner*
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TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

June 10, 2013

Mr. Edward Drusina
Commissioner, United States Section
International Boundary and Water Commission
4171 North Mesa, Suite C-100
El Paso, Texas 79902-1441

Re: Minute 309

Dear Commissioner Drusina:

Thank you for your April 26, 2013 letter regarding the transfer of conserved water volumes to the Rio Grande as required by IBWC Minute 309. I appreciate that you recently sent a letter to Commissioner Roberto Salmón of the IBWC, Mexico Section, requesting deliveries of conserved volumes as required by Minute 309. I concur in your assessment that the United States is owed water under Minute 309, and that these deliveries are to be made annually. Minute 309 requires these waters to be delivered in January, and we are already in June.

Since Mexico owes water under Minute 309, I would like deliveries to be started immediately. Some of these deliveries can be made through transfer to the United States of waters belonging to Mexico in storage in Falcon and Amistad reservoirs. This method was used in the past when Mexico owed water.

To ensure that waters belonging to the U.S. under Minute 309 are delivered, I would appreciate it if you specifically addressed the following questions:

1. What are the volumes of water to be provided and when can the U.S. expect to receive this water?
2. How much water did Mexico save each year since the last deliveries in 2007, and what does Mexico now owe cumulatively?
3. In addition, what mechanisms will IBWC use to guarantee that the United States gets the water to which it is entitled under Minute 309?

Once again, thank you for raising this issue with Mexico.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos Rubinstein".

Carlos Rubinstein
Commissioner

cc: Ms. Roberta Jacobson, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs,
United States Department of State
Mr. Wayne Halbert, Lower Rio Grande Valley Water District Manager's Association